

A long-exposure photograph of a waterfall cascading down a moss-covered rock face. The water is blurred, creating a soft, white flow. The surrounding vegetation is dense and green, with moss hanging from the rocks. The waterfall ends in a pool of dark green water at the bottom.

Kahe Wai Ola

Department of 'Ōiwi Resources, Grants Program
County of Maui, March 2026

Recived at BFED meeting on 03/10/2026

Our Mission

The Department of 'Ōiwi Resources is committed to protecting the natural cultural resources of Maui Nui, strengthening community connections to Hawaiian knowledge, and ensuring sustainable stewardship for present and future generations.



Aloha Pu'u Kukui



Fast Facts

Kuleana

Manages \$500,000 annually as county grant subsidy

A‘apo

A single position, grant coordinator, for grants administration and management in OIWI

Ho‘omanawahui

Administers two line-item grants for a total of \$275,000 in FY26

‘U‘ina

Manages the Hawaiian Cultural Restoration Fund specific to Moku‘ula, Loko o Mokuhinia, and Pākalā

Auamo

All grants align with our three division goals, the mission of the department, and the administration’s goals

KĪPUKA

‘ŌIWI STRONGHOLDS

Safeguard and steward lands of concentrated natural and cultural importance to ensure enduring access to healthy natural resources and spaces where our community may thrive.



KUMUWAIOLA

‘ŌIWI RESOURCES

Champion and preserve the life-giving, life-sustaining elements of the natural world by defending and amplifying the conditions essential to thriving eco-cultural landscapes and vital cultural resources.



PAI KA LEO

‘ŌIWI VOICES

To empower and uplift native Hawaiian voices and reinvigorate the use of Hawaiian language in government and in our larger community in sincerity and fidelity to both official languages of Hawai‘i – English and ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i.



Our Goals

**WESTERN SCIENCE combined with
TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL &
INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE of
DESCENDANT COMMUNITIES with
HISTORICAL MEMORY to STRENGTHEN
SHARED STEWARDSHIP**

These three divisions, each with distinct functions, collaborate in a way that achieves a common goal more effectively together than individually.

