

Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee (2025-2027) on 2026-04-10 10:00 AM

Meeting Time: 04-10-26 10:00

eComments Report

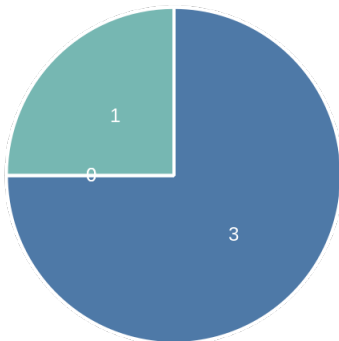
Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee (2025-2027) on 2026-04-10 10:00 AM	04-10-26 10:00	2	4	3	0	0

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment

Support (75%) Oppose (0%) Neutral (0%)
No Response (25%)



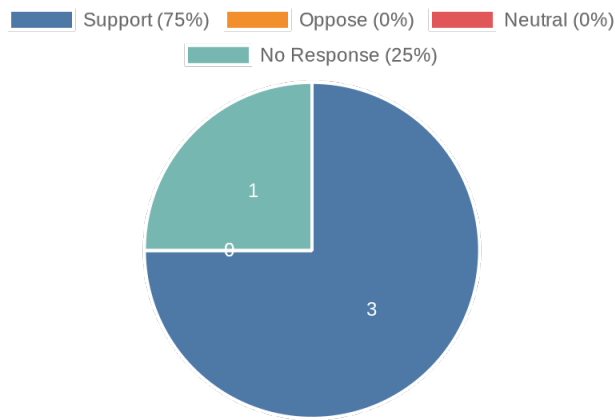
Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee (2025-2027) on 2026-04-10 10:00 AM
04-10-26 10:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
A G E N D A	3	3	0	0
BFED-1 PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (BFED-1)	1	0	0	0

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

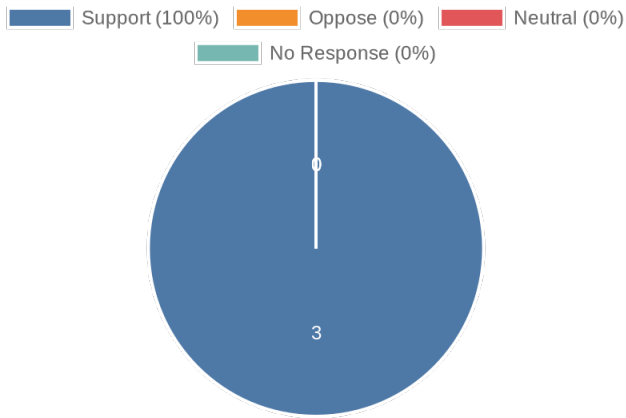
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for A G E N D A

Overall Sentiment



Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:06am 04-10-26

K_pahulu Community Association Budget Request:

Papaloa Bay Community Resource Cultural Center
Background

The K_pahulu Community Association (KCA) was established in 1993 to support the needs and advance the collective well-being of the K_pahulu community. In partnership with another local nonprofit organization, a community center was developed in the decade following KCA's founding through a combination of grant funding and extensive volunteer labor.

In recent years, however, changes in access and use have resulted in this facility no longer being available for KCA's gatherings and programming. As a result, KCA has relocated its meetings, community events, and celebrations to K_pahulu Point County Park. While this has allowed continuity, it has also underscored the urgent need for a dedicated, permanent space—a true "home"—to support the full range of community-building activities envisioned for this rural and geographically isolated area.

Need for the Papaloa Bay Community Resource Center:

Over the past year, a grassroots group of more than 40 K_pahulu residents and their keiki—including both long-standing Native Hawaiian families and other local residents—has gathered weekly on Saturday mornings. These gatherings, currently held in the parking lot of Palapala Ho'omau Church, focus on strengthening community relationships, deepening cultural and spiritual connection, and advancing local food security initiatives.

Despite the limitations of meeting in an improvised outdoor space, this group has already contributed significantly to the community through:

Roadside cleanup efforts

Harvesting bamboo for a traditional fishing boat launching structure

Volunteer work in lo'i restoration and maintenance

Cultural enrichment programs, including Hawaiian craft workshops

The acquisition and stewardship of dedicated KCA land would provide a stable and culturally appropriate gathering place in a Canoe Hale. It would also support the development of a community garden and food forest, creating a reliable source of fresh food for local distribution.

Planned features include essential community resources such as an automated external defibrillator (AED), a helicopter emergency landing site, produce distribution systems, and a plant nursery for propagation and sharing.

Land Acquisition Opportunity

KCA established a Land Search Committee to identify a suitable site for a permanent community resource center, and an ideal 2.64-acre parcel adjacent to the Palapala Ho'omau Church gathering area has been discovered.

This parcel is being offered to KCA at a reduced price of \$50,000, representing a rare and time-sensitive opportunity. Securing this land would provide a long-term foundation for community resilience, cultural revitalization, and food sovereignty in K_pahulu.

To ensure the long-term protection of this resource, KCA will establish a legally recorded land covenant at the time of purchase. This covenant will guarantee that the land remains under KCA ownership and is used in perpetuity for community benefit, cultural practice, and resource development. It will safeguard the property from privatization, misuse, or transfer outside of its intended purpose.

