

Linda M. Colburn

Where Talk Works, Inc.

EMPLOYMENT12/01 – Present **Where Talk Works, Inc.**

This firm provides a range of technical assistance to non-profits, for profit and public sector entities across the state of Hawaii. Dispute resolution support is provided in the form of mediation, group facilitation, and public meeting management services. Board Retreats, Strategic Planning, and Executive Director Support services are also provided on a retainer or contract basis.

www.collaborativeleadershipnetwork.org - about us:

10/99 – 11/01 **Executive Director: Hawaii Nature Center (HNC)**

Responsible for supervision of staff and operations on Maui and O'ahu. HNC offered environmental education opportunities for over 25,000 school children per year. Worked with the HNC Board to raise \$1.2 million annually via grants, contracts, fundraisers and mission related income generation from the I'ao Valley Nature Center Interactive Science Arcade and Gift Shop.

6/97 – 6/99

Felix Consent Decree Operations Manager: Office of the Governor

Responsible for coordinating the State's compliance with a Federal Consent Decree relating to its failure to provide appropriate Special Education support to children with special needs. Direct engagement with the State Departments of Education, Health, and Human Services as well as the State Attorney General's Office and Judiciary resulted in new policies and practices consistent with federal requirements. Responsibilities also required ongoing interaction with the State Legislature, Board of Education, Special Education advocacy groups/service providers, and serving as a State liaison to Plaintiff Attorneys representing the class, the Federal Court-Appointed Monitor and Master, and families of children with special education needs.

6/89 – 7/97

Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA)

10/95 – 7/97: **Administrator:** Responsible for management and oversight of all programs; 90+ staff; five offices statewide with a base annual operating budget of \$8.5 million.

- Supported nine elected Trustees in areas of policy development, legislative strategy, budget development, procurement matters, investment portfolio performance reviews.

01/95 – 09/95: **Deputy Administrator, Programs**

06/89 – 01/95: **Economic Development Officer:**

5/87 – 6/89

Executive Director: Aina Kupaa O Ma'ili, Inc.

Ma'ililand Transitional Housing Project, Ma'ili, O'ahu, Hawaii

Managed a 67-unit City-owned transitional housing project for the homeless. Responsible for all phases of operation including project renovation, rent collection, tenant relations, security, policy development and enforcement, social service program development and delivery.

9/85 – 3/87

Executive Director: Hawaiian Business Development Project

Na 'Oiwi O O'ahu, Inc.

Responsible for managing a federally funded program to develop Hawaiian-owned business ventures. The project provided technical assistance and entrepreneurship training to new business start-ups.

1984 – 9/85 **Economic Development Specialist:** Alu Like, Inc. O’ahu Island Center
 Provided technical assistance to Alu Like clients contemplating small business start-ups or expansion.

Independent Consultant:
 1986 – present Consulting activities shifted to mediations, public policy and public meeting facilitation, cross sector collaboration working group facilitation and strategic planning support/board training for non profits.

1979 – 1986 Focused primarily on employee performance evaluation for Food & Beverage, Resort, and Retail operations. Clients included national chain properties as well as locally owned and operated ventures.

OTHER EMPLOYMENT:

Sales Representative: International Business Machines (IBM)

Sales Representative: Sunkist Growers, Inc.

Consultant: Lewis and Clark College

EDUCATION:

Bachelor of Science: Business Administration & Communication
 Lewis and Clark College, Portland, Oregon

High School:
 The Kamehameha Schools

Continuing Education:

Other Training and Skill Building

- **Member: Collaborative Leaders Network**
- Discovery Leadership Gallup University, Washington, D.C.
- Appreciative Inquiry Training
- Conflict Resolution and Issues Associated with Racism Training
- Honolulu: Interaction Associates Facilitative Leadership Training
- Organization Diagnosis: Building Commitment for Intentional Change

Past BOARD MEMBERSHIPS:

- Friends of Iolani Palace
- Olelo Community Television
- State Judiciary Alternative Dispute Resolution Program Advisory Board (current)
- Hawaii US Civil Rights Advisory Committee (current)
- Mediation Center of the Pacific

OTHER PAST MEMBERSHIPS/APPOINTMENTS

State Judiciary: Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution – Mediator Panel and advisory board member

Hawaii Collaborative Leadership Network

Barbers Point Naval Air Station Redevelopment Commission – Commissioner*

Honolulu County Committee on the Status of Women – Member/Chair**

Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women – Planning Committee Chair*

Governor’s Advisory Committee for the State Functional Plan for Tourism*

State Community Based Economic Development Advisory Council – Chair*

(Governor *Appointment/**Mayoral Appointment)