GRANT APPLICATION CHECKLIST

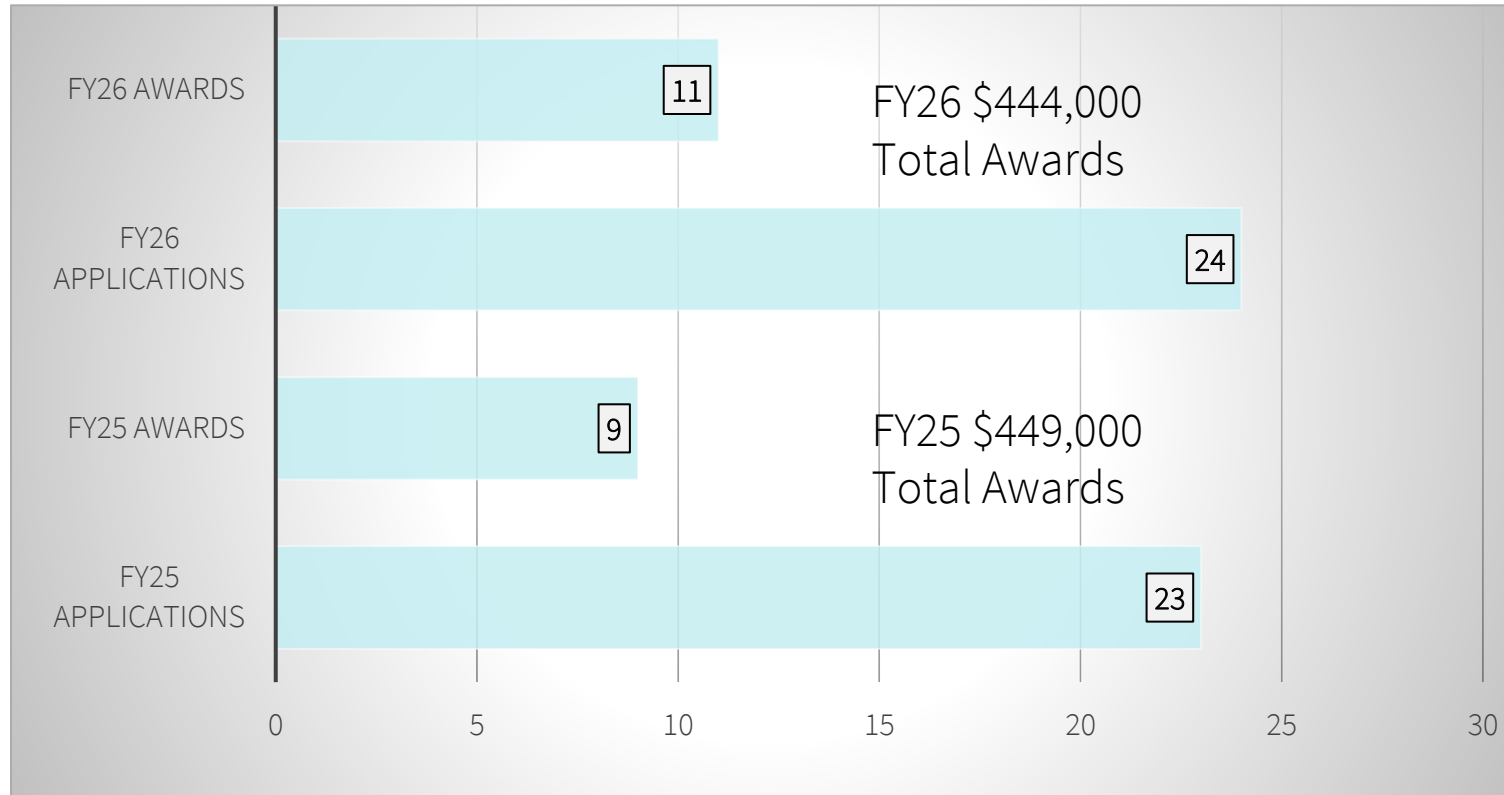
- ☐ Application Cover Page
- ☐ Qualifying Standards
- ☐ Program Narrative (10-page limit)
- ☐ Budget Tables
- ☐ Certificate of Vendor Compliance (CVC) (3-months current)
- ☐ Certificate of Insurance (COI)
- ☐ Registration with Hawaii Attorney General Tax & Charities Division
- ☐ IRS Form 990 (most recent year)
- ☐ Annual Financial Statements (recent 2 years)
- ☐ Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Letter (verifying nonprofit tax exempt status)
- ☐ Articles of Incorporation
- ☐ By-laws (must include policies on nepotism and conflict of interest)
- ☐ Current Board Of Directors (contact info and meeting schedules)
- ☐ Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement *(Only for applications from a fiscal sponsor)*

- Application Forms and Checklist are available online on the County of Maui, Department of 'Ōiwi Resources webpage. Hard copies are available at our office. Applications open in September, award notifications November-December for grant period the following January-December.
- Applicants are invited to attend a webinar hosted by the Department of 'Ōiwi Resources each year prior to submitting applications. This presentation includes a general overview and opportunities for applicants to ask specific clarifying questions.
- Applicants are welcome to schedule a meeting with our OIWI Grant Coordinator for further clarification and/or one-on-one assistance. Meeting in-person does not provide an advantage or guarantee an award.



