



Aloha County Council,

My name is Moani Makaiwi and I am the Humane Enforcement Resource Officer at Maui Humane Society. I would like to mahalo for your continued support and commitment to our efforts. As you know, we were awarded the contract to assist with animal control services on Moloka'i and to rebuild kennels that had fallen into disrepair. These kennels reflect the critical need for resources on the island—not only in terms of enforcement but also through pet retention services and safe, clean housing that ensures humane treatment and mālama for the animals in our care.

Since stepping into this role on February 10th, I have witnessed firsthand—and heard directly from the Moloka'i community—the urgent need for a full-time veterinarian to provide essential services, including spay/neuter procedures, wellness checkups, and humane euthanasia. While we are grateful for our partnership with the Moloka'i Humane Society, their capacity remains limited. The people of Moloka'i are open to change, but meaningful progress requires adequate funding. Without additional support, more animals will be transferred to Maui—away from the island they call home.

Maui Humane Society continues to provide critical support, but with limited space and resources on Maui, the need for action is urgent. As we approach FY 2026, we respectfully request funding to not only sustain the progress we have made but to expand essential programs in education and animal welfare resources for Moloka'i. Including additional funding for a second **Humane Enforcement Officer** of \$60,000. Maui Police Department held contract to the job description of the Dog Warden. Currently, I am the one officer who is responsible for the entire island, Monday through Friday. This is neither sustainable nor safe. The previous officer on Moloka'i was supported by the Maui Police Department which would cover when he was not on duty or needed assistance in general, whereas the officer under Maui Humane Society does not have a backup, a supervisor on the island, or immediate on-site assistance—this remains a satellite position. We shifted to having two (2) Humane Enforcement Officers and one (1) Animal Care Enrichment Specialist instead of two (2) part-time Animal Care Enrichment Specialists and only one (1) Humane Enforcement Officer. This will help to ensure proper assistance for the officers and also safety.

In the past two (2) months, I have since flown sixteen (16) puppies, one (1) adult female dog and by boat one (1) adult female dog to Maui for medical care amongst needing the assistance with behavioral issues. Per Kamaka Air, we are only able to fly a dog per kennel at the cost of \$177.00 and we are asking for assistance with transportation at \$5,000 a year. That would allow us to fly two (2) dogs a week on Kamaka Air. Privately owned boats can cost anywhere from \$25.00-\$75.00 one (1) way.

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On Feb. 28th, I was able to assist 16 families with spay/neuter with either their own pet or a stray dog who also had puppies. A one-day spay/neuter clinic on Moloka'i costs approximately \$3,500. We are requesting \$42,000 in County support to fund monthly spay/neuter clinics. This funding would cover essential medical procedures and wellness appointments (as there are no resident veterinarians on the island), medical supplies, and other necessary resources.

Maui Humane Society will absorb the costs of all staff, training, travel, per diem, and ground transport necessary to facilitate these services.

Mahalo for your time and consideration, and for allowing me the opportunity to share my leo and ike on behalf of the animals of Moloka'i. Your support is vital in ensuring the well-being of our island's animals and the safety of our community.