



Kula Community Association
P.O. Box 417
Kula, Hawaii 96790

The vision of the Kula Community Association is to preserve open space, support agriculture, maintain a rural residential atmosphere, and to work together as a community. The specific purpose of this association is to improve the quality of life for the residents of Kula, to promote civic welfare, and generally to benefit the community of Kula.

The Honorable Neil Abercrombie
Governor, State of Hawai'i
Executive Chambers, State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

January 10 2011

Aloha Governor Abercrombie,

We are writing this letter on behalf of the Kula Community Association to strongly urge the State of Hawai'i to submit a letter of interest for technical assistance under the Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI). The goal of the JRI, which is funded by the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, "is to manage and allocate criminal justice populations and spending more cost-effectively, thereby generating *cost-savings* that can be reinvested in evidence-based strategies that increase public safety."

We have attached "Guidance for Submitting Phase I Letter of Interest", and a FAQ page. The deadline to submit the four page proposal is ***February 1, 2011***.

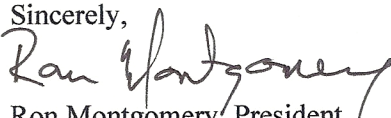
Kula Community Association is dedicated to improving the quality of life for the residents of Kula, to promote civic welfare and generally to benefit the community of Kula. Our vision is to preserve open space, support agriculture, maintain a rural residential atmosphere, *and to work together as a community*.


We strongly support the Justice Reinvestment Initiative for these reasons:

- Justice Reinvestment has helped other states save money and build safer communities by investing in programs that have proven effective in reducing crime. We want to have successful results in Hawai'i, too!
- Hawai'i's incarcerated population has continued to increase at great cost to taxpayers. Although Hawai'i continues to spend astronomical costs relating to corrections, recidivism rates remain high.
- We could benefit from the technical expertise of JRI consultants to provide a detailed analysis of the entire criminal justice system in Hawai'i. This data will allow policy makers in Hawai'i to make more informed decisions about reducing the prison population, returning out-of-state prisoners home, and decreasing recidivism rates, while saving money and enhancing public safety.

We thank you for your commitment to enhance public safety and reduce correctional spending.

Sincerely,


Ron Montgomery, President
Kula Community Association


Kevin Block, Secretary
Kula Community Association