



*Girls to Women  
Mentoring  
Hawai'i Annual  
Report 2021*

*THANK  
YOU!*

**To all of our  
members, sponsors,  
volunteers, donors,  
and friends -  
THANK YOU!**

**Girls to Women THANKS YOU for  
another year of supporting our  
organization!**

**With YOU Girls to Women's vision is  
possible. We look forward to  
continuing our work with you in 2022  
and beyond, as we support the youth  
of our communities.**

**-Girls to Women Mentoring Hawai'i**





## *OUR VISION*

Girls to Women envisions a world  
where all people have access to  
supportive circles that inspire and  
empower them to thrive.

# OUR MISSION

To offer meaningful connection and skills for adolescents that build empowerment, resilience, self-esteem, and healthy relationships. We provide this through circles facilitated by trained adult mentors in schools, after-school programs, and communities in Hawaii.



Our First Girls Circle 2019, Hawai'i  
Academy of Arts & Sciences School

## *OUR CORE VALUES*

- ▷ Supportive Connection
- ▷ Resilience
- ▷ Sustainable Growth
- ▷ Integrity
- ▷ Commitment
- ▷ Appreciation
- ▷ Empowerment



**Girls Participate in Mana Festival 2019**

“

*I LIKE COMING TO GIRLS TO WOMEN BECAUSE  
IT GIVES ME THE CHANCE TO TALK ABOUT THE  
THINGS THAT ARE GOING ON WITH PEOPLE  
THAT WON'T JUDGE”*

*-GIRLS TO WOMEN STUDENT, CONNECTIONS  
CHARTER SCHOOL 2021*

## Connections Circle 2021 Youtube Video

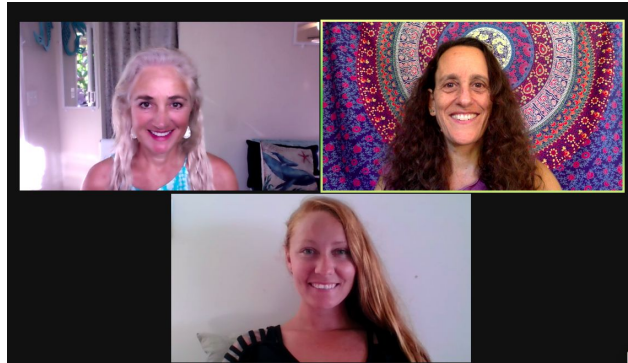




## *A letter from the Executive Team*

**Aloha friends,**

**At the beginning of 2021, we were all grappling with the realization that the pandemic was by no means over. As the data began to emerge about the youth mental health crisis caused by the pandemic and specifically, that girls were the most hard hit, it affirmed the importance of our work and renewed our commitment. We are deeply grateful for all of your support that has allowed us to realize the vision we had 5 years ago. We are proud of what we have been able to achieve and we see how vast the potential is for us to make a profound difference in so many girls' lives.**





*An Update on  
our navigation  
with COVID-19*

The world has been shaped by the COVID-19 Pandemic that began in 2019, as we close out the year 2021 we reflect how it has directly impacted our organization and the girls that we serve through the recent years.

In 2020 we shifted our in person circles to online through zoom and launched our program that is titled Thriving Together Online! We assessed the risk of transitioning back to in person throughout 2020 and felt that the best way to serve girls in Hawai'i was to continue to focus on online circles.

The first half of 2021 we upheld the momentum of our program being served online, in August our Board met to create a COVID Policy for our organization to integrate back into in person circles. Connections Charter School & The Boys of Girls Club in Pahoa are the first two in school circles since the start of the pandemic. We currently run the aforementioned two in person circles, an online weekly circle, an online monthly circle, and an online quarterly workshop. Our organization continues to hold conversations where we assess the safety and needs of girls and the best ways to serve them while the pandemic remains active.

## *Thriving Together Online Circle 2021*

Girls and mentors Natalie & Te made a virtual card to send to the Luana Hospitality Group for their support in hosting us as the Charity of the Month for donations at local restaurants on Hawai'i & Kaua'i Islands in 2021.

Thank you Luana Hospitality Group!



*“I’VE LEARNED  
THAT I’M A  
WONDERFUL  
HUMAN BEING”*

-GIRLS TO WOMEN STUDENT  
WHEN ASKED WHAT SHE’S  
LEARNED FROM THE PROGRAM

*Thriving  
Together  
Online!*

2021 marks the second consecutive year of running our online program, Thriving Together Online! The online program consists of a weekly circle held for girls on Thursdays, a monthly open circle, and quarterly workshops on Zoom. The weekly circles are facilitated by Circle Coordinator Natalie Rose alongside trained volunteer mentors.