Governance & Stewardship

KCA is committed to stewarding this land through both strong community governance and alignment with _ike Hawai_i.

The organization operates through a Board of Directors and a membership-based structure, with regular public meetings that ensure transparency and accountability. Stewardship of the Resource Center will be guided by k_puna and community leaders.

This work is grounded in core Hawaiian values:

M_lama __ina – caring for and restoring the land

Kuleana – shared responsibility across the community

Laulima – collective effort and cooperation

Aloha __ina – deep respect and love for the land

Together, these values create a framework where land stewardship is reciprocal, intergenerational, and community-led.

Project Overview

KCA's vision includes:

Purchase and protection of the 2.64-acre parcel

Installation of a safety fence along the coastal cliff

Removal of invasive vegetation and ecological restoration

Construction of a 20' x 30' traditional Canoe Hale

Development of a kalo patch and vegetable garden

Installation of a rainwater catchment system

This process will itself strengthen community bonds through shared labor and stewardship.

Budget Summary

Total Funding Requested: \$109,000

Total In-Kind Labor Contribution: \$117,500

Total budget: \$226,500

Detailed Budget

Phase 1: Land Acquisition

Purchase & closing costs: \$55,000

Legal services (in-kind): \$2,500

Phase 2: Safety & Clearing

Fence installation: \$7,500

Labor (in-kind): \$14,000

Phase 3: Canoe Hale Construction

Materials: \$30,000

Labor (in-kind): \$42,000

Phase 4: Land Restoration

Equipment: \$5,000

Labor (in-kind): \$42,000

Phase 5: Garden Development

Equipment/materials: \$2,000

Labor (in-kind): \$10,000

Phase 6: Water System

Tank & plumbing: \$10,000

Labor (in-kind): \$7,000

Closing Statement

This project represents a critical investment in the future of K_pahulu. By securing and stewarding this land, KCA will establish a permanent, community-held space for cultural practice, food security, and connection.

The inclusion of a land covenant ensures that this resource remains protected in perpetuity. Combined with strong governance and deep community commitment, this effort will create a lasting legacy for future generations.

Sincerely,

Kipahulu Community Association Board

Addendum:

As described in the proposal, a grassroots group has been meeting weekly and building community among Kipahulu residents. Called "Na Koa Anuenue", it is a mutually supportive group with KCA, and its mission is well aligned with KCA's. This group will comprise many of the volunteers who will implement our proposed project.

They, in turn, will benefit from having a covered meeting space and a community garden for promoting food security.

Na Koa Anuenue Mission

Our mission is to nurture a community grounded in Hawaiian culture, philosophy and symbolism, where shared knowledge and collective practice strengthen our daily lives. We are committed to building a subsistence way of life that emphasizes cooperation, kinship and the well-being of all generations. Through open dialogue, cultural learning and the redistribution of resources, we cultivate social stability, emotional support, and respect for both youth and elders, ensuring that all are welcomed, valued and cared for.

Travis A. Liggett, M.S.

Location:

Submitted At: 10:11pm 04-09-26

Aloha Chair Lee and Members of the Council,

This supplemental testimony is submitted in my capacity as President of Kai Action Institute, a new Hawai_i 501(c)(3) nonprofit, to clarify that a revised version of my previously submitted testimony and accompanying proposed budget amendment has been transmitted to correct minor formatting and numbering inconsistencies identified after submission.

The corrections are strictly non-substantive and include: • correction of section numbering to ensure sequential order • correction of duplicate section labels • correction of internal fund naming for consistency • restoration of page numbering in standard Council format • removal of spacing irregularities in section headers • alignment of the budget proviso block with the document title • uniform capitalization of the Maui Living ___ina Stabilization

Investment Trust Fund name

No policy, fiscal, legal, or operational elements of the proposed amendment were changed. The donation-only structure, zero County fiscal exposure, performance-based release conditions, audit requirements, and Council control provisions remain identical to the version described in my prior testimony.

This supplemental submission is therefore provided solely to ensure clean formatting, internal consistency, and ease of review for Councilmembers, staff, and the public record.

All arguments, rationale, and conclusions stated in my prior testimony remain unchanged and are incorporated herein by reference.

Also, for the record, Kai Action Institute is prepared to accept a \$15,000,000,000 donation now, to be transferred to the County of Maui with exactly 0% overhead or processing fees immediately upon execution of the proper budget and/or MOA legislation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Travis Liggett, M.S.
President
Kai Action Institute_+1 (808) 866-9320
info@kaiaction.org

Travis Liggett

Location:
Submitted At: 9:48pm 04-09-26

Aloha esteemed Chair Lee and Members of the Council,

I respectfully propose adoption of the Maui Living __ina Stabilization Trust ('MLAST') Fund budget proviso. This proposed amendment establishes a legally constrained, donation-only philanthropic framework for conditional investment in essential public living life-support systems, while preserving full Council fiscal authority and imposing no obligation on County funds.

The proposed amendment structure is intentionally conservative. No tax revenues are committed. No debt is authorized. No future appropriations are required. No funds may be released unless donations are actually received, deposited, certified, and conditioned through measurable performance metrics and audit requirements. If no donations occur, the amendment has no fiscal effect. The downside exposure is zero.

