Cross Cultural and Business Ties Established with Chigasaki Chamber

A delegation of 15+ leaders and members of the Chigasaki Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI) visited Hawaii last week to participate in festivals and engage in business development talks with the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii (CCH). This past May, a CCH delegation visited Chigasaki to experience their Aloha Market festival, meet with CCCI leaders and members, and the Mayor of Chigasaki to discuss future economic and cultural collaboration. The CCCI is also working on projects that will benefit both Hawaii and Chigasaki, including investment in Hawaii, selling Hawaii-made products in Chigasaki and Chigasaki-made products in Hawaii.

HAWAII TAKES THE HILL

U.S. Senators Chuck Schumer and Mazie Hirono address participants during last year’s Hawaii on the Hill legislative policy summit, with panel to include Sherry Menor-McNamara and Ann Dillwe with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

More than 100 participants representing 50+ companies and a variety of industries across the islands attended the 3rd Annual Hawaii on the Hill. We were proud to, once again, partner with U.S. Senator Mazie Hirono and her team to showcase our great state in the nation’s Capitol. A welcome reception at The President Woodrow Wilson House kicked off the agenda.

The following day a legislative policy summit was hosted for participants to meet with representatives from various agencies, as well as some of Senator Hirono’s colleagues, to learn about services available to assist their businesses. Some of the topics included small business development, international commerce, workforce development, health policy and agriculture. Participants also had a chance to meet with Senator Hirono during her “Talk Story” session and with representatives of the U.S. Chamber to receive updates on international trade policy and food labeling and safety.

The two-day agenda culminated with the Taste of Hawaii on Capitol Hill where Hawaii and our various industries were showcased, including innovation and technology, energy, insurance and financial services, agriculture and biotech, manufacturing, food and beverage, tourism, healthcare, shipping, military and communications, that stimulate our economy, as well as strategically serve our nation. The Taste event also provided participants to encourage commerce in Hawaii. As it did last year, with over 1,500 guests, this year exceeded our expectations and, by far, is still considered the largest “taste of” event on Capitol Hill.

Mahalo to our lead and underwriter sponsors: BIO, Matson, Time Warner Cable, Hawaii Captive Insurance, Hawaiian Chip Company, Innovate Hawaii, Maui County Honorary Chairs, Maui Mayor Bernard Carvalho, our featured guest, Chef Sam Choy; Neighbor Island Chambers; and Kauai Mayor Bernard Carvalho; our featured leadership; State Honorary Chair, Ron Kouchi; And to all of our participants; our Congressional leadership; and, by far, is still considered the largest “taste of” event on Capitol Hill.

Chamber President & CEO Sherry Menor-McNamara (standing on right) on mission to visit with Chigasaki Chamber officials and members.