



PEACE

Promoting Engagement, Aloha, & Compassion in the Everyday Care
of People Facing Serious Illness



HUI POHALA

PEACE - Munch and Learn Series 2026 #19

The Heart of the Journey: Supporting Patients and Families through Transition

**August 20, 2026
12:00 - 1:00 pm HST**

Veronica "Ronnie" Hee, M.S.W., L.S.W.

**and Panel Discussion with the Kaiser
Palliative Care Team**



What makes serious illness conversations so difficult, and how can social workers help? This session explores the emotional landscape of serious illness, including the roles of hope, grief, spirituality, family dynamics, and cultural values in decision-making. Using real-world case examples and practical interventions, participants will learn strategies to support patients and families through the transition from palliative care to hospice while promoting earlier, values-based conversations about end-of-life care.

The session will conclude with a panel discussion with Ronnie and interdisciplinary members of the Kaiser Permanente Palliative Care Team.

***Ronnie Hee** was born and raised on Oahu and received her undergraduate and graduate degrees from UH-Manoa. She worked in various non-profit agencies, including River of Life Mission, Alu Like, Hawaii Community Foundation, and The Salvation Army, addressing issues such as education, homelessness and substance use. She then focused her career on healthcare, working as a medical social worker in hospital and skilled nursing settings. She is currently an outpatient Palliative Care Social Worker with Kaiser Permanente in Honolulu where she has been working for the past two years. Ronnie is currently pursuing her LCSW and is both a hospice volunteer and amateur end-of-life doula. She is passionate about helping patients and families navigate serious illness with compassion, dignity, and culturally responsive care.*

This training has been verified for 1 Continuing Education Contact hour by NASW when appropriate conditions are met by participants. (Approval HI62792021-207)



Registration: https://zoom.us/meeting/register/_jkBmA3QPOCNsh4DIYeRg

Please register and attend this session to learn more about this exciting career enhancing opportunity. Questions: PEACE@huipohala.org



MitsAokiLegacyFoundation.org