Ke Kula 'o Pi'ilani

Applications and Awards



- Award amounts range from \$20,000 to \$50,000
- The amount of awards were increased in FY26 from 9 awards to 11 awards.
- 80% of applications in FY26 were new (not repeats from FY25).
- Breakdown by district for competitive grant **awards** from OIWI are:
 - Wailuku 8
 - Kahului 3
 - Upcountry 2
 - South Maui 0
 - Lānaʻi 1
 - West Maui 1
 - Molokaʻi 1
 - East Maui 5
 - Haʻikū 0

‘OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI ‘ŌIWI
KAPONO‘AI MOLITAU, PO‘O
KEKAI ROBINSON, HOPE PO‘O



DEPARTMENT OF ‘ŌIWI RESOURCES
KAPONO‘AI MOLITAU, DIRECTOR
KEKAI ROBINSON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

‘Ōiwi Grant Program FY2024-25 - Conflict of Interest Form

The Department of ‘Ōiwi Resources defines a conflict of interest as “an individual’s personal interests—such as relationships, financial investments, or social affiliations—have the potential to influence or interfere with their professional judgment, decisions, or responsibilities.” **A grant reviewer must disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest** related to any and all organizations from which the department receives applications. This is a standard ethical practice to maintain the integrity, fairness, and transparency of the grant review process.

Conflicts of interest can include, but not limited to:

- Employment (current or past) with an applicant organization
- Personal or professional relationships with individuals involved in an application
- Financial interests in the applicant organization
- Serving as a board member, consultant, or volunteer for the applicant organization
- Any situation that could create a perception of bias or lack of impartiality

Once disclosed, the reviewer may be **recused from evaluating** that specific application or participating in related discussions during the grant review process.

Before reviewing the grant applications, please carefully review the Names of the Nonprofit Organizations.

Do you have a conflict of interest with any of the organization(s) to be reviewed in your assigned panel?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please indicate the organization and your relationship with that organization:

Organization _____

Relationship _____

Organization _____

Relationship _____

Organization _____

Relationship _____

Grant Reviewer

Name: _____ Signature: _____



‘OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI ‘ŌIWI
KAPONO‘AI MOLITAU, PO‘O
KEKAI ROBINSON, HOPE PO‘O

DEPARTMENT OF ‘ŌIWI RESOURCES
KAPONO‘AI MOLITAU, DIRECTOR
KEKAI ROBINSON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

GRANT APPLICATION REVIEW

Name of Reviewer: _____

Name of Applicant: _____

Project Title: _____

Please provide a numerical score on each review criteria and add brief comments to justify the score given. The following page includes questions that can assist on scoring for each review criteria.

1. Overall Project Goals and Activities _____ (0-30)

2. Quality of Project Plan and Budget _____ (0-30)

3. Organizational Readiness and Response to Community Needs _____ (0-25)

4. Project Impact and Evaluation _____ (0-15)

5. A Short Summary with Recommendations.

Total Score for Project: _____ (out of 100 points)



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Overall Project Goals and Activities (0-30 points)

- Are project goals and activities clearly described in detail?
- Are project goals and activities consistent with the goals of the Department of ‘Ōiwi Resources grant program? Please refer to the descriptions of each grant category: Kīouka (‘Ōiwi Strongholds), Kumuwaioala (‘Ōiwi Resources), and Pai Ka Leo (‘Ōiwi Voices).
- Are project goals and activities follow the SMART logic model (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Time Bound)?

Quality of Project Plan and Budget (0-30 points)

- Is the organization’s mission clear, well-communicated and aligned with its program?
- Are the roles and responsibilities of key project personnel clearly described and defined?
- Are budget items described in detail, reasonable, and necessary to accomplish activities?

Organizational Readiness and Response to Community Needs (0-25 points)

- Does the organization define its community in relation to its mission and provide programming that serves the identified audiences?
- Is there evidence of commitment to this project from all confirmed collaborators and/or evidence of support of this project from all potential collaboration?

Project Impact and Evaluation (0-15 points)

- Are there logical measures in place to assess and evaluate project success and/or impact?
- Are the expected outcomes of the project clearly described, strategic, and in line with the Department of ‘Ōiwi Resources grant program?

