

Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee (2025-2027) on 2025-04-15 10:00 AM

Meeting Time: 04-15-25 10:00

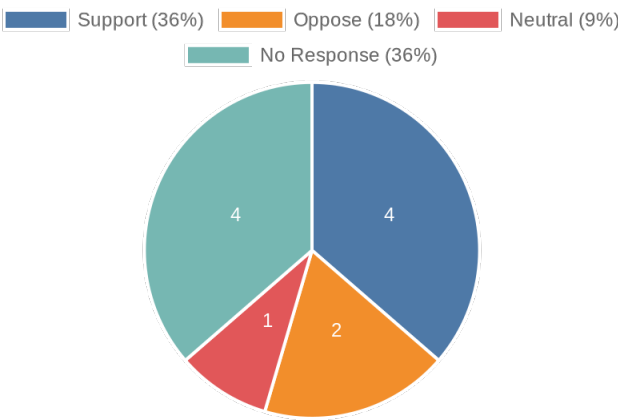
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee (2025-2027) on 2025-04-15 10:00 AM	04-15-25 10:00	2	11	4	2	1

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



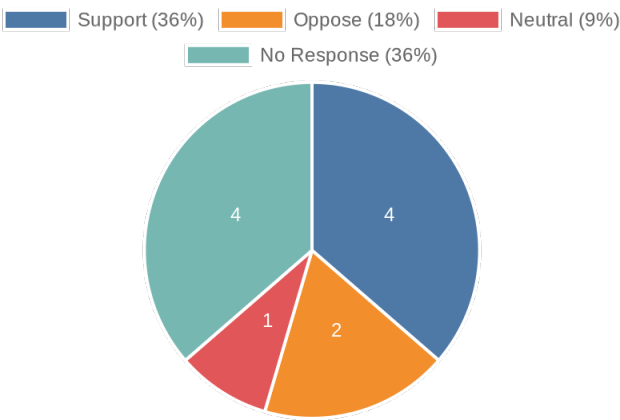
Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee (2025-2027) on 2025-04-15 10:00 AM
04-15-25 10:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
A G E N D A	9	3	2	1
BFED-1 Bill 41 (2025) PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (BFED-1)	2	1	0	0

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

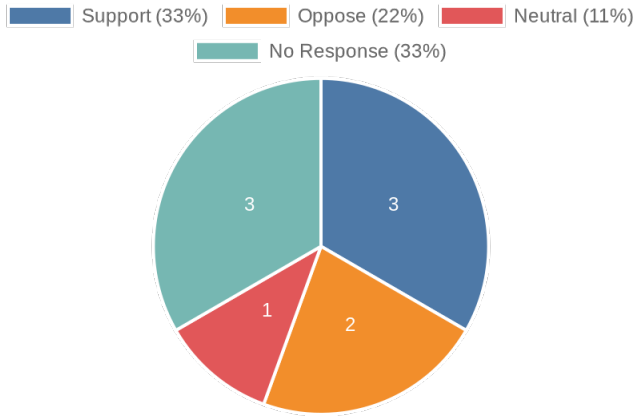
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for A G E N D A

Overall Sentiment



Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:36pm 04-15-25

Aloha,

We are in the business of up-cycling, creating fun fashion from castaway t-shirts and golf shirts. We use diverted waste, sourced through local thrift stores, rummage sales, etc that we launder, deconstruct and reconstruct under the label KOOKIES Maui.

We've been in business over 10 years selling at boutiques throughout the islands, online and at special events such as Made in Maui County Festival.

We are tax payers and engage contract sewers who receive 1099s and also pay taxes.

I am in full support of an increase to County Budget to support recycling efforts for many reasons. First, the environmental benefits. Second, the elevation of awareness about over-consumption. Third, I have been benefitting directly from involvement with the Maui Clothing Collective (formerly Circular Maui). As a member, I facilitate diverting unwanted clothing from our county landfill by using what I can for my business and sharing with other up-cycling entrepreneurs. We keep waste out of the landfill, generate income for our businesses and pay taxes.

We at KOOKIES Maui believe that Maui County's support of programs that direct waste away from the landfill and into the hands of those in need and into the hands of creative users is a great use of taxpayer money.

