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Kākou

Promoting unity by providing quality telecommunications services statewide

An e-newsletter published by Sandwich Isles Communications

Building Stronger Communities through Free Wi-Fi



Sandwich Isles Communications has been committed to bringing telecommunications technology to serve those on Hawaiian Home Lands for more than 20 years. That commitment continues today.

Last year, we started to provide free Wi-Fi at the community centers at La'i'Ōpua in Kona on Hawai'i Island, and Kulana Ōiwi on Moloka'i.

The Sandwich Isles Communications team is now working on free Wi-Fi for homesteaders in Kahikinui, Maui.

Providing free Wi-Fi is a way to bring the community together, to strengthen the bonds of our 'ohana. We are looking forward to developing more free Wi-Fi centers across the state in 2017. Watch for more details!

Bringing Holiday Cheer to Families and Kūpuna

Sandwich Isles Communications employees made this past holiday season brighter and merrier for disadvantaged kūpuna of Hawaiian ancestry living at Lunalilo Home and homeless families at Ulu Ke Kukui, an 80-unit transitional housing project in Ma'ili on the Wai'anae Coast.

Lily Duran, Sandwich Isles Communications' Construction Project Manager, came up with the holiday donation idea and spearheaded the collection and delivery.



Employees generously donated socks, blankets, slippers and toiletries to meet the needs of these subscribers. Altogether, Sandwich Isles Communications employees donated 45 large bags items, and 25 bags of toiletries were given for the kūpuna at Lunalilo Home.

Sandwich Isles Communications has been serving the Ma'ili residents at Ulu Ke Kukui since 2009, when Hawaiian Home Lands developed the project.

"The Ulu Ke Kukui welcoming committee was so happy to see us with all the donations," Lily noted. "Thanks to everyone and the season of giving!"

For more information on Ulu Ke Kukui, click [here](#). For more information on Lunalilo Home, visit <http://www.kahumana.org/homelessness>

UPDATE:

Sandwich Isles Communications Responds to Federal Communications Commission

Sandwich Isles Communications filed a Petition to Reconsider the Federal Communications Commission's December 5, 2016 order that required our company to repay more than \$27 million in Universal Service Fund payments made to Sandwich Isles Communications over the last ten years.

Our petition states that the FCC relied on the audit report of the Universal Services Administrative Company (USAC) without adequately analyzing the underlying facts. The FCC launched the investigation presuming it would find fraudulent behavior, but all it came up with were claims that Sandwich Isles Communications lines were not categorized properly, even though previous audits did not make such findings.

Despite evidence submitted to USAC and the FCC about the use and categorization of those assets, the petition points out the FCC has not considered this evidence. When all of the evidence is properly considered, our petition states the proper amount of funds that may have been paid in excess to Sandwich Isles Communications is \$4.1 million.

The petition also claims that the FCC justifies the \$27 million order based on rules that have never been adopted and by reaching back ten years, six years past the FCC's four-year statute of limitations.

Watch for more details in upcoming issues of this newsletter.