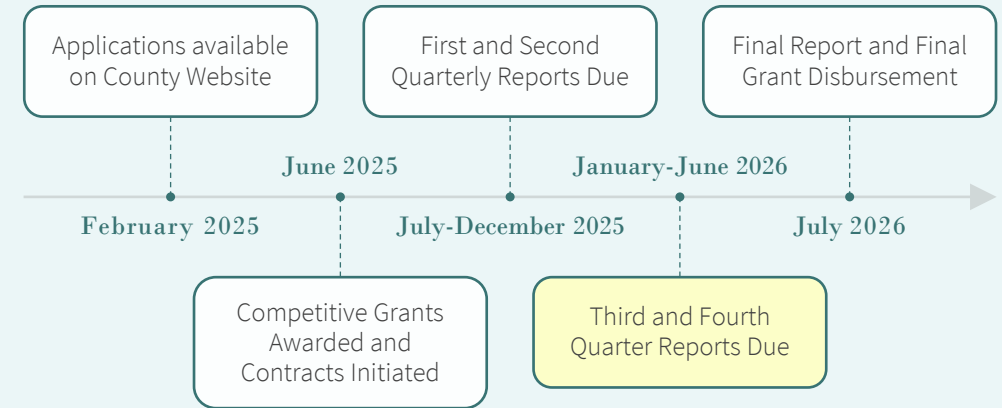
TOTAL SCORE

- **81-100 Superior:** Applicant fully addresses all aspects of the review criteria, convincingly demonstrates that it will meet the department’s performance requirements and demonstrates no weaknesses.
- **61-80 Good:** Applicant fully addresses all aspects of the review criteria, convincingly demonstrates a likelihood of meeting the department’s requirements, and demonstrates only a few minor weaknesses.
- **41-60 Satisfactory:** Applicant addresses all aspects of the review criteria and demonstrates the ability to meet the department’s performance requirements. The Application contains weaknesses and/or a number of minor weaknesses.
- **21-40 Marginal:** Applicant addresses all aspects of the review criteria and demonstrates the ability to meet the department’s performance requirements. The Application contains significant weaknesses and/or a significant number of minor weaknesses.
- **4-20 Poor:** Applicant addresses some aspects of the review criteria and demonstrates some doubt in the likelihood of successfully meeting the department’s requirements. Significant weaknesses are demonstrated and clearly outweigh any strength presented.
- **0 Not Acceptable:** Applicant does not address all aspects of the review criteria and the information presented indicates a strong likelihood of failure to meet the department’s requirements.

FY25 Competitive Grants Awardees Year One

FISCAL YEAR 2025 (Year One)

- *Ka Ipu Makani Cultural Heritage Center*, Kīpuka Kamalō Restoration Project (\$50,000)
- *Ka'ehu*, Ka Wai Ola: Indigenous Community Water Hydrology Project (\$50,000)
- *Kīpahulu 'Ohana*, Ola Hāloa Ola Ka 'Ohana Kapahu Living Farm and Regenerative Farming (\$50,000)
- *Maui Nui Botanical Gardens*, The Hawaiian Crops Cultivars Program (\$50,000)
- *Nā Mamo o Mū'olea*, Mālama o Mū'olea (\$50,000)
- *Waiehu Chinese Cemetary Association*, Waiehu Chinese Cemetary Restoration Project (\$50,000)
- *Archive for Health, Arts, and Spirit (AHAS)*, Roots of Resilience: Keiki, Kumu, and Community in The Maile Grove (\$49,000)
- *Hāna Arts*, Hana No'eau: 'Ōlelo Hawai'i Support Through Creative Afterschool and Summer Programs of Hāna (\$50,000)
- *Ke Kula 'o Pi'ilani*, I Ka 'Ōlelo No Ke Ola I (\$50,000)

