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DANA OPU`ULANI HAUANIO, Ed.D – BRIEF BIOGRAPHY



Dr. Dana O. Hauanio is Director of the MBDA Business Center Honolulu (MBCH), located at the University of Hawai`i. At the Center, which is under a cooperative agreement by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Dana manages a team of business consultants that provide technical assistance to minority business enterprises in the local community. During her tenure, MBCH has assisted over 1,000 MBES in providing almost \$1 billion dollars of economic activity. MBDA Business Center Honolulu has received the U.S. Department of Commerce's MBDA Century Award for outstanding Center performance for the last five years.

Prior to MBCH, Dr. Hauanio spent six years at the Native Hawaiian Revolving Loan Fund (NHRLF) Program funded by U.S. Administration for Native Americans and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. As the NHRLF Manager, Dana managed a \$28 million lending and training program for Native Hawaiian owned

businesses unable to secure conventional financing through traditional lending sources. Hauanio started her professional career in 1995 as a commercial credit management trainee with the Bank of Hawai`i. Dr. Hauanio relocated to San Francisco in 1998 to work as a Senior Commercial Underwriter for U.S. Bank, specializing in capitalization of mid-sized regional corporations. In 2000, Dana was promoted to Small Business Banking Manager, focusing on banking services to small business clients in the Northern California marketplace.

Dr. Hauanio, a native Hawaiian, considers herself a 'source of business information' for entrepreneurs looking to expand their current operations. Her involvement in the business technical assistance community and her longstanding interpersonal relationships have created business growth and job creation and retention for many minority-owned businesses (MBEs) throughout her career.

Passionate about enterprise development, Dana served on various boards and councils focused on business and entrepreneurship including the Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce, Hale Ku`ai Cooperative, Chamber of Commerce Hawai`i Affiliated Chambers and Business Organization Committee, and the Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association's Council of Hawaiian Representatives.

In 2012, Dana was awarded the United States Small Business Administration Small Business Advocate Award. This award honors outstanding small business owners, entrepreneurs, and advocates who best illustrate the important contributions of small business to the local economy and to our quality of life. Hauanio has been a consistent U.S. SBA Hawai`i District Office Holomua Award winner for the last four years.

Dr. Hauanio earned her B.B.A with a double major in Finance and International Business at the University of Hawai`i at Manoa and her M.B.A at Hawai`i Pacific University. In 2008, she completed The Tuck Executive Education at Dartmouth for the U.S. Department of Commerce. Dr. Hauanio has her doctorate in Higher Education Leadership from the University of Southern California.