

COHERENCE LAB

NEWSLETTER DEC 2016



Celebrating Our Progress & Gratitude for Your Support!

From all of us at Coherence Lab, we wish you a joyous holiday season and Happy New Year! As 2016 draws to a close, we want to express our heartfelt appreciation for your support and are excited to share all the progress you have made possible.

In this newsletter, we are excited to share our plans for the future and a brief overview of our accomplishments in 2016, none of which would have been possible without the generous support of our dedicated board, advisory committee and extended family and community of supporters. We deeply appreciate your belief in our vision, your commitment to our work and your guidance in our planning. We know you are with us and above all we want to thank each and every one of you!



Our Progress in 2016 + Plans for the Future

“Listening Interviews” Across the Island

We conducted “listening interviews” with dozens of diverse stakeholders ranging from community leaders to educators to indigenous elders, during which we asked questions such as,

“What do you think is most needed now to build a sustainable Kaua’i?”

There was consensus on the need to bring people together across divides to achieve whole systems solutions for a sustainable Kaua’i. Based on these interviews we:

1

Developed a mission for Coherence Lab

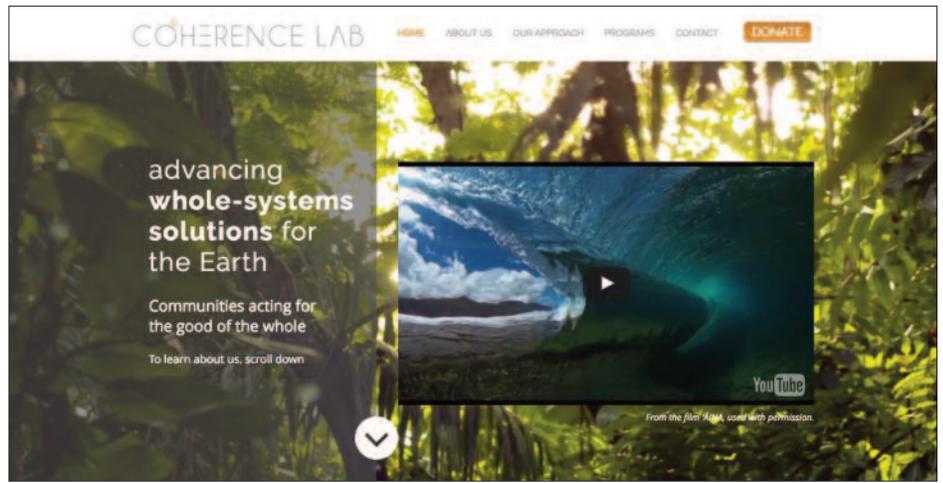
*We advance whole-systems solutions by uniting **Indigenous Wisdom + Earth Systems Science** and by **bringing people together** to act coherently for the good of the whole.*



2

Launched coherencelab.org!

We designed and launched our website, with the loving support of our team and Drair of Wild Redhead Design. We invite you to visit and follow us there for updates. >



3

We launched four new projects...

- ♥ Kaua’i Circle
- ♥ Women Wisdom Keepers Summit
- ♥ The first Kaua’i Jam
- ♥ Stream Restoration Project

Kaua`i Circle

The aim of Kaua`i Circle is to catalyze a community engagement process in which everyone can contribute to the creation of a free, interactive wiki community website that provides a constantly updated scan of Kaua`i as a whole system. We are engaging a wide range of people to develop Kaua`i Circle: Hawaiian indigenous leaders, science & advocacy experts, educators, students, business, government and NGO organizations. We are visiting schools and sharing Kaua`i Circle with students who are imagining and drawing icons for the wiki site. Here are just a few wonderful and inspiring renderings of the community systems in the Circle by third and fifth graders. Bruce Allyn and Cynthia Lazaroff are leading our Kaua`i Circle initiative and they will continue to create with the community a prototype for Kaua`i Circle to launch in the coming year.



First Women Wisdom Keepers Summit, Dec 2-4, 2016

We have just convened a gathering of 22 extraordinary women leaders from across Kaua`i, other Hawaiian Islands and the mainland. During our highly successful 3-day summit, an opportunity was created for women leaders from different parts of the island, and beyond, to come together to look at some of the most urgent issues facing our Kaua`i community. It is too often the case that people who need to work together, who live not far away — in our case on the same small island — never really have the time to talk to one another. We created a setting for deep human connection, thinking and dreaming together, for the creation of networks of support for coherent, effective action. Participants founded over a dozen new collaborative partnerships to translate inspired ideas into action including a new project for restoring a local watershed. Echoing the sentiment of our local participants, Ponca tribal elder and international Indigenous Leader Casey Camp Horinek said, "It was stunning!"

First Kaua'i Jam Nov 3-6, 2016

We held our first Kaua'i JAM, a project we ran in partnership with YES!, a nonprofit organization that connects, inspires and collaborates with changemakers to create thriving, just and sustainable ways of life for all. The JAM was more successful than we could have ever imagined – introducing us to new tools and strategies for bringing different views together to build a unified vision for the future of Kaua'i. In 2017, we are planning to offer JAMs to unite diverse groups of people to realize a community-derived vision for Kaua'i.



Stream Restoration Project

We are excited to announce that our first restoration project will be getting underway in early 2017. Working with local community leaders, ecologists, residents and youth, we are applying the Coherence Lab model – bringing together Earth Systems Science and ancient indigenous wisdom and practices – to restore a watershed in our local community. This pilot project will serve as a demonstration to catalyze sustainable solutions across the island.

