

Hawai'i SBDC Network O'ahu Center Newsletter

Veteran Banker and Marketer Lori Hiramatsu Joins the Hawai'i SBDC



Aloha,

As the newest member of the Hawai'i SBDC, I am excited to be a part of an experienced team of individuals who are passionate about, and dedicated to assisting Hawaii's small businesses in various stages of their business life-cycle, and to promoting Hawaii's economic growth.

Most of my working career has been in the banking and finance industry with 30+ years of banking experience. I also have significant practical knowledge of the U.S. SBA's 504 Loan Program and of the solar voltaic industry.

I am pleased to be working closely with entrepreneurs who are seeking assistance to

Dear Andra,

Welcome to the 2014 Second Quarter newsletter of the Small Business Development Center, O'ahu office. In looking back at the first quarter of the year, I am pleased to announce to our stakeholders and friends that we are off to a strong start in working closely with clients for access to capital, starting businesses, job creation and sales growth. In the coming months, we will offer various training classes and other business-focused events that are designed to augment our individual business consulting, which is our core focus.

I hope you enjoy this issue, and look forward to hearing from you.

[Joseph Burns](#)
O'ahu Center Director

The Agriculture Incubator Program at UH Manoa

UH's Agribusiness Incubator Program specializes in helping farm and food businesses. AIP has business consulting services similar to the SBDC, but they focus on businesses that impact local agriculture.

Their consultants also have knowledge of and connections to agricultural expertise and resources. Over the past 10 years, they have worked with hundreds of startup and mature agribusinesses and food manufacturers throughout the state, and can be reached at agincubator@ctahr.hawaii.edu or 808-956-3530. Their website is at <http://aip.hawaii.edu> and they post regularly to www.facebook.com/aiphawaii.



The Spring Small Business Fair at LCC Attracts 275 Attendees

Future and existing entrepreneurs gave up their Saturday morning, February 22, 2014, to attend the annual free Spring Small Business Fair hosted by Leeward Community College. The speakers volunteered to teach more than 30 classes ranging from the basic "Business Planning - How to Write a Business Plan" to more advanced classes, such as "Maximizing Profitability and Cash Flow". The "Secrets to Success" workshop featured Halm's Enterprises owner Mike Irish, former CPB banker Angie Higa, and L&L Franchise President Eddie Flores. More than 30 non-profits and government organizations set up tables in the exhibition area. The next Small Business Fair will be held on August 23, 2014 at Honolulu Community College - details to be announced.



start-up their own business, and to assist with expansion, acquisition, commercialization, access to capital, and succession planning, etc. Having parents who owned their own businesses, I have a deep appreciation and understanding of the challenges small business owners face.

I find it fulfilling to work in tandem with small business owners, whether is it just to hear about their new business idea, assist them in developing their business plan or accessing capital. My goal is to make a meaningful and positive impact on the business clients I serve. And to help our organization to develop stronger partnerships with those who also support and serve the small business community in Hawai'i. I look forward to hearing from and working with our small business community.

Warmest regards,
[Lori](#)

Consultants to Hawaii's Business

"Enhancing the Economic Well-Being of Hawai'i - One Business at a Time"

Contact Us

[About Us](#)

[Business Events Calendar](#)

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Chamber of Commerce Membership Drive

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii's [Membership Drive](#) ends on June 30th, 2014, so there is still time to participate. Prizes range from dinner for two, to a Waikiki shopping spree, to a vacation in Paris, Rome or Tokyo. If you are not yet a member, take advantage of member benefits by going to:

<http://www.cochawaii.org/join-the-chamber/>



New Contribution Link on the HISBDC Site

On occasion clients ask us if they can make a financial contribution to support the work that we do. As a program of University of Hawai'i Hilo, the Hawai'i SBDC is now set up to receive monetary donations through the University of Hawai'i Foundation. For further detailed information, please click the UH Foundation link at the bottom of [our home page](#), or click here:

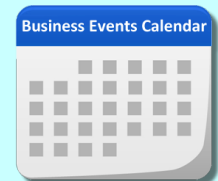
[University of Hawaii Foundation SBDC Donation](#)

Calendar

[05/21/14 - How to Start a Business](#)

[05/21/14 - How to Prepare and Submit your SBA 8\(a\) Application](#)

[06/04/14 - China's Next Chapter](#)



In the Media

[Hawaii Entrepreneurs Get Free Advice](#)

[Financing Your Export Sales](#)

[5 Things to Know About the State of GMOs](#)



Quote of the Quarter:

"To argue with a person who has renounced the use of reason is like administering medicine to the dead"

-Thomas Paine



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