James Langford

Location:

Submitted At: 3:20pm 04-15-25

SCROLL OF CHARGE

Filed under Articles IX, XIII, and XVIII of the 12 Stones Charter
Peacekeeper Tribunal | Office of Sovereign Stewardship

Docket ID: SC-YLS-041525

DEFENDANT:

Yuki Lei K. Sugimura
Chair, Budget, Finance, and Economic Development (BFED)
Councilmember, County of Maui

CHARGE: INSTITUTIONAL MURDER

Description:

Councilmember Sugimura is formally charged with Institutional Murder, defined under Charter Article XVIII as the enabling of death, physical harm, or irreversible mental trauma through willful suppression of lawful protections, obstruction of public safety responses, or complicity in abuse networks.

FACTUAL BASIS:

1. Suppression of Over 100 Citizen Complaints:

- Public testimonies and whistleblower reports submitted to BFED between March 2023 and April 2025 were unlawfully omitted or buried from budget records.
- These included warnings of domestic violence retaliation, ADA denials, and emergency housing violations.

2. TRO Weaponization & Retaliatory Budgeting:

- Plaintiff James RCS Langford and others were denied business licensing, public safety support, and ADA accommodations due to coordinated budget retaliation with Personnel Services and Liquor Control.
- These denials led directly to deteriorated health, unlawful evictions, and life-threatening stress events.

3. Failure to Respond to Verified Testimony:

- Sugimura received repeated internal warnings (BD-2 through BD-14 memos) concerning Peacekeeper-flagged violations.
- She failed to act, continued to advance unaudited budget segments, and silenced fiscal dissent in public hearings.

4. Motive to Protect Corrupt Procurement Chains:

- BFED files suggest active obstruction of forensic audit motions.
- Ms. Sugimura maintained relationships with parties under investigation for fiscal collusion in housing, personnel, and land use contracts.

RESULTING HARM:

- Plaintiff suffered verified medical collapse, loss of housing, and public defamation.
- Whistleblowers (including Amy Gilliom, Angel Currier, and Melanie Udem) were endangered.
- At least one death (Officer Jason Thompson, Hana) remains under review tied to failure to act.

LEGAL MANDATES VIOLATED:

- HRS 710-1000 et seq. (Obstruction, suppression of records)
- ADA Title II (Failure to accommodate, retaliation)
- 18 U.S.C. § 371 (Conspiracy)
- Charter Article IX.3 (Emergency Response Failure)
- Charter Article XIII (Testimony Suppression)
- Charter Article XVIII (Institutional Murder)

SOVEREIGN REMEDY SOUGHT:

1. Immediate removal from BFED Chair and legislative authority.
2. Referral to DOJ Civil Rights Division and Hawaii AG for criminal charges.
3. Permanent bar from fiscal oversight roles under any Maui or State body.
4. Restitution to affected parties from BFED discretionary funds.
5. Inclusion in public Civic Scroll and Peacekeeper Docket.

Filed By:

James RCS Langford
Sovereign Steward, 12 Stones Charter
jameslangford@me.com
808-765-1399

Filed On: April 15, 2025

Filed With: Civic Portal, DOJ Region IX, Peacekeeper Tribunal

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 1:51pm 04-15-25

Testimony for BFED Committee - 4/15/25

Aloha, My name is Shaun Stenshol, and I am the owner of Maui Recycling Service. We have been in business on Maui for 35 years and throughout these 35 years we have received several County grants to assist with our recycling programs, which have helped to keep thousands of tons of recyclables out of our landfills.

I am writing to respectfully urge the council to allocate more funding toward recycling grants in our community. Recycling programs play a critical role in reducing landfill waste, conserving natural resources, and minimizing the environmental footprint of our county. However, many of these programs struggle to meet growing demands due to limited funding. Increasing financial support for recycling grants would empower local organizations, schools, and businesses to develop innovative initiatives, expand education campaigns, and enhance infrastructure—all crucial components in fostering a more sustainable future.

For example, with increased funding, the county could support recycling items in Maui County rather than shipping off island, creating a more reliable infrastructure and promote community-driven projects that encourage active participation. Some of the recyclables that could be targeted for recycling in Maui County are Glass, Cardboard, Paper and Plastic. This would not only benefit the environment but also boost public awareness and community engagement, strengthening the collective sense of responsibility for our planet.

As a community that values its beautiful environment and unique ecosystem, we have a responsibility to act decisively and invest in sustainable practices. Recycling grants are not just an expenditure—they are an investment in the long-term health, prosperity, and resilience of our county.

I respectfully ask the council to recognize the vital importance of recycling programs and consider increasing funding to support these efforts. Together, we can lead the charge in creating a cleaner, greener future for generations to come.

Thank you for your time and commitment to our community.

