

AH Committee

From: Roxanne K. Morita
Sent: Friday, August 13, 2021 9:16 AM
To: AH Committee
Subject: Testimonial Letter - A. Gonzalez
Attachments: Alberto Gonzalez_Testimonial Letter_8.13.21.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Aloha AH Committee,

Please see attached for a copy of written testimony from Iwiole Housing Manager from August 2nd.

Mahalo and good day,

Roxanne Morita

From: Alberto Gonzalez <agonzalez@pulamalanai.com>
Sent: Friday, August 13, 2021 9:06 AM
To: Roxanne K. Morita <Roxanne.Morita@mauicounty.us>
Subject: Testimonial Letter - Alberto Gonzalez

Aloha Roxanne,

Attached please find the testimonial letter you requested based on the verbal testimony I provided during the last Committee Meeting discussing the Hokuao Housing Project.

Thank you,



Alberto Gonzalez
Resident Manager
1311 Fraser Avenue | P.O. Box 630310 | Lanaʻi City Hawaiʻi 96763
Cell 808 388 8073 | Fax 808 565 3881

August 13, 2021

RE: Affordable Housing Need on Lāna'i

Aloha Chair Johnson and Council Members,

My name is Alberto Gonzalez, and I serve as the Residential Manager at Iwi'ole and Kānepu'u, Multi-Family housing managed by Pūlama Lāna'i. I recently submitted a testimony, along with signatures supporting the Hokuao Residential Project.

Below are examples of some of the stories I have heard over the past 2 years from tenants needing a different housing arrangement, but unable achieve due to limited to no housing inventory available.

1. A friend shares a two bedroom home with a roommate working at Sensei. Roommate moves and friend is unable to pay rent but also can't find alternate housing.
2. Iwi'ole resident in a 1 BR marries and over the next few years has two daughters ages 1 and 3. They need a larger apartment but none are available.
3. I received a call once from a tenant asking if I have temporary housing for her and her kids due to a domestic incident with her husband. I couldn't help her, but suggested she contact MPD.
4. A family of 12 lives in 1 bedroom unit currently.
5. A family of 10 lives in a 1 bedroom unit. I discovered an extended family living in the crawl space of the building. This is an unsafe and unsanitary living condition.
6. Many Sensei employees are living in the hotels because they can't secure housing. Some employees cannot bring their pets because they are not allowed or family, because there is no space for them in a hotel room.
7. A sensei employee moved here without his wife and new born due to lack of housing and stayed in the hotel for 2 months until he found a home and could bring them.
8. An aunt and nephew live together in a 2 bedroom. Nephew is moving away and aunt needs to downsize unit, but can't, because no other housing available.
9. A couple divorced and each needed to find new homes, because they could not afford current home alone. Took a while to find them housing.
10. An older couple wanting their own home has not been able to secure in years and are still living with relatives.

Housing is needed for all different types of living situations. Cost is not the issues, inventory is. Hokuao housing is not for all, but many will move there and in doing so, it will open up inventory throughout the city of Lāna'i, especially at Iwi'ole and Kānepu'u, where housing is more affordable..

Mahalo for your consideration,



Alberto Gonzalez
Resident Manager
alberto@buzzin-media.com