Aloha kākou,

The Kohala Center’s Rural and Cooperative Business Development Services is dedicated to strengthening Hawai‘i’s rural and agricultural businesses. Our team is thrilled to welcome Dr. Kamanamaikalani Beamer, our incoming president and CEO, to The Kohala Center! Check out our recent press release to learn more about Dr. Beamer, his accomplishments, and his vision.

We’re also pleased to announce that four local businesses have completed the Kiva Zip microlending process, and are on their way to taking their food and agricultural enterprises to the next level. Congratulations to Pa‘ahana Livestock, Lotus Café, Mokuwai Piko Poi, and Kamanele Farm! If you’d like to learn more about these businesses please visit the Hawai‘i Island Food Producers Fund page on the Kiva Zip website. If you’re interested in applying for a Kiva Zip loan, please contact us and we’ll be happy to walk you through the process.

Applications are currently being accepted for FoodCorps service member positions in Hawai‘i and nationwide for the 2015–2016 academic year. Candidates interested in learning more about the FoodCorps Hawai‘i program are invited to sign up for a free webinar at 1 p.m. (HST) Friday, January 23 by visiting http://bit.ly/1DQdf8Y. The service member application and additional information are available at foodcorps.org/become-a-service-member. The deadline to apply is March 31.

Below is a list of upcoming events that might be of interest to you. Please visit our website at kohalacenter.org/business for more information about our services, upcoming events, and other resources.

Mahalo,
Nicole, Melanie, Anna-Lisa, Derrick, Anthony, and Zoe
Rural and Cooperative Business Development Services
The Kohala Center

UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Three Sisters Garden**
Presented by Hayley Blondin
January 24, 2015
9 a.m. to Noon
Parker School Garden, 65-1224 Lindsey Road, Waimea (map and directions)
Free of charge, open to all K-12 teachers, although content will emphasize grades K-5.
Augment your toolkit for making connections between the classroom and the garden in this interactive, resource-rich workshop. Hayley will share curriculum plans and resources to develop a unit around the planting, cultivation, and harvest of the traditional Native American Three Sisters Garden. Resources include grade-level appropriate readers, writing prompts, recipes, craft ideas, planting materials and tips, sample student work, and much more. Originally designed for third grade, this unit can be modified to meet the needs of any K-5 elementary classroom. This workshop will focus on the Three Sisters Garden, but will cultivate techniques and ideas about how to develop unit plans for other gardens such as salsa gardens, canoe-plant gardens, and pollinator gardens.

For more information and to register, contact Donna Mitts at dmitts@kohalacenter.org or 808-936-2117.

**Crop Insurance and Recordkeeping Workshop**  
January 26, 2015  
3 to 5 p.m.  
The Kohala Center, 65-1291A Kawaihae Road in Waimea, immediately behind the High Country Traders building ([map and directions](#))

The Kohala Center will host a meeting with AgriLogic Insurance Services, LLC, on crop insurance and recordkeeping. Nicole Gueck from AgriLogic, one of the largest developers of crop insurance programs for the USDA, will educate technical-assistance providers and agricultural producers on crop insurance and recordkeeping. The workshop will be primarily geared towards individuals that work in leadership roles in the agricultural community such as co-op managers, loan specialists, rural developers, business plan and market research specialists, and others. The meeting is also open to agricultural producers who would like to learn more about insurance and recordkeeping.

Topics to be covered include:

1. Recordkeeping: The Foundation of Profitability and Sustainability in Agricultural Production
2. Cost of Production and Breakeven Analysis: Is My Farm a Business or an Expensive Hobby?
3. Crop Insurance: Know Your Options; It Could Save Your Farm in a Future Catastrophe!

Please RSVP to Al-Qawi Majidah by phone at 808-887-6411 or email at amajidah@kohalacenter.org. For more information about AgriLogic, visit their website at [agrilogicconsulting.com](http://agrilogicconsulting.com).

**Health Impact Assessment as a Policy Tool**  
Presented by members of a Hawai‘i-based research team comprised of representatives from Sust‘āinable Molokai, The Kohala Center, and the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa  
January 27, 2015  
1 to 3 p.m.  
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Biomedical Sciences, Room D205  
1960 East-West Road, Honolulu ([map and directions](#))  
Free of charge

The Kohala Center and Habitat Health Impact Consulting will address the way in which Health Impact Assessments (HIAs) can be used as a tool for incorporating health and well-being concerns into public policymaking. HIAs help identify and address the likely health benefits and risks of a decision made in fields outside the health sector. They use a flexible approach that brings together public health expertise, scientific data, and input from community and other stakeholders to examine the potential health risks and benefits of key policy proposals. A general orientation to HIA will be presented, grounded in examples from an ongoing HIA taking place in the Hawai‘i context: members of a Hawai‘i-based research team, comprised of representatives from Sust‘āinable Molokai, The Kohala Center, and the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, are conducting an HIA of the health-related benefits and/or costs of establishing a community-managed fishery on the north shore of Molokai and will share their experiences. HIA has the potential to provide support for the process by which Hawaiian communities can gain greater authority to manage local natural resources in culturally appropriate and environmentally sound ways. Students and researchers from all disciplines are invited to join us in learning more about this valuable methodology.

**Hawai‘i Master Food Preserver Certificate Program**
This program will also be offered in Hilo; dates, times, and location TBA

This is an eight-day certificate program that will cover everything from canning fruit and vegetables to pickling, fermenting, and more, all while practicing food safety and preventing foodborne illness. The course instructor is renowned fruit guru Ken Love, who will impart his knowledge, humor, and frankness over 64 hours of hands-on training.

If you're interested in getting certified as a Master Food Preserver in food safety and preservation, contact Luisa Castro at 808-974-7664 or luisac@hawaii.edu by January 28 to request an application. Attendance is limited to 12 students. Tuition is $100. For more information about the course, visit http://hilo.hawaii.edu/academics/ccecs/MasterFoodPreserver.php.

Plants and Us: Nutritive Cycles and Natural Farming in the Garden
Presented by Kalu Oyama
February 7, 2015
9 a.m. to Noon
Nā‘ālehu Elementary School, 95-5545 Māmalahoa Hwy, Nā‘ālehu (map and directions)
Free of charge, open to all K-12 teachers

FoodCorps service member Kalu Oyama will share her knowledge on balancing our garden soil and improving plant vigor using natural farming methods. The presentation will include a discussion on the similarities between plants and people and the four nutritive stages. Participants will make fermented plant and fruit juices and take home materials on natural farming.

For more information and to register, contact Donna Mitts at dmitts@kohalacenter.org or 808-936-2117.