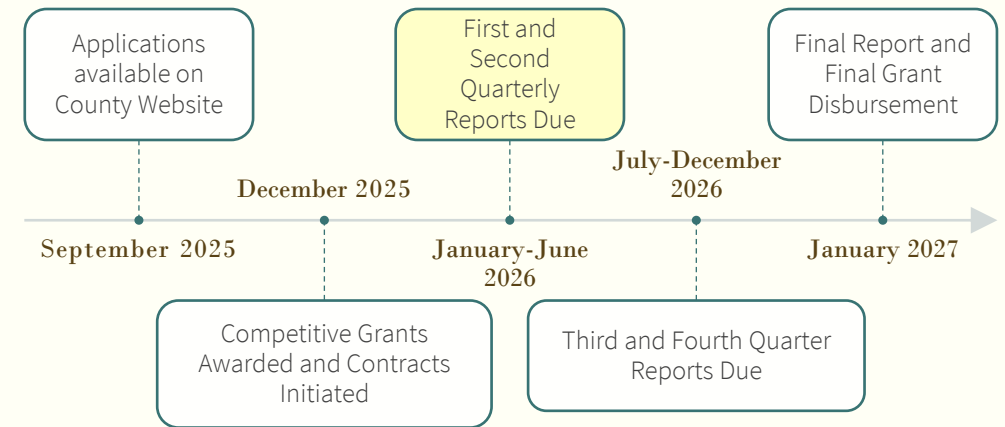


- FY25 Awardees are currently in Quarter Three
- Grantees provided informational tables at February 27th Makahiki & Mahina 'Ōlelo Hawai'i Celebration on the Maui County Building Lawn
- FY25 programs cover: restoration of ecological and cultural health in Moloka'i, watershed data collection in Waiehu, regenerative farming and cultural education in East Maui, growing and distributing historic heritage Hawaiian varieties of Kalo, kō, mai'a, 'awa, and 'uala countywide, native plant restoration and community connection in Mū'olea, community care for ancestral burial places in Waiehu, arts & 'āina field trips islandwide, increasing Hawaiian language proficiency in East Maui, and providing Hawaiian language skill development and mentorship in Wailuku.

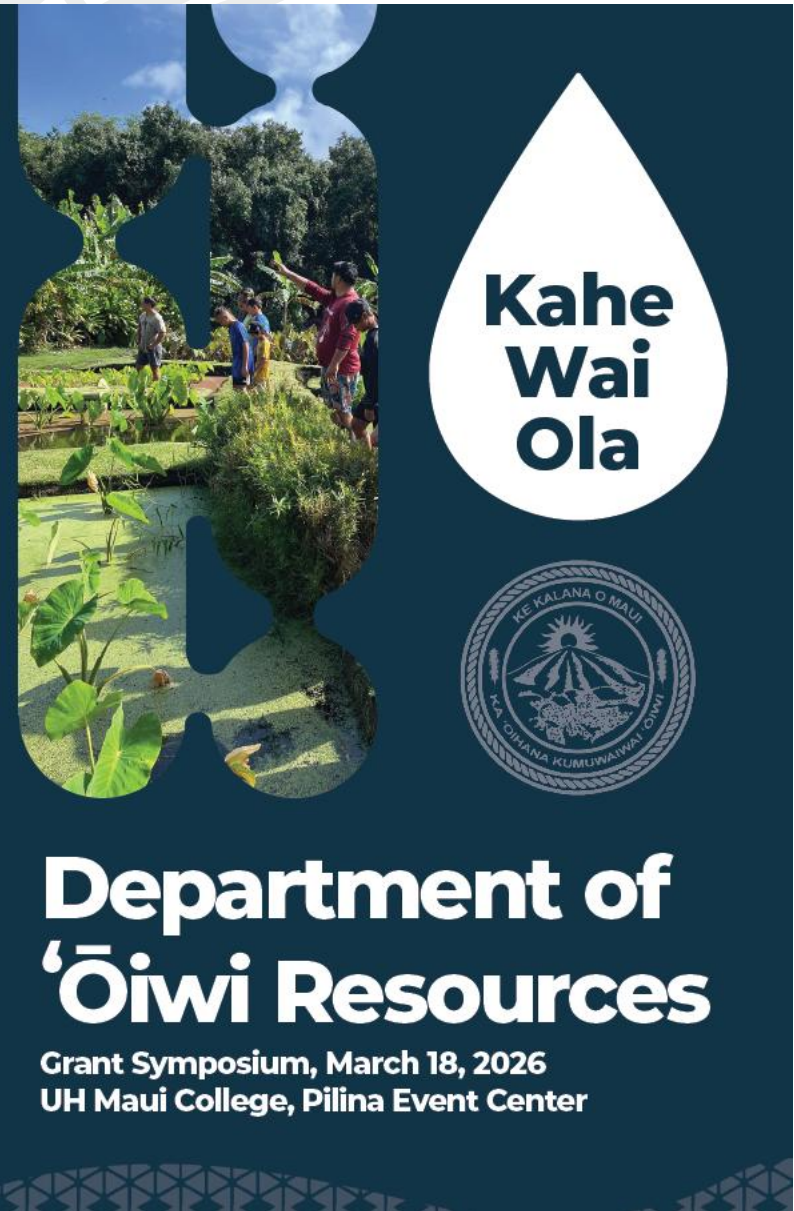
FY26 Competitive Grants Awardees Year Two

