

**Tammy Bitanga**  
**Advocate**  
**Community Outreach Coordinator & CSEC Specialist**

Tammy Bitanga is an invaluable part of Ho'ōla Nā Pua's Team as Advocate & Community Outreach Coordinator. Tammy offers insight and expertise that can only come from being a survivor of childhood sexual exploitation. She infuses her boundless energy into organizing community awareness events and lends her experience from her own healing journey to the role of advocate to other victims and survivors. Tammy has a key role as an advocate at Ho'ola Na Pua's Residential Treatment Center called Pearl Haven.

Tammy's life's story is about rising out of the circumstances of early childhood abuse that led to being in "the system," becoming a chronic runaway, victimization, and utter despair. Her testimony highlights the need for advocacy and mentoring for trafficking victims who desperately need safe adults in their life to guide them to healing and hope for a bright future.

In addition to being a advocate, Tammy works in an advisory capacity to ensure that Ho'ōla Nā Pua's services are survivor-informed. In 2015, Tammy assisted with Response and Awareness training of Department of Human Service, Law Enforcement and First Responders. Tammy has also undergone several trainings on survivor leadership through Shared Hope International; SOAR - Stop Observe Ask Respond Human Trafficking. She is a graduate of the Rebecca Bender Initiative, Elevate Academy. She has assisted the Blue Lightning Initiative on development of indicator cards for aviation staff on how to spot human trafficking in the workplace. Whether on stage as a powerful speaker, behind the scenes as an event organizer, or working with survivors, Tammy's leadership is evident and inspiring. Tammy also serves as an advocate for Homeland Security Investigations of Honolulu. She works alongside local law enforcement to ensure a victim centered approach and aid in supporting survivors and serve as a bridge between both entities.

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