

Kipuka o ke Ola (KOKO), a Native Hawaiian Health Clinic, has been established to address Native Hawaiian health disparities in North Hawaii. KOKO is designed to provide a full range of bio-psycho-social services to the residents of North Hawaii, with an emphasis on serving Native Hawaiians. It provides culturally informed direct services, actively collaborates with other like-spirited individuals and organizations, and is led by the community that it serves.

KOKO serves approximately 2,750 patients, of which 41% are Native Hawaiian. According to the Hawaii Department of Health's Hawaii Health Matters, Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander populations in the KOKO service area of North Hawaii (Waimea, South Kohala, North Kohala, and Hamakua) range between 24-37% of the total population. Therefore, KOKO is favorably over-represented in serving Native Hawaiians.

The Hawaiian Native Corporation (HNC), DAWSON's parent company, is happy to provide funding to KOKO for a much-needed 14,000 sq. ft. facility as they have outgrown their current space. This expansion is crucial to address the urgent need to grow beyond the current space, enabling KOKO to continue its vital work and better meet the expanding needs of the community. The HNC is honored to support KOKO's efforts and looks forward to seeing the positive impact this contribution will have on the health and well-being of Native Hawaiians in North Hawaii.