

# Resilience in times of trouble: Aftermath of lahaina, hawaii wildfires

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## ABSTRACT:

*Mental health is an essential component of overall well-being, and psychiatric care plays a pivotal role in promoting, restoring, and maintaining mental wellness. This abstract highlights the significance of psychiatric care in addressing a range of mental health conditions and fostering improved quality of life for individuals. The abstract underscores the importance of comprehensive treatment approaches that encompass medical, psychological, and social interventions to cater to the diverse needs of patients. By integrating pharmacotherapy, psychotherapy, and supportive services, psychiatric care aims to alleviate symptoms, enhance coping mechanisms, and empower individuals to lead fulfilling lives.*

**Keywords:** Psychiatric Care, Mental Health, Comprehensive Treatment, Pharmacotherapy.

## INTRODUCTION

Lahaina 150 year-old banyon tree (Figure 1). "We will rebuild stronger and not lose our Native Hawaiian historical cultural city. Their tree survived the devastating fire. This tree was planted in April, 1873, to mark the fiftieth anniversary of Protestant missionaries in Lahaina. It has been the site of numerous celebrations, rallies, and events. The survival of the 150-year-old Banyon tree is evidence that our Hawaiian culture will survive the devastation of the Maui fires. While not all Native Hawaiians view the tree as it may be reminder of the Protestant takeover, but it has become a meeting place of spiritual activity for most. Maria Catholic Church also survived the fires. Did prayer assist survival? And will it assist rec.

Kumu Kapono (Figure 2). Prayers helped as Kumu Kapono prayed for recovery and although he didn't live in Lahaina, he had gone to elementary school right next to the Banyan. Kahu (teacher) Kekai Robinson with some of her students and teachers from the Hawaiian language and culture immersion school, Ke Kula 'O Pi'ilani also came with prayers.

Steve Nims (Figure 3). "We have leaves!" Indeed, Steve Nims and another arborist, Tim Griffith, had been examining the Banyan that day. They found both new leaves and freely flowing sap throughout the Banyan, as well as indications of new roots growing.

So hope is restored. And Steve Nims had been part of a national group of arborists who had placed a historic placard

on the Banyan some forty years previously in 1982. We definitely had the right team in place! We have leaves.

Lahaina (Figure 4). "But we need to understand and commemorate the historical view of Lahaina as home of King Kamehameha

III. It means a lot to our Native Hawaiian community even those residing elsewhere. Kaniela Ing, National Director of the Green New Deal Network and seventh-generation Kanaka Maoli, Native Hawaiian, speaks about the impact of this week's wildfires [Fires]. He describes the cultural meaning of Lahaina and speaks of climate change, land grabbers who want to buy out Native Hawaiian lands.

"Hawaii's Governor Josh Green wants to temporarily suspend the housing market 'to make sure that no one is victimized from a land grab' even if this is legally challenged. How will this be supervised? Hawaii's governor wants to suspend the housing market 'to make sure that no one is victimized from a land grab'. But Hawaii is increasingly at risk from disasters, with wildfire rising fastest, according to an. Fires and other disasters are increasing in Hawaii, according to this AP data analysis It is, in fact, one of the riskiest states in the country [Native]. Fires and other disasters are increasing in Hawaii, according to this AP data analysis There has been a panel designated by the Governor and the most recent meeting held included anyone who wanted to attend and was available on line. Its agenda was about the rebuilding

Now is Not the time to Assign Blame. Perhaps, yes believe if you must that it was caused by poorly maintained power lines...or even lack of warning signals. The dryness of the lands reminds us that we must combat climate change "stop heating our earth"...decrease fossil fuels. Yes, we need to know to prevent future catastrophes.

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**Figure 1.** The Lahaina 150 year-old banyan tree survived the fire and sends a message to those in Lahaina.



**Figure 2.** Kumu Kaponu.



**Figure 3.** Steve Nims.



Maria Lanakila Catholic Church, on Waihe'e street, in the aftermath of a wildfire in Lahaina

**Figure 4.** Commemorate the historical view of Lahaina.

### **A. TODAY IS THE TIME FOR:**

- Saving lives and treating burns on victims -- remembering that after the pain resides memories will be triggered ...seek family, caregiver and professional therapists help. Hawaii has many of us who will provide needed service at no cost.
- Bringing in emotional support animals in addition to the so-called cadaver dogs. Petting an animal often lowers autonomic activation.
- PTSD includes Survivor Guilt...deal with those who feel it was their fault somehow for not being there.
- Providers take care of yourself. If you don't do self-care you won't have the stamina to help anyone else.
- Be there whether on Zoom, Facetime or on island. Listen. Empathize. Check out their needs. Offer hugs but also make sure they know what services are available including, food, water and shelter. Restore hope that federal and state agencies will help provide financial relief. Activate those sites that have petitions allow the people to have voice.
- Give \$\$\$ Encourage that the town can and will be rebuilt --there is a Maui Strong movement and many organizations including the Hawaii Community Foundation will provide necessary help.

