



Papa Ola Lokahi  
Nana I Ka Pono Na Ma

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## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, April 8, 2011

## Ka'ōnohi Awards Honor Contributions to Hawaiian Health

*HONOLULU* – Papa Ola Lōkahi will honor community leaders for their contributions to Hawaiian health on Saturday, April 23, at the Waikīkī Beach Marriott.

The Ka'ōnohi Awards are named for Alexander Friedenburg Ka'ōhia'i Ka'ōnohi, a naturopathic physician, pharmacist and botanist, descended from a long line of healers, whose daily healing practice included both western and Hawaiian traditions. He is believed to be the first Hawaiian doctor to own his own clinic. Dr. Ka'ōnohi also encouraged other Hawaiians to enter medicine and nursing by personally providing scholarships.

"The award is named for Dr. Ka'ōnohi because he pioneered the integration of traditional Hawaiian healing with medicine," said Hardy Spoehr, executive director of Papa Ola Lōkahi. "It is important to honor those have made significant contributions to the health, healing and wellness of Native Hawaiians and their 'ohana. These recognitions are overdue."

Among those being recognized on April 23rd are family physician and Hōkūle'a voyager **Nathan A.K. Wong**; lā'au lapa'au practitioner **Alapa'i Kahuena**; ho'oponopono practitioners and social workers **Richard & Lynette Paglinawan**; psychiatrist and Hawaiian health advocate **Naleen N. Andrade**; and Hawai'i Island activist **Pele Hanoa**.

Learn more about these and the other 2011 honorees at [www.kaonohiawards.org](http://www.kaonohiawards.org).

The event will be held in the Kona Ballroom of the Waikīkī Beach Marriott Resort & Spa, 2552 Kalākaua Avenue in Waikiki on Saturday, April 23, 2011 from 5:00 to 9:00 PM. It will include music and a silent auction.

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### Papa Ola Lokahi

is a non-profit Native Hawaiian organization founded in 1988 for the purpose of improving the health and well-being of Native Hawaiians and other native peoples of the Pacific and continental United States.

### Board of Directors Member Organizations

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Other honorees are researcher Bella Zi Bell, community leader and educator Jean 'Ileialoha Keale Beniamina (1955-2010), dentist Alan Chang (1948-2008); musician/healer Richard Ho'opi'i, community activist Ezra Kanoho, community leader Aletha Ka'ōhi, public health administrator and community leader Judy Mikami, Louise 'Iwalani Minton, healer Ka'aha'āina Nāihe (1835-1920s), Hawaiian Civic Club leaders among Hawaiians in the continental U.S. Victor Kaiwi & Jane Ka'ala Pang, retired Hawaiian agency administrator Winona Rubin.

More information can be found at [www.kaonohiawards.org](http://www.kaonohiawards.org).

*Papa Ola Lōkahi and the Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems are recognized by the Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act to address the health and wellness of Native Hawaiians.*

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