



**PETITION to Kaua'i County Government, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Board of Directors, the HHSC Kaua'i Region Executive Management Team, and Samuel Mahelona Memorial Hospital Medical Staff Officers**

**We the undersigned express our strong opposition to the establishment of any organization, clinic, department, or facility designed to offer or promote abortion services on Kaua'i, including Mahelona Medical Center.**

- We recognize that **the number one cause of death in America is abortion.** Conservative estimates put the number of deaths at over **54.5 million** since abortion was legalized in all 50 states by the U.S. Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* decisions on January 22, 1973.<sup>i</sup>
- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the top three leading causes of death for Americans in 2010 (the most recent year for which statistics are available) were heart disease (599,413), cancer (567,628), and chronic lower respiratory diseases (137,353). The CDC also reports that in 2008 (the most recent year for which statistics are available) 825,564 unborn Americans lost their lives, although it acknowledges this figure does not include data from all 50 states.<sup>ii</sup>
- We recognize that many **women and families in Hawaii have been detrimentally affected by abortion.** In 2009, the most recent year for which statistics are available, a total of 3,342 elective abortions were performed in Hawai'i. Abortion affects women of many races and ethnicities in Hawai'i. Among women who chose abortion in 2009, 19% were Caucasian, 17% were Native Hawaiian, 13% were Filipina, 6% were Japanese, 4% were Chinese (mixed/other/unknown accounted for the remaining percentage).<sup>iii</sup>
- Planned Parenthood is the largest abortion provider in the United States. According to its most recent annual report (2009–2010), it provided **329,445 abortion procedures** during the fiscal year. At the same time, just **841 adoption referrals** were made, and only 31,098 women received prenatal care services—a tiny fraction compared with the number of abortions performed.<sup>iv</sup> Planned Parenthood reveals by the statistics in its own annual report that its true agenda is to perform as many abortions as possible, not provide true family planning services or offer legitimate choices to women in need.
- We disagree with any decision to allow an organization admittance to our community that is the subject of ongoing investigations of abuse and fraud. Planned Parenthood has been accused of abuses ranging from financial disparities to its compliance with federal laws and regulations on taxpayer funding to concerns that it is covering up potential cases of sex trafficking and statutory rape. The group is currently under investigation in multiple states and is the subject of a congressional probe. Organizational affiliates have also been found guilty of negligence in reporting sexual assault of minor girls.<sup>v</sup>



- We know that currently Kaua'i has the fewest abortions among Hawaii counties. In 2009, most abortions in Hawai'i were performed for residents of Honolulu County (77%), followed by Hawai'i County (10%), Maui County (8%), and Kaua'i County, (4%).<sup>vi</sup> We believe that **with the introduction of a clinic offering abortion services, the rate of abortions would increase dramatically, and with it, a host of attending medical, emotional, and social problems in our community.**
- **We are concerned about the effects of abortion on women.** Abortion research organization the Elliot Institute shows that approximately 10% of women who undergo abortion will suffer immediate complications, and among those, 20% are considered life threatening.<sup>vii</sup> Women who have aborted are at substantially higher risk of suicide and other causes of death.<sup>viii</sup> Post-abortive women are also at greater risk of post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, child abuse, chronic relationship problems, and repeat abortions.<sup>vii</sup>

Therefore, we the undersigned, demand in the interest of public safety, our community's well-being, and women's and children's health, that you oppose any attempt by Planned Parenthood or any other abortion provider to establish any organization, clinic, department, or facility designed to offer or promote abortion services on Kaua'i, including Mahelona Medical Center.

---

<sup>i</sup> National Right to Life Committee, *Abortion Statistics: United States Data and Trends*, January 2012, <http://www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/news/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/statsre.jpg> (accessed 2/3/12).

<sup>ii</sup> Pazol, Karen, et al., *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Abortion Surveillance Report – United States, 2008*, [http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss6015a1.htm?s\\_cid=ss6015a1\\_w](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss6015a1.htm?s_cid=ss6015a1_w) (accessed 2/3/12)

<sup>iii</sup> State of Hawaii Department of Health Vital Statistics, *Table 33: Elective Abortions by Place of Occurrence and Residence of Patient 2009*, [http://hawaii.gov/health/statistics/vital-statistics/vr\\_09/abort.pdf](http://hawaii.gov/health/statistics/vital-statistics/vr_09/abort.pdf) (accessed 2/3/12).

<sup>iv</sup> State of Hawaii Department of Health Vital Statistics, *Table 34: Abortions by Age and Ethnicity of Patient 2009*, [http://hawaii.gov/health/statistics/vital-statistics/vr\\_09/abort.pdf](http://hawaii.gov/health/statistics/vital-statistics/vr_09/abort.pdf) (accessed 2/3/12).

<sup>v</sup> Planned Parenthood Federation of America, *Annual Report 2009-2010*, p. 5, [http://issuu.com/actionfund/docs/ppfa\\_financials\\_2010\\_122711\\_web\\_vf?mode=window&viewMode=doublePage](http://issuu.com/actionfund/docs/ppfa_financials_2010_122711_web_vf?mode=window&viewMode=doublePage) (accessed 2/3/12).

<sup>vi</sup> Live Action, *Planned Parenthood Exploits Women*, <http://exposeplannedparenthood.net/get-the-facts/planned-parenthood%E2%80%99s-history-of-exploiting-women-2/> (accessed 2/3/12).

<sup>vii</sup> Elliot Institute, *Abortion Risks: A list of major physical complications related to abortion*, posted February 23, 2011, <http://afterabortion.org/1999/abortion-risks-a-list-of-major-physical-complications-related-to-abortion/> (accessed 2/3/12).

<sup>viii</sup> Elliot Institute, *The Post-Abortion Review*, Vol. 10 No. 3, *New Study Shows Abortion Death Rate Much Higher Than Previously Known*, July – Sept. 2002, <http://www.theunchoice.com/pdf/articles/deathstudysmj.pdf> (accessed 2/3/12)