4

AND... We built capacity by welcoming 8 new members to our team:

Bruce Allyn & Cynthia Lazaroff have been advising us over the past two years and we're happy that they formally joined our team in September to further develop the Kaua'i Circle Initiative.

Greg Horn was brought on as Director of Engagement to deepen our connection with diverse community groups across Kaua'i.

Ashley Cline joined our team to lead our fund-raising efforts.

Aaron Farley has joined to be a youth leader on our Stream Restoration team.

Bear Bubnis recently facilitated our first JAM and is working with us to develop a plan for future JAMs with Kaua'i youth.

Asher Adams joined our administrative team, as our Executive Assistant.

Angelina Galiza also joined our admin team, as our accountant.

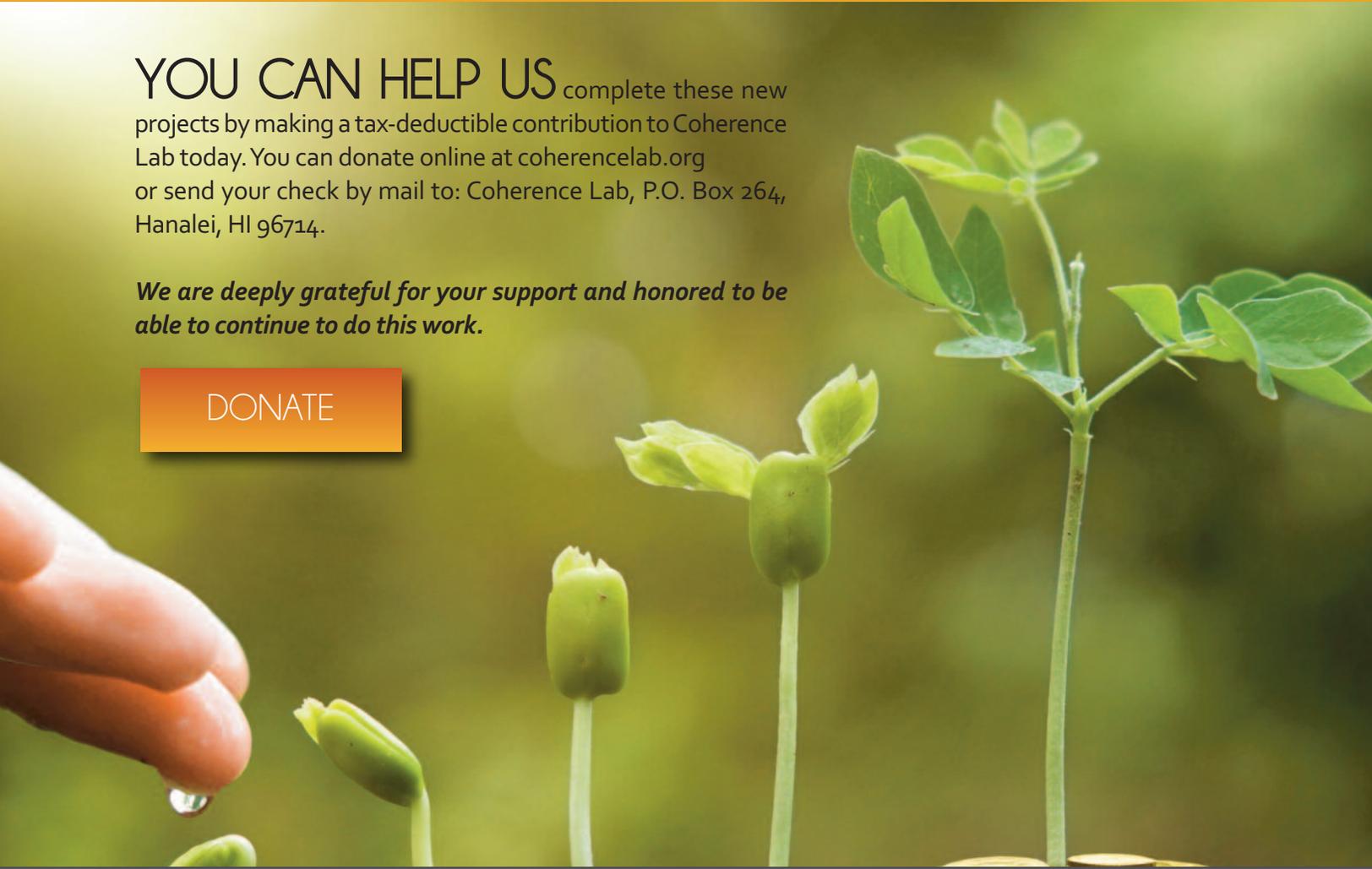
Reflecting on the Past Year

It is clear that Coherence Lab has an important role to play in bringing together indigenous wisdom and Earth Systems Science to: put forth whole systems solutions; build diverse community-based coalitions; and design projects to create a sustainable future for the people and ecosystems of Kaua'i. Through our Listening Interviews, Visioning Sessions, Coherence Summits, JAM's and other new projects, we are already witnessing the coming together of previously disparate communities, and the creation of common visions for developing solutions to critical environmental challenges facing the island of Kaua'i and our biosphere.

YOU CAN HELP US complete these new projects by making a tax-deductible contribution to Coherence Lab today. You can donate online at coherencelab.org or send your check by mail to: Coherence Lab, P.O. Box 264, Hanalei, HI 96714.

We are deeply grateful for your support and honored to be able to continue to do this work.

DONATE



May 2017 bring us all closer to the healthy, just and unified Kaua'i and world we envision!

Love & Aloha,
Prajna Marcus and the Coherence Lab Team

Coherence Lab is a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) organization.



www.coherencelab.org