



Contact:

Anne Atkinson
Rep. Kymberly Pine's Office
808-586-9736

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Na Kapa Pule O' 'Ewa

Honolulu - Today, Representative Kymberly Marcos Pine introduced to the State House of Representatives four church leaders from Ewa Beach that have formed a network of support for the area's neediest. *Na Kapa Pule O' 'Ewa*, or "Prayer Covering Over Ewa", is being emulated across the State as a way to bring businesses, schools and other local groups and agencies together to foster positive change in the neighborhood.

The effects of this type of faith-based initiative are already seen in other areas of the State. Recently, Pastor Joel Elies of Hope Chapel used the same principles of *Na Kapa Pule O' 'Ewa* when he took the initiative to organize and lead over 156 volunteers in Mo'ili'ili during the Totally Against Graffiti paint-out last Saturday.

In her presentation to her colleagues in the House, Representative Pine stated, "*Na Kapa O' 'Ewa* has helped hundreds of people through their work with the homeless on the beaches off of Kalaeloa and Oneula Beach Park." They work with local schools to bring people together to contribute to the well-being of the students. At Ilima Intermediate School, they organized the community to hang drywall to expand classroom space. Through the principal at James Campbell, they are helping to create a crosswalk to the park and they continue to work with Campbell's Christian Club to mentor today's young people to become better citizens through emphasizing common themes found in all faiths.

The four founding members of *Na Kapa O' 'Ewa* are Pastor David Wilson of New Hope Westside, Father Scott Bush from Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Pastor Gregory Burgess of Re flame Ministries and Pastor Jerry Kraesig of the Anuenue Christian Church. The four pastors are shown in the attached photo with Representative Pine in Ewa Beach.