Shaun Stenshol

President

Maui Recycling Service

808-244-0443

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:21pm 04-15-25

Giving over 8 million dollars for the maalaea wastewater plant. The residents whether living full time, part time, or using B&B or Str properties should share more of the burden of cost for the project. They make part of the waste and should clean it up. The shops and boats should also share in the cost. They will use this service as well. The County could help for environmental reasons however not the full burden. Be wise with tax papers money.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:57am 04-15-25

I support raising the amount of the grant to \$10000.00. This program will make people more aware of recycling and protecting our environment. Also, People will learn new ways to reduce waste and improve the soil without the use of chemicals.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:30am 04-15-25

Testimony in Strong Opposition to Bill 49 (2025)

Submitted to the Maui County Council

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my unequivocal opposition to Bill 49 (2025), which proposes adjustments to salaries within the Office of Council Services. As a dedicated public servant who values fairness, fiscal responsibility, and recognition of skill and technical expertise, I am deeply alarmed and frankly insulted by the implications of this bill. The revised pay structure is nothing short of a slap in the face to specialized employees in critical roles, particularly those in the Finance Department, such as Systems Administrators, who are now slated to earn less than Committee Secretaries and other support positions under this proposal. How is it justifiable that individuals with high-level technical expertise and substantial responsibility for the security, maintenance, and integrity of our County's financial systems are compensated less than administrative staff?

The proposed pay plan not only undermines the value of technical and analytical skill sets but also threatens employee morale across departments. Rewarding titles over technical contribution sends the message that institutional knowledge and operational competency are not valued in our county government.

Additionally, this bill raises pressing questions of governance and accountability. Who exactly oversees the Office of Council Services? Why is there no oversight or independent review in place to ensure equity and rationality in these pay decisions? The lack of transparency and scrutiny in crafting this legislation is concerning, to say the least.

I urge this Council to reconsider this bill in its entirety. Passing Bill 49 would not only perpetuate inequity, but it would also do lasting damage to staff trust, interdepartmental cohesion, and the reputation of this body as stewards of public resources.

Reject Bill 49 (2025). Do better for the people who keep our government running every day—not just the ones sitting closest to the Council Chambers.

Respectfully,

Victoria Constantino

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:14am 04-15-25

Aloha,

My name is Dezireen Austin. I am a STEMworks educator and program coordinator for Samuel E. Kalama Intermediate School.

I believe that continuing to fund STEMworks programs in our schools is important because these programs provide opportunities for our keiki they may not otherwise have.

STEMworks fills in the gap we currently have in our school system, with the lack of STEM electives. Keeping STEMworks alive helps our children to identify and develop skill sets which are sorely needed on-island, with health careers, technology development, programming professionals, and more.

It is common knowledge that it is hard to keep our children here, in the islands, after graduating college. If we can engage them early on, with the myriad opportunities that STEM-related careers can provide, we can build the foundation for our island's economy to grow and diversify. Education isn't just words on a page. It's also passion in action. STEMworks programs encourage our keiki to think outside the proverbial box when it comes to future pathways.

Please continue to fund STEMworks.

Respectfully yours,
Mrs. Austin

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:18am 04-14-25

Aloha,

I am writing to express my support of the Recycling Grants Program, which supports various important efforts throughout Maui County to reduce waste and protect Maui's fragile environment. During the last fiscal year, funding from the Recycling Grants Program assisted our organization in working with 18 community events and 111 trained volunteers to engage 28,755 attendees in diverting over 3,796 lbs of waste from the landfill via reuse, composting and recycling. This funding has also helped us to launch and run a youth internship program for the past three years to teach youth about waste reduction strategies and to help them implement waste reduction projects in their schools and communities. Overall we have diverted over 32 tons of waste from the landfill since the program started in 2017, and much of this has been done with the support of the Recycling Grants Program. We feel that their work is more important than ever and strongly support the funding of this program.

