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**YOUTH FOR CHRIST HAWAII**

*Every Teen by Every Means*

April 3, 2009

Dear Friends,

Kelli Akina  
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I am writing to inform you of a significant transition that will advance the cause of youth evangelism in the islands. Effective July 1, 2009, YFC Hawaii's Fellowship of Christian Athletes division will become a separate ministry in Hawaii and operate exclusively as an arm of the national FCA organization. This move will bring to conclusion a five-year relationship between YFC Hawaii and FCA in which YFC Hawaii was authorized to develop and operate the FCA ministry in Hawaii. After much prayer and thorough analysis, we are confident that this transition will result in the greatest impact, mission fulfillment, and resourcing for both organizations.

We praise God for the work He blessed under the partnership relationship between FCA and YFC Hawaii. Accomplishments include the establishment of FCA "huddles" on numerous high school campuses with weekly attendances of approximately 260 students and more than ten volunteer staff, the building of the largest network of Christian athletic coaches, and fruitful ministry to University of Hawaii athletes. Perhaps the most significant blessing was the hiring and training of an exceptionally gifted full-time ministry director Barrett Awai along with his wife Tara who serves part-time.

It is to the glory of God that this transition demonstrates the Kingdom-mindedness of all parties involved. I cannot tell you enough how grateful we are for the far-sightedness and open arms we have experienced in our relationship with national FCA leaders including FCA President Les Steckel, Executive Vice President Ken Williams, and Regional Director Joe Broussard. We are also grateful to long-term FCA advocates in Hawaii David Kowalski and Dr. Nora Harmsen, a member of the FCA Board Trustees, who approached us to initiate the partnership and helped it become a reality. Additionally, I would be remiss if I failed to acknowledge and thank the YFC Hawaii Board of Directors, our donors and the entire staff team whose vision, generosity and sacrifices allowed us to participate in God's Kingdom work in a new and meaningful way. In particular, I thank Danny Casey for his faithful supervision of FCA in Hawaii and handling of our relationship with the FCA national office.

Barrett and Tara will conclude their tenure as YFC Hawaii employees on June 30<sup>th</sup> and on the next day become employees of FCA. They take with them my thanks and the complete blessing of the Board of Directors and staff of YFC Hawaii, and we transfer with them all ministries, resources, donor relationships, and branding related to FCA in



Hawaii. As members of our spiritual ohana, we will continue to kokua with Barrett and Tara. From this point on, please direct any inquires concerning FCA in Hawaii to Barrett at [BAwai@FCA.org](mailto:BAwai@FCA.org) or (808) 230-6646.

It is my privilege to endorse and commend to you the Fellowship of Christian Athletes ministry in Hawaii and to encourage all who are so led to partner with them as financial donors and prayer warriors. I also ask for your prayers to specifically cover Barrett and Tara Awai as they lead FCA in its growing outreach to Hawaii's coaches and athletes. To friends of YFC Hawaii, our partner churches and organizations, we humbly ask you to receive Barrett and Tara with open arms.

For God's Glory,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keli'i Akina', with a long, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

Keli'i Akina  
President/C.E.O.  
Youth For Christ Hawaii

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