



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

NOLAN P. ESPINDA  
DIRECTOR

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Apr. 25, 2015

### CONSTRUCTION OF NEW VISITOR WAITING LANAI COMPLETED AT THE WOMEN'S COMMUNITY CORRECTIONAL CENTER

HONOLULU – A new visitor waiting lanai was completed this afternoon at the Women's Community Correctional Center (WCCC). The lanai will be used for families who are waiting to enter WCCC for their weekend visits with their loved ones.

JustServe Helping Hands (JSHH) is a community based service program sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Each year during the last Saturday in April, church leaders encourage its members to look for opportunities where they can "make a difference" in their respective communities. This year JSHH Kailua/ Keolu Wards selected WCCC as their "Day of Service" joint community service project. Today, they worked hand-in-hand with other churches, community volunteers, WCCC staff and inmates in a collaborative effort to construct the new covered family waiting lanai.

"We recognized a need at the facility that many in the public probably didn't know about," said Rich Pinto, JSHH Kaneohe Stake Director. "Before the shelter was built, *Kupuna* and *Keiki* would wait out in the open or in their cars to avoid the hot sun or rain. Now they have a comfortable place to wait. This helps them maintain good spirits so they have an uplifting, positive visit with their incarcerated loved ones".

The project started Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> with a green clean-up day. Volunteers, WCCC staff and an inmate workline spent the day sprucing up the area by clearing a fallen pine tree and other green waste. On Saturday, April 18 the group began the prep work for the construction of the new visitor lanai.

"The collaborative effort made by JustServe Helping Hands and community volunteers as well as our staff and inmates was truly amazing," said WCCC Warden Eric Tanaka. "The dedicated and giving spirit of this group resulted in a beautiful shelter for the families to sit under as they wait their turn to visit their loved ones. These visits are crucial for the families as well as our incarcerated women and we couldn't be more thankful to this organization for choosing us".

For more information on JustServe Helping Hands and the projects they are working on across the state go to [www.JustServe.org](http://www.JustServe.org).

Special thanks goes out to several businesses and individuals who donated money and supplies for this project as well as the volunteers and WCCC staff that provided the labor and time. (See attached list)

(Please see attached pictures of visitor waiting lanai construction and completion. More pictures and video can be found on our Facebook page at [www.Facebook.com/HawaiiPSD](http://www.Facebook.com/HawaiiPSD))

# # #

**Media Contact:**

Toni Schwartz  
Public Information Officer  
Hawaii Department of Public Safety  
Office: 808-587-1358  
Cell: 808-683-5507  
Toni.E.Schwartz@hawaii.gov  
<http://hawaii.gov/psd/>

## Special Acknowledgement

Special thanks goes out to several businesses and individuals who donated money and supplies for this project as well as the volunteers and WCCC staff that provided the labor and their time.

Businesses

Individuals