

gokapolei

#IGOKAPOLEI

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PHOTOS: LEAH FRIEL

Helping to bring Kapolei into the 21st Century, MyGoCenter brings the concept of co-working space to the marketplace.



It's a Go!

MyGoCenter brings co-working to Kapolei

Plain and simple: work isn't the same as it used to be.

Everyone doesn't report to a 9-to-5 office job, a co-worker may be located on the other side of the globe and meetings can be done via FaceTime. With this new work culture comes emerging workspaces like **MYGOCENTER** in Kapolei. MyGoCenter, the less-than-a-year-old co-working space located at Kapolei Marketplace, offers the west side of O'ahu a quiet place to work and meet with clients on their own time and schedule.

A fair amount of people in Hawai'i aren't familiar with the term "co-working spaces." MyGoCenter co-founder and general manager David Do says, "Especially here in Hawai'i because it's so new here, when I say "co-working" to people, they don't really understand what co-working is, so I always say "shared office" or "shared workspace"—working with other likeminded people."

The space itself is small (Do admits, "For this particular case, we selected location over size because this is a busy shopping center ..."), but inside there are open tables to work at, a conference room that's available for meeting reservations and a receptionist. With the receptionist comes a handful of virtual office services like mail service, printer/scanner and phone receptionist service. Members can register a designated phone number with MyGoCenter, and the receptionist answers any incoming calls to that phone number as a member's business' front desk. Aside from the virtual office perks, clients have unlimited access to the co-working space during business hours. There are no assigned desks or seats—simply drop in and pick a chair as if you were going to Starbucks (minus the distracting noise of coffee machines and music).

By Maya Wong



As for the type of people who enroll for a membership at MyGoCenter, Do says they have clients in a variety of work fields like accounting, health insurance, real estate, cyber security, architecture and marketing, to name a few. While non-members are always welcome to rent out the center for a private meeting, members can choose between three different membership tiers that best fit their schedule and budget. "Option No.1 is for the light user, we call it the five-day package, and that allows the client to come here any five days of the month," Do says. "That's really for the light users, somebody that would come once a week and they would pay starting at \$49 a month." The next tier up is a \$79, 10-day package, tailored for somebody that might use the space a couple times a week, while the highest tier is customized for someone who would use the space on a regular basis. "[The highest tier members] would go with the unlimited days package starting at \$149 a month," Do says. "And as we grow and expand, those that have unlimited membership will actually be able to access all of our locations."

With another Kapolei Marketplace location and a Honolulu location in the works, this asset comes in handy for members on the go. "We're actually expanding into the HIC location right across from the parking lot this summer," Do says. "In an ideal scenario, we would have this set up plus some private offices, so right across the street we'll have a bunch of private offices there where our clients will have 24/7 access to their office." The upcoming benefit of private office spaces doesn't just attract a crowd of independent business owners or entrepreneurs—Do says people who work for a company benefit from the private space as well. "They may be working for a large employer, but their job requires them to go out and meet clients in their office or their place of business ... sometimes they need a place to drop in instead of going to their local coffee shop—they just want something a little more quiet, a little more professional," Do says.

There lies the allure of co-working spaces—when you're not in the mood to work at a coffee shop and face a potential set of mini crises (i.e. no available outlets, no open tables, it's too loud to concentrate), a co-working space is a safe bet for a productive environment to get work done. "Instead of working somewhere [that's] not so professional, they come here and feel different," Do says. "It's all about your environment, I'm really happy to see that people get it and they love it and that's what they're most excited about—that they're in a space that really helps them produce more in their business, earn more business and really help them live their dream."

As the word on co-working spaces like MyGoCenter continues to spread, people across O'ahu are rethinking what a day at the office looks like. For a sampling of what MyGoCenter is like, call the center at 215-0600 to inquire about their free quarterly business and networking workshops. ●

MYGOCENTER
KAPOLEI MARKETPLACE
590 FARRINGTON HIGHWAY, SUITE 504
215-0600
MYGOCENTER.COM

HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY,
9 A.M. TO 5 P.M.

The space boasts printers, desks and even a private conference room.