Hawaii DVR CSNA Update

General Communication/Invitation to Stakeholders

**Background**

In 2015, Hawaii Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) completed a Triennial Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment (CSNA) for Program Years 2015 – 2017. This year, DVR has contracted the Interwork Institute at San Diego State University to conduct a required bi-annual update. This update will focus on DVR’s progress toward addressing the findings and recommendations of the Triennial CSNA as well as the progress of DVR and partners to implement the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

Among the activities of the update will be group interviews with DVR staff and representatives of stakeholders including consumers, consumer advocacy groups, the Workforce Development System, Education, Business Partners, the State Rehabilitation Council and partner agencies. They will ask about your perceptions of the employment needs of individuals with disabilities, and DVR’s progress in meeting those needs, as an agency and as a partner in Hawaii’s overall workforce development system.

Representatives from all the islands will be interviewed, either in-person or via video conferencing. In person interviews will be conducted at one of the following locations:

* DVR’s Oahu Branch (600 Kapiolani Blvd., Room 305 – parking is available and will be validated)
* Kapolei Office (601 Kamokila Blvd., Room 515)
* Services for the Blind Branch (1901 Bachelot St.)
* Hawaii Branch (75 Aupuni Street, Room 110 in Hilo)
* Kona Office (75-5722 Kuakini Hwy., Suite 213)

Video Conferencing will be held at one of the following locations:

* Maui Branch (54 South High Street, Room 309)
* Molokai Office (55 Makaena Street)
* Kauai Branch (3060 Eiwa Street, Room 304)

**Invitation**

As a DVR stakeholder representing Hoopono consumers, DVR invites you to participate in a group interview on Friday, April 21, 2017 from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM at the Hoopono conference room, 1901 Bachelot Street, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii. The interview will focus on your perceptions of DVR’s progress in meeting the needs of its stakeholders. Your input will be a valued contribution to the overall findings of the CSNA Update. The interview will be conducted by Mr. Chip Kenny and Ms. Debby Greene of the Interwork Institute at San Diego State University.

If you can attend this group interview, please respond to Shannessy Ahu at [smitchell@dhs.hawaii.gov] by Friday March 31, 2017. If you have any questions, please call Shannessy Ahu at (808) 586-9743. We appreciate your consideration of this invitation to participate in our ongoing efforts to meet the employment needs of individuals with disabilities.