Within that conservative fiscal container, however, the amendment authorizes something unusually powerful: the formal recognition and investment in our unique islands' living life-support systems at the County scale. Food, water, housing, healthcare, wastewater, reefs, and watersheds together constitute the operational infrastructure of human continuity. Investment in these systems is not speculative; it is foundational.

A literary analogy is instructive. Mary Shelley's creation in Frankenstein required a metaphorical lightning strike to animate assembled components into a functioning new life form. Likewise, this amendment assembles the structural financial elements of a living allocation system and creates a lawful mechanism through which philanthropic capital may provide the animating charge of something entirely new.

With such a budget amendment, the Council is not creating the energy or spending any taxpayer dollars; it is responsibly installing the metaphorical lightning rod, a mana capture, storage and distribution framework for the ages.

In that sense, the Maui Living __ina Stabilization Trust Fund functions as a Hawaiian lightning rod for sustained prosperity, a grounded, audited, and fiscally neutral mechanism designed to safely attract and channel philanthropic energy into the deployment of next-level life-sustaining infrastructure at unprecedented scale.

The amendment also reframes resilience. Physical bunkers for the ultra-wealthy provide protection only to those inside them, and only so long as external ecosystem-level life-support systems function. Islands, when extensively supported by food security (i.e., 80% vs. 8% local production), potable water (no waiting list for new meters), functioning sanitation (100% effluent disinfection), stable housing (0% unsheltered), and truly healthy ecosystems, each island of Maui nui would become an integrated living bunker, a self-sustaining system of fully-restored mokus, rather than inert sheltered spaces with a finite pantry that will eventually run out. This amendment invests not in walls, but in the integrated living systems that make survival possible for... everyone.

Viewed in that light, the proposal is effectively an authorization to invite life into a perpetual resilience structure, a "living ark" capable of scaling over time as donations are received, without imposing any cost on taxpayers or limiting future Council discretion.

Most importantly, this amendment costs citizens zero cents. It authorizes no spending absent donations. It creates no entitlement. It creates no obligation. It simply establishes a lawful container capable of receiving philanthropic capital, subject to audit, metrics, and Council control.

In practical terms, it creates a channel and framework for extremely favorable outcomes that otherwise cannot occur without a nonlinear increase in resources with a new ecosystem for partnerships, a disruptive force for resilience, and a container for investment in the living ___ina that could last indefinitely.

A vision, respectfully, for miracles in local governance that are fully documented, audited, and fiscally neutral.

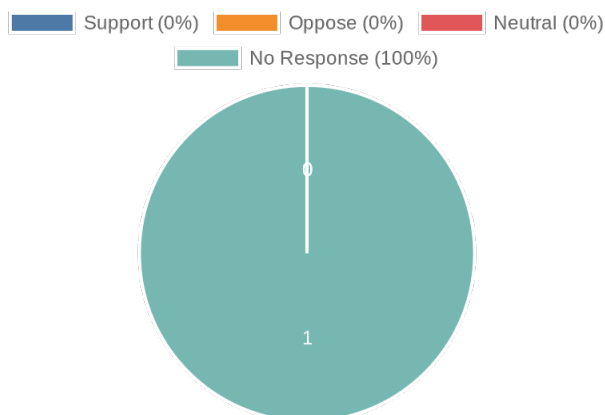
For these reasons, adoption of this amendment is both conservative and forward-looking, legally constrained yet operationally meaningful, and represents one of the most defensible zero-risk authorizations available to the Council.

Mahalo nui loa,

Travis Liggett, M.S.
+1 (808) 291-9934
travis.liggett@gmail.com

Agenda Item: eComments for BFED-1 PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (BFED-1)

Overall Sentiment



BFED Committee

Location:

Submitted At: 4:32pm 04-10-26

Testimonies received from BFED Committee

COUNCIL BUDGET AMENDMENT

FY 2027 BUDGET

DEPARTMENT: COUNTYWIDE

FUND: MAUI LIVING ʻĀINA STABILIZATION INVESTMENT TRUST FUND

PURPOSE: CONDITIONAL DONATION-BASED APPROPRIATION FRAMEWORK

SECTION 1. Council Findings. The Council finds that philanthropic or donated capital may be accepted by the County and conditionally appropriated through a Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) establishing performance-based release criteria for stabilization of essential living life-support systems in Maui County. This philanthropic investment framework shall be known and may be cited as the Maui Living ʻĀina Stabilization Trust Fund (“MLAST Fund”).

SECTION 2. Conditional Donation-Based Appropriation Framework. A Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) may be entered into by and between the County of Maui (“County”), acting through the Mayor or designee, and one or more Donor Entities and/or Implementing Entities (collectively “Participants”), for the purpose of establishing a conditional, performance-based, donation-funded investment program to stabilize essential life-support systems across Maui County. This budget proviso authorizes acceptance and conditional appropriation of donated funds only. No County general funds, tax revenues, debt issuance, guarantees, or financial obligations shall be created by this proviso. All program expenditures shall be limited strictly to funds actually received by the County. Nothing in this proviso shall obligate future appropriations, create entitlement expectations, impair Council budget authority, or limit future Council discretion. If no donations are received, this proviso shall have no fiscal effect. The Council further finds that this structure represents a zero-risk authorization enabling philanthropic investment in essential public life-support systems while preserving full fiscal control.