## *Connections Charter School*

**In August we trained two new mentors to facilitate our circle at Connections Charter School in Hilo, mentors Daline Arce & Asia Helfrich. Daline was a participant in our online circle in early 2021. She is our first mentor that is also an alumni of our program.**

**The circle meets weekly during their after school Shaka Studio program.**



## *Boys & Girls Club*

**We're excited to share a new partnership that we developed in October 2021 with the Boys & Girls Club in Pahoa. We meet with girls once a week at their location and serve girls that are members of their club. Our circle is hosted by mentors JaNeal and Jamie.**



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**  
**OF THE BIG ISLAND**



*University of  
Hawai'i Newspaper*

Taylor “U’I” Barongan, a student at the University of Hawai’i, interviewed the Executive Team to feature us in their newspaper in December 2021 under their “Spirit of Giving” article. You can find the work of the interview here:

[U of H Article](#)



# A special thank you to the active mentors for the work you did with Hawai'i's youth in 2021!

Natalie Rose has served as a mentor for Girls to Women since winter of 2020, we appreciate the years of dedication she has put in to support the girls! She facilitates online circles alongside our new mentor Lisa Desantis. Jamie Fries and JaNeal Sovereign are also newly trained mentors of 2021. They lead circles at the Boys & Girls Club in Pahoa.

Daline Arce & Asia Helfrich meet with girls weekly at the After School All Stars Program at Connections Charter School where they serve as mentors for Girls to Women.

## Our Active Mentors



Asia Helfrich



Natalie Rose



Daline Arce



Lisa DeSantis



Jamie  
Fries

Not pictured:  
Ja'Neal  
Sovereign

# *Thank you to our 2021 New Mentors*



# *Mentors in Kohala School*

In 2021, our organization held 3 New Mentor Trainings. At our first mentor training we trained Aime Van Zandt and Erin Henderson from the Kohala School District. They have implemented the skills we taught in our training to a class they hold that serves girls through group mentorship at the school.



# To all of our Mentors in 2021, Thank you!

Thank you to Leah Conover and Te Crossley, who both served as mentors for our Thriving Together Online program in Winter & Spring of 2021!

To Mirabai Galashan & Shakti Hoku Douglas, you wear many hats for our organization- in 2021 that included leading circles online as mentors for our monthly, quarterly, and weekly circles- Thank you!

Picture left to right: Leah, Te, Mirabai, Shakti



*We welcomed 4  
new Board  
Members in  
2021! Thank  
you for joining  
us*

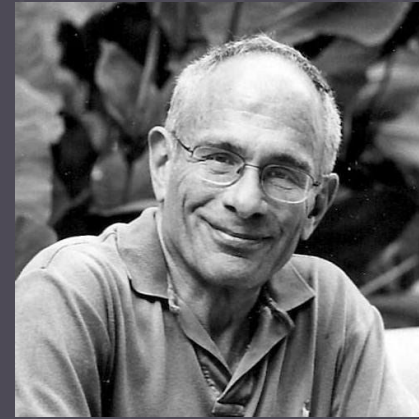
**Charity Norem**



**Joan Shafer**



**Gail Hand**



**Robert Golden**

*To all Girls to  
Women Board  
Members- We  
appreciate  
you!*

**Mirabai Galashan - President**

**Alison Ellis - Vice President**

**Shakti Hoku Douglas - Secretary**

**Sandra Silva - Treasurer**

**Laurel Trammell - Board Member**

**Robert Golden - Board Member**

**Joan Shafer - Board Member**

**Charity Norem - Board Member**

**Gail Hand - Board Member**

*Giving Tuesday  
& End of the  
Year  
Fundraiser*

**This year we held a Giving Tuesday & End of the Year Fundraiser and we raised**

**\$1,800**

**Thank you to all who participated in the fundraisers as we closed out 2021!**



*Puna Strong  
Grant*

In April of 2021 we received a grant from the Hawai'i Community Foundation called the Puna Strong Grant. The intention for the grant is to offer support to organizations that provide services to the Puna Community. This grant has served as a generous and special opportunity for our organization. They donated \$15,000 to Girls to Women and have enabled us to build relationships with other organizations in the Puna area. With their support, we were able to offer online weekly, monthly, & quarterly circles, an in person circle at Connections and an in person circle at the Boys & Girls Club of Pahoa. Thank you Hawai'i Community Foundation!

*Puna Strong  
Virtual  
Resource Fair  
November 3,  
2021*

40 visits, 4 likes and 10 entries to our Self-Care Raffle items. Princess Negrana of Nanawale Estates was the proud winner!



