



Courtesy photo

Left to right: Deacon Alberta Buller and Rev. Katlin McCallister of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Apostles; Billi-Jo Pike, director of community engagement at Neighborhood Place of Puna; Chi-Ashley Davis, lead community resource navigator at NPP; keynote speaker Paul Normann, executive director at NPP; and Mayor Kimo Alameda.

## Neighborhood Place of Puna opens new Coordination Center

Hilo drop-in site will help people connect with resources, services

**N**eighborhood Place of Puna has announced the opening of the new drop-in location for its Coordination Center, providing critical support for Hawaii County residents in need of assistance connecting with community resources.

NPP held a blessing ceremony last week to mark the opening of this new community resource center.

Located at 1407 Kapiolani St. in Parish Hall at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Apostles in Hilo, the Coordination Center "offers a welcoming space where individuals and families can receive personalized support from trained staff," according to a press

release. The center is designed to help community members navigate available programs and services, making it easier to access essential resources such as housing assistance, health care, employment support and more.

The Coordination Center drop-in location opens to the public on Monday, March 17.

"Navigating support systems can be overwhelming, and we want to make the process as easy as possible for individuals and families in need," Billi-Jo Pike, director of community engagement at NPP, said in the press release.

"Our Coordination Center is here to connect people with the right resources, whether they visit us in person

or reach out through our call center."

The center offers the following:

- Application assistance (help with applications for housing, financial aid and other essential services);
- Computer access

- (browse resources, create resumes and apply for programs);
- Phone access

- (make important calls to connect with service providers);
- Free Wi-Fi

- (stay connected for job searches, telehealth appointments and more);
- Trained staff

- (knowledgeable community resource navigators available to assess needs and provide tailored guidance).

For those unable to

visit the drop-in center, the Coordination Center's call center is also available to assist over the phone or via text at (808) 501-1413. The Coordination Center is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information, call or text (808) 501-1413, email [wehelp@neighborhoodplace.org](mailto:wehelp@neighborhoodplace.org), or visit our website at <https://neighborhoodplaceofpuna.org/the-coordination-center/>.

NPP is a nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting families and individuals on Hawaii Island with accessing the necessary tools and resources they need to thrive. Visit [www.neighborhoodplaceofpuna.org](http://www.neighborhoodplaceofpuna.org).