SECTION 3. Fund Establishment. The Maui Living ‘Āina Stabilization Investment Trust Fund (“MLAST Fund”) is authorized for purposes of accepting donated funds and conditionally appropriating such funds pursuant to this budget proviso. The Maui Living ‘Āina Stabilization Investment Trust Fund (“MLAST Fund”) is established to receive philanthropic or donated capital and deploy such funds, subject to appropriation and compliance with appropriately-legislated MOA, toward ten essential stabilization categories: food, water, housing, healthcare, wastewater, reef restoration, watershed restoration, education, child care and development, and elder dignity.

SECTION 4. Total Authorization and Term. Total program authorization shall be up to \$15,000,000,000 in donated funds, with a maximum annual release of \$1,500,000,000 for Fiscal Year 2027 through Fiscal Year 2036. No funds shall be released in any fiscal year unless donated funds have been received and appropriated for that fiscal year. Funds may be appropriated into the MLAST Fund upon acceptance of donated funds by the County. No County general funds are appropriated by this amendment.

SECTION 5. Appropriation Mechanism Establishment. The Fund shall operate as a conditional donation-based appropriation mechanism. Donated funds shall be deposited into a segregated County account designated as the Maui Living ‘Āina Stabilization Investment Trust Fund. Funds shall not lapse at fiscal year-end unless required by law. Funds shall not be commingled with general revenues. Administrative costs shall not exceed five percent unless otherwise approved by Council.

SECTION 6. Annual Category Allocations. Subject to donation receipt and appropriation, up to \$150,000,000 annually shall be available for each of the following categories:

1. Food security and local production

2. Water security and infrastructure
3. Housing and homelessness stabilization
4. Healthcare access and capacity
5. Wastewater treatment and disinfection
6. Reef restoration and marine recovery
7. Watershed restoration and flood resilience
8. Education system strengthening
9. Child care and development capacity
10. Elder dignity, services, and housing

Total potential annual allocation: \$1,500,000,000.

SECTION 7. Fund Release Conditions. No funds shall be released unless all of the following conditions are met:

1. Execution of this MOA
2. Receipt of donated funds
3. Council appropriation or budget proviso authorization
4. Defined scope of work for each funded category

5. Performance metrics established prior to release
6. Procurement compliance certification
7. Environmental and cultural compliance certification
8. Quarterly reporting plan established
9. Independent audit agreement executed

Prior to any release of funds, the Director of Finance shall certify that expenditures are fully supported by deposited donated funds and that no County funds are committed or encumbered. No disbursement may occur absent such certification.

SECTION 8. Disbursement Structure.

1. Funds shall be released in quarterly increments.
2. Up to 25 percent may be released per quarter.
3. Ten percent of each allocation shall be retained pending annual audit.
4. Failure to meet milestones shall suspend further disbursement.

SECTION 9. Performance Metrics. Each category shall define measurable performance metrics prior to release. Examples may include, but are not limited to:

1. Food: increased local production capacity, reduced import dependency
2. Water: increased potable capacity and meters, reduced system losses
3. Housing: units delivered, cost containment metrics
4. Healthcare: increased access capacity, reduced wait times
5. Wastewater: pathogen and nutrient reduction, reuse
6. Reef restoration: coral recovery metrics, water quality improvements
7. Watershed restoration: acreage restored, sediment reduced
8. Education: capacity or outcome improvements
9. Child care: new capacity created, affordability metrics
10. Elder dignity: extension and quality of life, services delivered

Metrics shall be numeric, auditable, and reported quarterly.

Section 10. Implementation. Implementing entities shall be selected consistent with applicable procurement laws.

1. Intergovernmental agreements and nonprofit partnerships are permitted.
2. No sole-source awards shall occur without written justification.
3. Local workforce participation is encouraged where legally permissible.

Section 11. Oversight and Reporting. Quarterly reports shall be transmitted to the Maui County Council. An annual independent audit is required. A public and donor transparency dashboard is required. A County and donor audit authority shall retain full access to records. Failure to report shall trigger automatic funding pause.

Section 12. Clawback and Nonperformance. Unspent funds shall revert to the Fund. Missed milestones shall proportionally reduce future disbursement. Material nonperformance shall allow suspension or termination. Fraud or misuse shall trigger full recovery rights.

Section 13. Reallocation Authority. Reallocation among categories may occur with Council approval. Unused category funds may be redistributed to performing categories. Total annual release cap shall remain \$1,500,000,000.

Section 14. Donation Conditions. Donations shall not confer procurement preference. Donations shall not direct specific vendors. Donations may designate category preference consistent with law. Donations shall be accepted only in concert with County ethics rules.

Section 15. Non-Appropriation Clause. Nothing in an MOA under this code shall obligate future appropriations. Annual releases remain contingent on Council authorization and donation receipt.

Section 16. Compliance. All funded activities must comply with applicable laws. Environmental review shall occur where required. Cultural consultation shall occur where appropriate. Labor compliance required.

Section 17. Insurance and Liability. Implementing entities shall maintain appropriate insurance. Participants shall indemnify the County where permitted by law.

