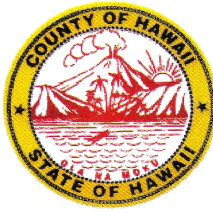


William P. Kenoi
Mayor



William T. Takaba
Managing Director

Walter K.M. Lau
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

June 23 – 30, 2012

On behalf of the people of the County of Hawai'i, it is a pleasure to extend a warm welcome to the organizers, participants and supporters of the Stone Soup Leadership Institute's **Eighth Annual Youth Leadership Summit for Sustainable Development** held this year at Martha's Vineyard.

We commend the Stone Soup Leadership Institute for your dedication to build innovative public-private partnerships to develop healthier, sustainable communities, and their commitment to organize youth-community leadership initiatives on the islands of Martha's Vineyard, Hawai'i and in the Caribbean. These future leaders will be of great value to our island communities as we seek ways to preserve and integrate our unique culture with a complex modern world.

It is particularly important for our isolated island communities to embrace the concept of sustainability, since it is through sustainability that we can insulate ourselves from worldwide events over which we have no control.

Our island communities' isolation can also be utilized as an asset, as we are particularly suited to be a world model for the development of sustainable agriculture, building, business, culture, and energy.

We are very proud of Hawai'i Island's youth delegates, and congratulate them on being selected to represent the Big Island. We extend a warm Aloha to all the delegates and wish them great success as they embark on this journey toward a more secure future for their islands and the rest of the world.

Aloha,

Billy Kenoi
MAYOR