FISCAL YEAR 2026 (Year Two)

- Ke Ao Hāli'i, Nā Hana Mālama Hou Program (\$41,095)
- Nā Kai 'Ewalu Canoe Club, Canoe Culture, Stewardship, and Youth Leadership Program (\$50,000)
- Aloha Pu'u Kukui, Pilina I Honolulu (\$50,000)
- Paukūkalo Hawaiian Homes Community Association, Ho'oma'ema'e Program (\$25,000)
- Keōkea Homestead Farm Lots Association, Ho'oulu Mālalani Program (\$25,000)
- Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc., Maui Hikina 'Opihi Surveys (\$50,000)
- Maui Huliau Foundation, Kūkulu Pilina Program (\$28,000)
- Ma Ka Hana Ka 'Ike, He 'Ōlelo i Ma'a ai O'u Mau Kūpuna (\$50,000)
- Ke Kula 'o Pi'ilani, I Ka 'Ōlelo No Ke Ola II (\$50,000)
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Maui, 'Ike Pāpālua Program (\$50,000)
- Archive for Health, Arts, and Spirit (AHAS), Collective Pilina Theater: Local Voices on Stage (\$25,000)



- All FY 26 award contracts were completed by January 2026
- FY26 Awardees are currently completing Quarter One



**Kahe
Wai
Ola**

Department of 'Ōiwi Resources

Grant Symposium, March 18, 2026
UH Maui College, Pilina Event Center

Welina Mai

Pō'akolu, Malaki 18th, 2026

Wednesday, March 18th, 2026

Agenda

8:00 - 9:00 AM
Registration & Light Breakfast

9:00 - 9:30 AM
Welcome by Director & Deputy Director

9:30 - 9:50 AM
Keynote Address by Mayor Richard T. Bissen, Jr.

9:50 - 10:00 AM
Morning Break (10 mins)

10:00 - 12:30 PM
FY2025 Ōiwi Grantees Presentations

12:30 - 1:30 PM
Lunch
Speaker Presentation

1:30 - 2:30 PM
Meet the Funders Panel and Q&A

2:30 - 2:40 PM
Afternoon Break (10 mins)

2:45 - 3:45 PM
Breakout Sessions with Foundations
and Grantees

3:45 - 4:00 PM
Thank you/ Acknowledgments Takeaways

Meet the Funders



Hawai'i Community Foundation
<https://www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/>



Maui United Way
<https://www.mauiunitedway.org/>



Nuestro Futuro Foundation
<https://www.nfuturofoundation.org/>



The Healy Foundation
<https://thehealyfoundation.org/>



“Our deepest mahalo for hosting our Leadership Council. We truly appreciate the time, care, and knowledge your team shared with the students.

Kaʻiulani Kanīʻaupiʻo, Kūkulu Pilina
Project Leader, Maui Huliau





Mahalo

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