Section 18. Sunset and Review. Program shall undergo formal review at Year Five. Council may modify conditions prospectively. Program terminates at end of FY 2036 unless extended.

Section 19. Severability. If any portion of this code is found invalid, remaining provisions remain in effect.

Section 20. This budget proviso shall take effect upon adoption of the FY 2027 Budget and shall remain in effect for donated funds received during FY 2027 through FY 2036 unless amended by Council.

BUDGET PROVISIO — FY 2027

Department: Countywide

Fund: Maui Living ‘Āina Stabilization Investment Trust Fund (MLAST)

Type: Conditional Donation-Based Appropriation

Amount: Up to \$1,500,000,000 annually from donated funds only

Funds appropriated for the Maui Living ‘Āina Stabilization Investment Trust Fund shall be restricted and shall not be expended unless and until the Mayor executes a Memorandum of Agreement establishing performance-based conditions for release of donated funds. No more than \$1,500,000,000 may be released in any fiscal year. Funds shall be allocated in ten equal program categories of up to \$150,000,000 each annually. Disbursement shall occur quarterly subject to performance metrics, reporting, and audit requirements. Unused funds shall revert to the Fund. Failure to meet conditions shall suspend release.

OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER:

SECONDED BY:

COUNCIL BUDGET AMENDMENT

FY 2027 BUDGET

DEPARTMENT: COUNTYWIDE

FUND: MAUI LIVING ʻĀINA STABILIZATION INVESTMENT TRUST FUND

PURPOSE: CONDITIONAL DONATION-BASED APPROPRIATION FRAMEWORK

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5. Performance metrics established prior to release
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8. Quarterly reporting plan established
9. Independent audit agreement executed

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BUDGET PROVISIO — FY 2027

Department: Countywide

Fund: Maui Living 'Āina Stabilization Investment Fund (MLAST)

Type: Conditional Donation-Based Appropriation

Amount: Up to \$1,500,000,000 annually from donated funds only

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OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER:

SECONDED BY:

BFED Committee

From: Chuck Estin <cestin@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2026 7:48 AM
To: Shane M. Sinenci; BFED Committee
Subject: Re: Kīpahulu Community Association Budget Submission for April 6 hearing

You don't often get email from cestin@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

On Wed, Apr 1, 2026 at 2:43 PM Chuck Estin <cestin@gmail.com> wrote:

Kīpahulu Community Association Budget Request:

Papaloa Bay Community Resource Cultural Center

Background

The Kīpahulu Community Association (KCA) was established in 1993 to support the needs and advance the collective well-being of the Kīpahulu community. In partnership with another local nonprofit organization, a community center was developed in the decade following KCA's founding through a combination of grant funding and extensive volunteer labor.

In recent years, however, changes in access and use have resulted in this facility no longer being available for KCA's gatherings and programming. As a result, KCA has relocated its meetings, community events, and celebrations to Kīpahulu Point County Park. While this has allowed continuity, it has also underscored the urgent need for a dedicated, permanent space—a true “home”—to support the full range of community-building activities envisioned for this rural and geographically isolated area.

Need for the Papaloa Bay Community Resource Center:

Over the past year, a grassroots group of more than 40 Kīpahulu residents and their keiki—including both long-standing Native Hawaiian families and other local residents—has gathered weekly on Saturday mornings. These gatherings, currently held in the parking lot of Palapala Ho'omau Church, focus on strengthening community relationships, deepening cultural and spiritual connection, and advancing local food security initiatives.

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Land Acquisition Opportunity

KCA established a Land Search Committee to identify a suitable site for a permanent community resource center, and an ideal 2.64-acre parcel adjacent to the Palapala Ho‘omau Church gathering area has been discovered.

This parcel is being offered to KCA at a reduced price of \$50,000, representing a rare and time-sensitive opportunity. Securing this land would provide a long-term foundation for community resilience, cultural revitalization, and food sovereignty in Kīpahulu.

To ensure the long-term protection of this resource, KCA will establish a legally recorded land covenant at the time of purchase. This covenant will guarantee that the land remains under KCA ownership and is used in perpetuity for community benefit, cultural practice, and resource development. It will safeguard the property from privatization, misuse, or transfer outside of its intended purpose.

Governance & Stewardship

KCA is committed to stewarding this land through both strong community governance and alignment with ‘ike Hawai‘i.

The organization operates through a Board of Directors and a membership-based structure, with regular public meetings that ensure transparency and accountability. Stewardship of the Resource Center will be guided by kūpuna and community leaders.

This work is grounded in core Hawaiian values:

Mālama ‘Āina – caring for and restoring the land

Kuleana – shared responsibility across the community

Laulima – collective effort and cooperation

Aloha ‘Āina – deep respect and love for the land

Together, these values create a framework where land stewardship is reciprocal, intergenerational, and community-led.

Project Overview

KCA's vision includes:

Purchase and protection of the 2.64-acre parcel

Installation of a safety fence along the coastal cliff

Removal of invasive vegetation and ecological restoration

Construction of a 20' x 30' traditional Canoe Hale

Development of a kalo patch and vegetable garden

Installation of a rainwater catchment system

This process will itself strengthen community bonds through shared labor and stewardship.