**AS A COMMUNITY ALOHA AINA, WE NEED TO COME TOGETHER:** There is now a group of over 1000 professionals willing to donate services to families who need psychological and medical assistance. This was based partly on a 3 hour training provided by the Hawaii Psychological Association for those who needed to be reminded of best practices led by Dr. Diane Logan

and Dr. Melissa Brymer (Duke/UCLA) with the culturally relevant assistance of Malina who brought this sad Dawn, to the Light Of Day., Leilani Kupaha-Maarino Kahoana and University of Hawaii student Ka'eo Perry.

- They set forth the following reminders in providing assistance to those in the tragedy's devastation remembering that Resilience will occur over time.
  - Listen
  - Standby and wait until the survivor is ready
  - Be sensitive and humble
  - Safety issues need to be explored
  - Generate calmness
  - Community support is critical
  - Connectedness, begin coming together to help each other.
  - Belongingness generate a sense that they are included.

### **B-WHAT IS NEEDED BY THE PEOPLE TO REALIZE THIS REBUILDING:**

- Trust. That someone who doesn't live here, fit the local description ...can help
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- Give \$\$\$ Encourage that the town can and will be rebuilt --there is a Maui Strong movement and many organizations including the Hawaii Community Foundation will provide necessary help.
- Allow return of tourists but not to see a destroyed town...focus on W. Maui but have the museum opened to view what used to be. Have the surviving community as part of the grieving process build a vision of what Lahaina was made of both its people and its stores. They are a community and will restore their legacy as Hawaii's favorite old town.
- Ask the residents what they loved and want to restore and what would help them move on. RESTORATION... symbolism of those lost, perhaps the burial area has a special name: Maui Strong.
- Water is life. Lahaina was once the Venice of the Pacific...when Native Hawaii lost the wealth to plantation corporations. Perhaps the humidity can be restored, water reservoirs managed and prevent future fire disasters.
- Being Diverse-the entity possesses or can draw upon a range of capabilities, ideas, information sources, technical elements, people or groups.
- Integrated-Coordination of functions and actions across systems...bringing together disparate elements develop cohesive solutions, and coordinate actions. Information is shared.
- Self-regulating- as cading disruption do not result when the entity suffers a sever dysfunction; it can regulate itself to deal with catastrophic collapse.
- Adaptive- The entity has the capacity to adjust to changing circumstances by developing new plans, taking new actions or modifying behaviors.
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### DEMOCRACY

Native Hawaiian Activist Kaniela Ing on Fires, Colonialism & Banyan Tree Kaniela Ing, National Director of the Green New Deal Network and seventh-generation Kanaka Maoli, Native Hawaiian, about the impact of this week's devastating wildfires He describes the cultural meaning of Lahaina speaks of climate change, land grabbers who want to buy out Native Hawaiian lands.

"Hawaii's governor wants to suspend the housing market to make sure that no one is victimized from a land grab" even if this is legally challenged. How will this be supervised? Gov. Green has not protected water interests Plantation Disaster Capitalism: Native Hawaiians Organize to Stop Land & Water Grabs After Maui Fire Land Capitalism.

Hawaii's governor wants to suspend the housing market 'to make sure that no one is victimized from a land grab' But Hawaii is increasingly at risk from disasters, with wildfire rising fastest, according to an Fires and other disasters are increasing in Hawaii, according to this AP data analysis It is, in fact, one of the riskiest states in the country. I live on Oahu and had no perspective that it could here.

Fires and other disasters are increasing in Hawaii, according to this AP data analysis In June, 2022 water management act was passed although opposed by industry interests. Lack of water management may have contributed to fire spread.

### C. FOR THE INJURED AND SUVIVORS BUILD RESILIENCE:

- As Judith Rodin (2014) shared -- means paying attention to the following:

Being Aware-situational awareness, knowledge of strengths, assets and liabilities and vulnerabilities and risks faced.

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### **FOR THE RESCUERS IT MEANS:**

- Get appropriate medical and psychological help for the hurting.
- Use trauma informed methods of helping the dying. (MBBI.org)
- Assist relatives and those who lost friends and fellow-workers
- Mourn along with the sufferers ...you saw dead children...life robbed.
- Encourage, religious, spiritual helpers to go out into the community.
- Enhanced awareness of the Whole s World is Watching.

As a community alohaaina, we need to come together and in the Guardian, says Naomi Klein and Professor Kapula'aala Sproat, Professor of law, co-director of Native Hawaiian Rights Clinic tell on Democracy Now (August 18, 2023).

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### **COMMUNITY STRONG**

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### **References**

Fires and other disasters are increasing in Hawaii, according to this AP data analysis.

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