



# Proclamation

Summer is a greatly-anticipated time for students, who enjoy a much-deserved break from their studies and pursue numerous extracurricular opportunities. However, students without a job or other activities often confront negative pressures during their idle time.

For the past 16 years, Late Night Basketball has provided a positive outlet for youth in Kalihi, offering a free summer basketball league during the months of June and July. Founded by Diana Bunney of the Kalihi YMCA, the league works closely with this organization, as well as the Susanna Wesley Community Center, Kōkua Kalihi Valley, PACT (Parents And Children Together) and Pālama Settlement. Late Night Basketball also receives important funding from a U.S. Department of Justice grant and other local philanthropic organizations and individuals.

Since the league's founding, more than 25,000 young adults have participated in Late Night Basketball. Under the leadership of Sean Spriggs, the league has expanded during the past five years and now has a waiting list of players who wish to participate. During the 2007 season, which recently finished, nearly 220 young men competed on 20 teams in two age categories.

This successful program has many positive effects on the lives of its participants. Beyond providing an activity during week nights, Late Night Basketball connects youth with positive mentors who teach them sportsmanship, and also helps players learn how to positively respond to conflict and defeat. Moreover, this league provides a sense of community for many of these youth, as well as a sense of duty to give back as Sean Spriggs plans on enlisting all 220 players from this summer in a large service project to refurbish a park in Kalihi Valley.

**THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR.,** Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **August 2, 2007**, as

## **TEAMS AGAINST TROUBLE DAY**

in Hawai'i, and thank everyone involved with Late Night Basketball for their steadfast dedication to our state's youth.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this second day of August 2007.

Linda Lingle  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.  
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i