Budget Summary

Total Funding Requested: \$109,000

Total In-Kind Labor Contribution: \$117,500

Total budget: \$226,500

Detailed Budget

Phase 1: Land Acquisition

Purchase & closing costs: \$55,000

Legal services (in-kind): \$2,500

Phase 2: Safety & Clearing

Fence installation: \$7,500

Labor (in-kind): \$14,000

Phase 3: Canoe Hale Construction

Materials: \$30,000

Labor (in-kind): \$42,000

Phase 4: Land Restoration

Equipment: \$5,000

Labor (in-kind): \$42,000

Phase 5: Garden Development

Equipment/materials: \$2,000

Labor (in-kind): \$10,000

Phase 6: Water System

Tank & plumbing: \$10,000

Labor (in-kind): \$7,000

Closing Statement

This project represents a critical investment in the future of Kīpahulu. By securing and stewarding this land, KCA will establish a permanent, community-held space for cultural practice, food security, and connection.

The inclusion of a land covenant ensures that this resource remains protected in perpetuity. Combined with strong governance and deep community commitment, this effort will create a lasting legacy for future generations.

Sincerely,

Kīpahulu Community Association Board

Addendum:

As described in the proposal, a grassroots group has been meeting weekly and building community among Kīpahulu residents. Called “Na Koa Anuenue”, it is a mutually supportive group with KCA, and its mission is well aligned with KCA’s. This group will comprise many of the volunteers who will implement our proposed project.

They, in turn, will benefit from having a covered meeting space and a community garden for promoting food security.

Na Koa Anuenue Mission

Our mission is to nurture a community grounded in Hawaiian culture, philosophy and symbolism, where shared knowledge and collective practice strengthen our daily lives. We are committed to building a subsistence way of life that emphasizes cooperation, kinship and the well-being of all generations. Through open dialogue, cultural learning and the redistribution of resources, we cultivate social stability, emotional support, and respect for both youth and elders, ensuring that all are welcomed, valued and cared for.



BFED Committee

From: County Clerk
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2026 9:27 AM
To: BFED Committee
Subject: Fw: Childcare Testimony

From: Magdalena <magdawal93@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2026 9:20 AM
To: County Clerk <County.Clerk@mauicounty.us>
Cc: MFSS CHILDCARE SUBSIDY PROGRAMS <Subsidy@mfss.org>
Subject: Childcare Testimony

You don't often get email from magdawal93@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Aloha,

I'd like to share my story about how Maui Family Support Services has helped my family tremendously. As many of us know, childcare on Maui is extremely expensive. I'm a mom of 2-year-old twins, and the tuition for both of them is close to \$3,500 per month. For many families, including mine, that cost would be impossible to manage without support.

I'm incredibly grateful that we found Maui Family Support Services. Their assistance has made a huge difference for our family and allowed us to access the childcare our children need. Because of the impact it has had on families like mine, I strongly believe that continued funding for this program is essential.

Warm regards,
Magdalena ODonnell

BFED Committee

From: County Clerk
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2026 1:27 PM
To: BFED Committee
Subject: Fw: Maui County Child Care Subsidy Testimony

From: Jenna Yanos <jennayanos@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2026 12:33 PM
To: County Clerk <County.Clerk@mauicounty.us>
Cc: MFSS CHILDCARE SUBSIDY PROGRAMS <Subsidy@mfss.org>
Subject: Maui County Child Care Subsidy Testimony

You don't often get email from jennayanos@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good morning,

Please find my testimony in support of the Maui County Child Care Subsidy Program below:

Dear County Council,

My name is Jenna Yanos, and I am a participant in the Maui County Child Care Subsidy Program.

This program has helped my family immensely. When I became a mother, I was overwhelmed with stress about how I would financially support my family while also ensuring my child had the opportunity to grow and develop. Because of this program, I am able to work full time to support my family while knowing my child is in a safe, nurturing environment.

While I am at work, I have peace of mind knowing my child is being cared for by qualified professionals and is engaged in meaningful, developmentally appropriate activities. My child is happy, growing, and learning so much through his preschool experience. At the same time, I am able to continue working without carrying the full financial burden on my own.

I respectfully ask that you continue funding this vital program. It plays an essential role in supporting local families, fostering early childhood development, and allowing parents to remain in the workforce and thrive. This support is not only important for our children, but for the future of our entire community.

BFED Committee

From: County Clerk
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2026 1:39 PM
To: BFED Committee
Subject: Fw: Maui County Childcare Subsidy Program
Attachments: Subsidy Testimony 2026.pdf

From: Likolehua Kuhns <lnmkuhns@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2026 1:34 PM
To: County Clerk <County.Clerk@mauicounty.us>
Cc: MFSS CHILDCARE SUBSIDY PROGRAMS <SUBSIDY@mfss.org>
Subject: Maui County Childcare Subsidy Program

You don't often get email from lnmkuhns@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)
Attached is my subsidy testimony.

