



The WAM trainees and program directors pictured from left: (Back row) Stanley Joram, Henty Juano, Jeffery Rison, Jata Kilon, Lien Jorren, Simpson Tokjen, Turner Langinbelik (leaning forward), Mark Jacklik, Winton Boon (slightly hidden), Brik Kadu, Anthony Bwijo (trainer in training), Rowley Kaneko, Rinkey Hersey (half hidden), Bramond Clanry, Alaska Kilon, Mentil Laik (trainer), Priscilla Ainri, Linton Baso (carpenter), Helmera Bujen, Manto Samuel (trainer in training), and Alson Kelen. (Front) Jason Ebot, Mack Jelmak, Lora Jerilong, Wina Jamomo, Ken Taggart, Sakura Edwards, and Kathy Hutton.



Julia Alfred

## WAM trainees get full time employment

Sakura Edward, Lein Jorren, Winton Boon, and Rinkey Hersey were praised for being the top four trainees in the six-month Waan Aelon in Majel (WAM) Vocational Training Program, which ended with a graduation ceremony at the Marshall Islands Resort on Friday.

Of the 21 trainees, top of the class went to Sakura, who had an average score of 92 percent for the five main courses, which were Vocation, Life, Math, Tra-

ditional, and Attendance skills.

The first speaker at the well-attended graduation, which was emceed by Youth to Youth in Health's Alicetha Tata Kalles, was trainee Mack Jelmak, who welcomed everyone. He was followed by representatives from the program's two major donor organizations: the Single State Agency's Director Julia Alfred and RMI National Training Council's Marie Maddison.

WAM Director Alson Kelen

then spoke on the importance of working together and praised the trainees: "They are all honor students and came out with good grades."

Six of the graduates already have jobs at Do It Best, the Marshall Islands Resort, and the Diabetes Wellness Center.

Eighty-two youth applied in early February for the next WAM Vocational Training Program, which is aiming for a March start.

## WHO warning on leprosy cases

The World Health Organization warned Monday that the battle against leprosy is not over, with more than 5,000 new cases reported yearly in the Western Pacific, where the disease was declared eliminated in 1991, reported the Associated Press Monday.

WHO regional director Shin Young-soo said the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia and Kiribati are three of 37 countries in the region that have failed to meet the target of lowering cases to less than one per 10,000 people — the health body's definition of leprosy elimination.

"This is unfinished business and we need to walk that last mile," Shin said.

He called on member countries not to be complacent.

## World seeing diabetes epidemic

Further to the diabetes epidemic that is sweeping the RMI: an upsurge in diabetes is being seen worldwide in virtually all nations.

The Washington Post last year reported a startling statistic as part of a feature, "Diabetes on uptick worldwide, study finds": Marshallese women had the highest rate of increase for diabetes from 1980 to 2008.

The chart published in the Post showed that while the increase in the percentage of women with diabetes over this time period was 2.1 percent in Australia and 4.0 percent in the US, in the RMI it was a whopping 20.5 percent.

"The rates of change for men and women in most countries were nearly equal," the report noted.

Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat - Suva, Fiji  
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The Secretariat is looking to appoint suitably qualified and experienced persons to work as **Corporate Legal Officer** who will be accountable to the Director Corporate Services of the Corporate Services Programme for:

- Being the principal legal counsel to Management
- Providing legal services to Staff in the implementation of Programme activities
- Reviewing and maintaining the Secretariat's legal templates
- Developing the Legal Services Component

Applicants should have a University degree in law with at least 5 year experience working as in-house counsel and experience with internet based policy and procedure systems would be desirable. They must have an aptitude for the provision of high quality service.

Applicants must have the ability to provide clear, concise written and oral communication, in the English language with a flexible approach and have a willingness to assist with a variety of other tasks within the Secretariat. Applicants should be willing to travel economy class.

The appointment will carry a competitive remuneration and benefits package including medical and life insurance. The salary will be in the range of SDR23,653 to SDR35,479 per annum. At the 1 February 2012 exchange rate this salary range was equivalent to FID64,963 to FID97,443.

Interested applicants are encouraged to obtain an information package containing the job description and remuneration details, which are available at [www.forumsec.org](http://www.forumsec.org). To be eligible for this position, the applicant must be a national of a Forum Member Country\*.

Applications should be addressed to the Secretary General, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Private Mail Bag, Suva and can be sent electronically to [jobs@forumsec.org.fj](mailto:jobs@forumsec.org.fj). Applications should be received by close of business on **Friday 9 March 2012**.

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages both men and women to apply.

\* Member States of the Pacific Islands Forum: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.