EQUALITY  
HI

PUNA STRONG  
2021 VIRTUAL  
RESOURCE  
FAIR



NOV  
3RD  
9AM-4PM



Finances &  
Employment



Health  
Care



Domestic Violence  
& Human Trafficking



Housing  
Resources



LGBTQ+  
History



Community  
Building

♥ Made possible by our **generous partners** and through a **grant** from the **Deviants from the Norm Fund** at the **Hawai'i Community Foundation**.  
**Don't miss this FREE EVENT—register today!**

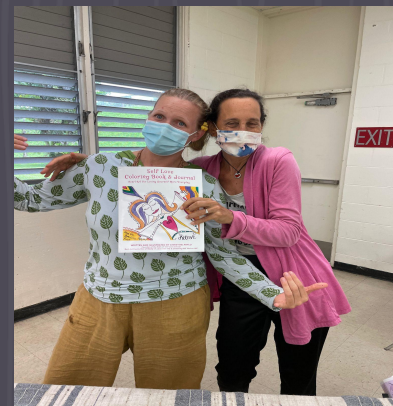
EqualityHI is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. | Photos: Jay08dii | @prolific\_hawaii

TINYURL  
.COM/  
PUNAFAIR

*Wellness Fair in  
Pahoa  
See our Raffle  
Winners: Rabbi  
Rachel &  
Porter.*



The Ma'i Movement whose mission is to end period poverty in Hawai'i gifted us with 100 period kits which we were able to pass on to girls at the Boys and Girls Club.





**COME GET THE SUPPORT YOU NEED!**

# **PUNA COMMUNITY HEALTH + WELLNESS FAIR**

Mental, Emotional, Spiritual, Physical Health  
Support for Every ONE impacted by the  
Kilauea Eruption

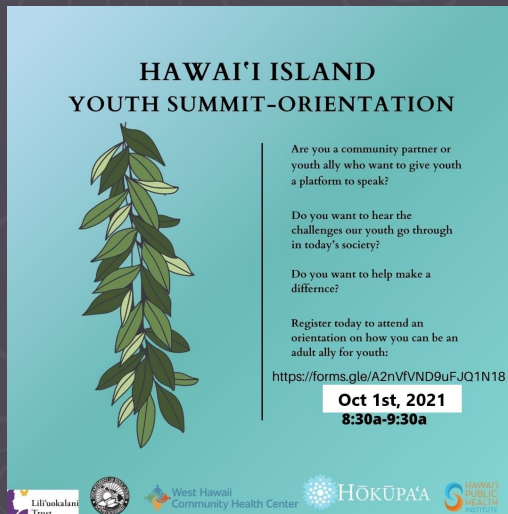
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18TH**  
**10 AM - 2 PM**  
**PAHOA COMMUNITY CENTER**

Sponsored by 

[www.AhavaAina.org](http://www.AhavaAina.org)

## *Volunteers*

Aside from volunteer mentors, this year we worked with 3 additional volunteers for our organization. We appreciate the work you've done to support Girls to Women, thank you Keith Nardecchia, Kristin Banando, & Stefanie Nolff



## *Partnership with The Hawaii Youth Summit Series.*

*We participated in 4 youth summit sessions held at Kealakehe High, Hilo & Waieka High, Ka'u & Kohala High, & Youth Challenge Academy serving over 100 students. 20 Collaborating organizations. The sessions engaged the students in assessing their assets, challenges, and solutions for their community. See the Community Partners Resource Guide here: [Youth Summit](#)*



## **Pilot Boys and Girls Program**

Our President Mirabai Galashan, who also serves on the Boys To Men USA board, is currently serving as a consultant on an innovative project to synergize our model with the Boys to Men Model and provide the Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington (BCGB) with a template to build sustainable group mentoring program that offers circles for boys and girls. The goal is a proof of concept to deliver the infrastructure for a robust turnkey program capable of growth that BGCB can implement in other clubs.

# New Position: Jenn Bowers, Marketing Coordinator

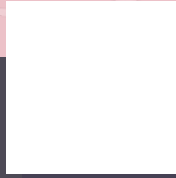
Jenn is a homeschool mom who has a secondary teaching licence in the state of Hawaii along with a Master of Arts degree in Education. She has over 10 years experience mentoring and supporting adult survivors of childhood adversity, and she has a life coaching certification from Southwest Institute of Healing Arts. She is the Marketing Coordinator for Girls to Women Mentoring Hawaii and was trained to be a circle mentor in August 2021. She is passionate about nutrition, cooking, body healing, and quality education. She enjoys walking by the ocean, reading Japanese Anime, making jewellery, and doing arts and crafts.



*Thanks!*







To Charitable Allies, our Fiscal Sponsor,  
thank you for your support in 2021!



To our donors, sponsors, volunteers, board members, friends, and team- We thank you!  
Without you, the work we do would not be possible. You make a difference!



**Girls Circle at the All Stars After School Program at Kea'au Intermediate School**

## *2022 Roadmap*

Establish a homeschool program

1

Grow our network by holding an annual New Mentor Training

3

Establish more community relationships

5

Host a quarterly workshop for girls in Hawai'i

2

Host a Fundraiser

4

Gift girls on the island the opportunity to go on an excursion

6