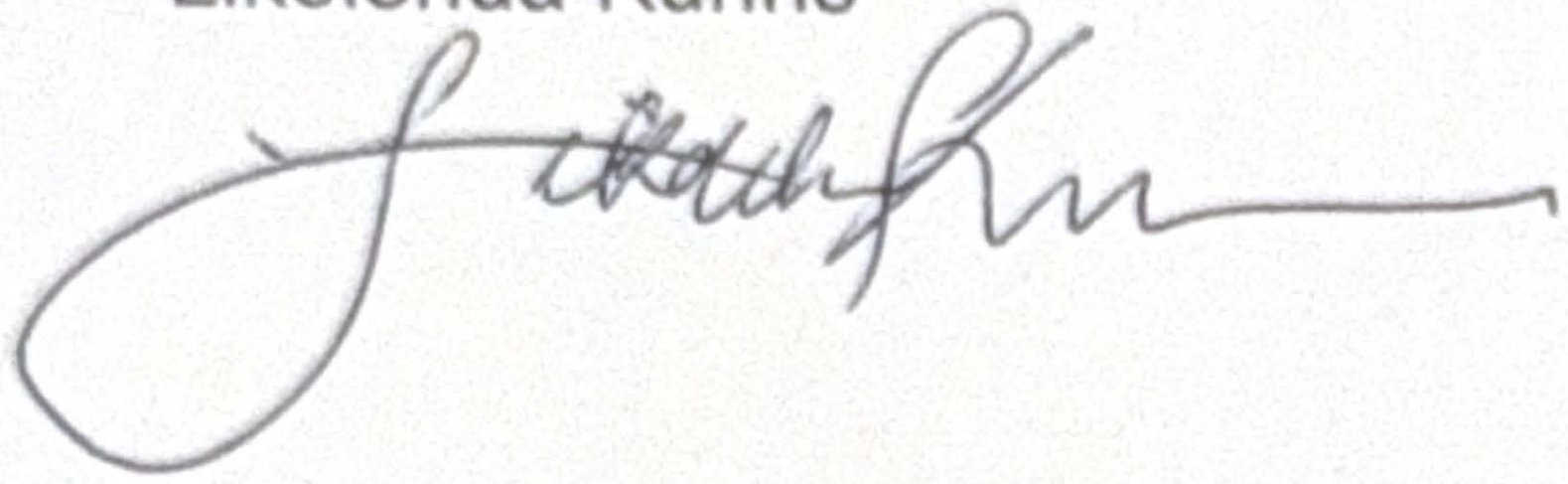
Thank you,

April 10, 2026

Dear County Council,

My name is Likolehua Kuhns and I am a participant in the Maui County Childcare Subsidy Program. This program has helped my family by covering my daughter's preschool tuition. Because of the Maui County Childcare Subsidy Program, my family has been able to continue going to work, providing for our family and made it possible for my child to attend preschool. Please continue funding this program so it can support more parents, children, and families across Maui County.

Thank you,
Likolehua Kuhns

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Likolehua Kuhns', written in a cursive style.

BFED Committee

From: County Clerk
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2026 1:39 PM
To: BFED Committee
Subject: Fw: Maui County Childcare Subsidy Program
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Subject: Maui County Childcare Subsidy Program

You don't often get email from lnmkuhns@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)
Attached is my subsidy testimony.

Thank you,

Mahalo for all your efforts to minimize storm impacts! Hopefully the weather will remain calm in the coming hours/days. We are still going forward with our annual 'Ohana Fest tomorrow at UHMC from 9-12. If you are in need of a break and would like to see our partners in action, please join us.

With gratitude,
Deb

Deb Marois, M.S.

Ho'oikaika Partnership Coordinator

808-765-7254

<http://www.hooikaikapartnership.com/>

Working Together to Keep Our 'Ohana Healthy, Safe & Supported

Ho‘oikaika Partnership – FY27 County Budget Proposal

Fiscal Sponsor: Maui Family Support Services, Inc.
Responsible County Department: Human Concerns

Funding Request: \$199,202

Purpose and Countywide Relevance

Ho‘oikaika Partnership (HP) is a countywide coalition that brings together health and human service providers, community organizations, and public agencies to prevent child abuse and build a stronger, more coordinated system of support for ‘ohana across Maui County. Founded in 2008, HP is led by a 10-member Leadership Hui and engages more than 75 organizations annually. HP operates under a collective impact model, coordinating cross-sector collaboration, public education, workforce support, and direct family services under one umbrella.

In April 2025, this Council unanimously approved \$175,000 for HP’s work; the first time County funding was appropriated through a Council line item. That investment made a measurable difference and we are grateful for the Council’s support. In 2025, HP assisted 161 families through Navigation Services, reached 3,827 individuals through 13 community events, convened 190 providers at the annual conference, and delivered monthly Healing the Healers sessions to 54 child-serving professionals from 23 agencies. HP also expanded its public education campaign to Maui County buses, policymakers, and statewide media.

HP’s work aligns directly with County priorities for building a healthy, thriving, and livable community and with DHC strategies for capacity building, data-driven service delivery, and cross-sector collaboration. Nearly 1 in 5 adults in Maui County report having four or more Adverse Childhood Experiences before age 18 and that was a statistic measured before the 2023 wildfires. Two-plus years later, families are still struggling, providers are stretched thin, and federal funding is contracting. County investment in HP provides the stable, local foundation that keeps the system of care connected and functioning.

For FY27, HP humbly requests \$199,202. This is a modest increase of \$24,202 that reflects restored full-year program delivery, a dedicated concrete support line for at-risk families, and an evaluation investment that accurately reflects the scope of County-funded activities. This request is part of a larger program budget supported by other grants and contracts.

