## RES23-001 Testimony

## **BUDGET (BUD) Meeting**

Meeting Date: Jan 10, 2023 @ 09:00 AM

Support: 2
Oppose: 0
I wish to comment: 0

| Name:                                | Email:                  | Zip:                    |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Barbara Tom                          | barbara.yukie@gmail.com | 96701                   |
| Representing:                        | Position:               | Submitted:              |
| Waipahu Safe Haven Immigrant/Migrant | Support                 | Jan 10, 2023 @ 06:03 AM |
| Resource Center                      |                         |                         |

## Testimony:

Aloha Council Members,

My name is Barbara Tom and I am the Director of the Waipahu Safe Haven Immigrant/Migrant Resource Center. We are asking you to support additional funding to the Rental and Utilities Program for families that were affected by COVID. Our center has eight interpreters working with Catholic Charities to help the COFA community in four different languages. Many of our participants do not speak or read English and are threaten by eviction due the loss of employment during this period. Since the program closed late last year for new applicants, our eight interpreters continue to receive requests for assistance but are not able to help those that maybe eligible and threaten with eviction. I support extending this program in an effort of preventing additional homelessness in our community.

Thank you for your consideration,

Barbara Tom, Director

Waipahu Safe Haven Immigrant/Migrant Resource Center

| Name:                                | Email:                      | Zip:                    |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Zhizi Xiong                          | alohadivinedesign@gmail.com | 96817                   |
| Representing:                        | Position:                   | Submitted:              |
| Kapalama Neighborhood Security Watch | Support                     | Jan 10, 2023 @ 08:06 AM |

## Testimony:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair & Members of the Committee,

My name is Zhizi Xiong (Angela Melody Young). I'm testifying in strong support of the resolution on behalf of my grassroots, CARES.

The Chair's objection & recommendation was a brilliant plan of action. The recommendation was to create a resolution in accordance with the Annual Executive Capital Budget Ordinance. This will allow the funds that they have had difficulty expending to be utilized wisely for homeless prevention.

Family Promise, IHS, Mental Health Kokua, Gregory House Programs, Partners in Care & Kalihi Palama Health Center can now access funds for emergency shelters, prevention programs, rental assistance, financial assistance & homeless prevention.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Zhizi Xiong