Key Activities: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027: HP Coordinator, Leadership Hui and other partners facilitate collaboration with 75+ agencies through meetings, committees, and shared projects.

1. Navigation Services and Community Engagement

- “Guide by the side” Navigation Services and concrete support for 15–20 families/month, including referrals and concrete support such as diapers, hygiene kits, and other essentials
- Coordinate ‘Ohana Fest and participate in 5–7 community outreach events, including Hāna, Moloka‘i, and Lāna‘i

Impact: Families increase awareness of protective factors, access services more easily, and build stronger connections to community resources.

2. Public Education and Policy Advocacy

- Develop, print, and distribute public education materials including Kalo Boy books, activity cards, and protective factors resources
- Continue the Talking is Teaching: Talk, Read, Sing campaign with partners; expand protective factor messaging through social media, website, and other channels

Ho‘oikaika Partnership – FY27 County Budget Proposal

- Educate families, providers, and policymakers about preventing ACEs, available community resources, and policies impacting children and families

Impact: Families, providers, and decision-makers expand awareness of protective factors, resources that reduce stress and strengthen resilience, and policies that help prevent child abuse and neglect.

3. Cross-Sector Collaboration and Workforce Support

- Host monthly partner meetings and convene standing committees, engaging approximately 75 providers annually for networking, collaborative projects, information sharing, and training
- Offer annual conference for up to 200 health and human service professionals
- Continue Healing the Healers monthly peer support sessions for child-serving providers
- Maintain website, newsletter, and partner communications

Impact: Providers gain tools, support, and partnerships to apply trauma-informed, culturally relevant practices and reduce burnout.

Proposed Budget: This request is part of a larger program budget supported by other grants and contracts. FY26 figures reflect the original approved annual budget. For comparison purposes, Public Education and Outreach Materials combines printing/program materials and outreach event supplies.

Category	FY26 Approved	FY27 Requested	Key Changes from FY26 to FY27
Personnel			Navigator (75% County, down from 100%): A 3% cost-of-living adjustment is applied. The County covered 100% of this position in FY26; FY27 shares the cost with other funders at 75%.
Family Navigator – Salary and Benefits	\$63,967	\$50,934	
Direct Family Services			Concrete Support for Families (new): Dedicated funding for ~150 families. This line was absent from the FY26 original County budget.
Concrete Support for Families	—	\$15,000	
Program Delivery			Healing the Healers (+\$5,200): Moved to a flat monthly fee of \$2,100 covering all facilitation, supplies, facility, travel, and GET.
Healing the Healers	\$20,000	\$25,200	
Public Education and Outreach Materials	\$18,708	\$21,000	Evaluation (+\$5,362): County share increased from 25% to 67%, correcting a prior undercount.
Coordination and Infrastructure			
Coalition Coordination	\$40,000	\$41,389	Coordination (+\$1,389): County share increased slightly from ~38.5% to ~40% of the annual contract. Coordination remains the highest-priority line item for HP’s Leadership Hui
Communications	\$12,000	\$11,286	
Evaluation	\$3,000	\$8,362	
Travel (client services) and Telephone	\$1,033	\$2,127	
Administrative Overhead			
Administration (MFSS, 12% of total)	\$16,292	\$23,904	
Total County Request	\$175,000	\$199,202	

BFED Committee

From: Malama Hamakua <malamahamakuamaui1@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2026 10:56 AM
To: BFED Committee; budget.office@co.maui.hi.us; Maui_County Council_mailbox
Subject: Mahalo & Follow-Up from Pā'ia Meeting

You don't often get email from malamahamakuamaui1@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Aloha,

Mahalo for bringing the meeting to Pā'ia last week. I truly appreciated the time and opportunity to speak and testify with all of you. It was also really inspiring to hear from the community — especially the voices of our youth and the many positive efforts happening across our area.

I wanted to follow up with a quick recap of what we are requesting on behalf of Mālama Hāmākualoa Maui:

- **An increase in County funding from \$40,000 (already in budget) to \$80,000** annually to support the basic maintenance of the Hāmākualoa Open Space Preserve
- In addition to: the opportunity to explore becoming a County contractor for ongoing maintenance, rather than relying on multiple grants for essential operations
- Recognition that trash removal, mowing, and basic site maintenance are core County responsibilities, and should be supported through stable funding rather than competitive grants

As shared, we are currently managing multiple County grants just to maintain the space, while also leveraging State funding and private funds to fill gaps — including raising over \$10,000 this year for trash removal alone. At the same time, our community continues to step up in meaningful ways, with volunteers actively helping to mālama this area.

Our goal is to continue this work in partnership with the County in a way that is sustainable, efficient, and allows us to focus more time on the land and less on administrative processes.

Mahalo again for your time, your listening, and your continued consideration of the needs of our side of the island. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you'd like to connect further.

With appreciation,
Maile Davis
Mālama Hāmākualoa Maui

--

Maile Davis
Mālama Hāmākua Maui- Monthly Community Workdays | Native Plant Restoration | Stewardship of Open Space

malamahamakuamaui1@gmail.com

808-385-3176

malamahamakuamaui.com

[You Tube](#)- Join us virtually and see the work in action