Mahalo,
Malia Cahill
Executive Director
info@mauihuliaufoundation.org
(808) 757-2100
www.mauihuliaufoundation.org
Instagram & Facebook @mauihuliau

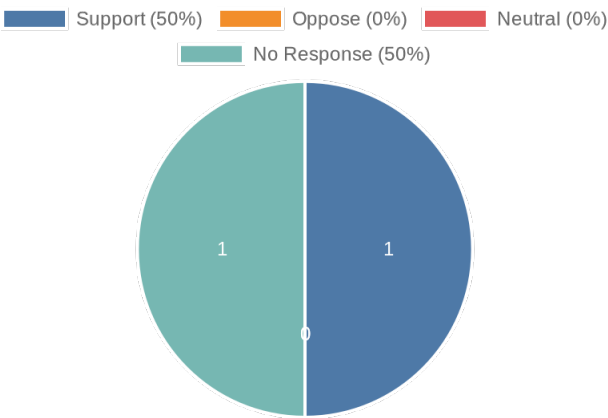
Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:58am 04-14-25

The Recycling Grant program has helped keep Maui's only Refill Store going. We have been able to divert over 14,000 bottles from the landfill through refills alone. One 55-gallon drum offsets about 400 individual bottles. We have also received and cleaned thousands of donated bottles and jars for reuse in the store giving them a longer life and keeping them out of the landfill and recycling centers. The team has been supportive and easy to work with. I can't express enough gratitude for this grant and the team that makes it possible. Mahalo for your time and consideration in expanding grant funding.

Overall Sentiment



BFED Committee

Location:
Submitted At: 4:47pm 04-15-25
Written testimony received through 04/15/2025 at 4:00 p.m.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 12:26pm 04-15-25
Support Of EPNS recycling Cecile Powell. She and the team do great work for the County and the residents. We need to think more about the aina and less about agendas.

BFED Committee

From: County Clerk
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2025 11:39 AM
To: BFED Committee
Subject: FW: Recycling Department testimony
Attachments: Recycle Department testimony FY26.pdf

From: JD Wyatt - Ka Lima O Maui <jd@kalimaomaui.org>
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2025 11:30 AM
To: County Clerk <County.Clerk@mauicounty.us>
Cc: 'Cecile Powell' <cecile.powell@co.maui.hi.us>
Subject: Recycling Department testimony

You don't often get email from jd@kalimaomaui.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Aloha,

Please accept the attached letter and testimony for Maui County Council Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee.

This is in support of the Recycling Department for tomorrow's review, April 15, 2025.

Mahalo,

JD Wyatt

J.D. Wyatt
Executive Director
Ka Lima O Maui, Ltd.
127 Mahalani Street
Wailuku, HI 96793
(808) 244-5502 Office
(808) 269-1097 Cell
(808) 244-2077 Fax

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"Enhancing Lives Through Self-Reliance"



"Enhancing Lives Through Self-Reliance"

April 14, 2025

To: Maui County Council Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee.

Re: Recycling Grants Program

Aloha Council Members,

I'm submitting this letter of testimony and support for the Recycling Grants Program budget. Ka Lima O Maui is fortunate to be both a grant recipient and a vendor with the Recycling Department.

As a first-year grant recipient, we were approved to operate a recycled newspaper shredding program. In this program, we partner with Maui News and other sources to acquire misprints, end roll and/or excess newspaper or periodical material, and then shred the paper to repurpose as packing material for local flower growing businesses. Rather than have these papers end up in the landfill, the partnership we have with the Recycling Department and local businesses ensures it's shipped off island. In just 3 quarters this year, Ka Lima O Maui has repurposed almost 5 tons (9,653 pounds) of newspaper. This grant has also helped us create 4 part time jobs for adults with disabilities who operate our shredding machines. We are planning on expanding the shredding program in FY26, if approved for a grant in our efforts to reduce further waste from going in to the landfill.

As a vendor for the second year with the Recycling Department, we have been responsible for assembling and packing the Malama Aina Earth Day kits given out to schools across Maui County. This year, Ka Lima staff assembled and packed 12,605 kits that are being sent to schools this week. We received 8 pallets of the individual items directly at our operations facility and then sorted, inventoried and packed the kits for shipment.

Cecile Powell and her team have been great to work with, as they're all focused on doing good for our community. We're honored to be a partner in helping reduce waste going into our landfills, and working on projects that help foster recycling awareness and importance with our keiki. It is my hope you will be able to increase the budget for the Recycling Department as the work they do is so critical to Maui residents.

With aloha.

JD Wyatt
Executive Director

BFED Committee

From: David Whitney <david@onifoundation.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 11:45 AM
To: BFED Committee
Subject: Request for Consideration of Matching Funds Support
Attachments: Oni Foundation Letter to Yuki Lei Sugimura.pdf; Untitled attachment 00010.htm; attachment.png; Untitled attachment 00013.htm; attachment.png; Untitled attachment 00016.htm

RE: Request for Consideration of Matching Funds Support for Hawai'i Tourism Authority Community Enrichment Program Grant

Aloha, Attached is a letter addressed to BFED Chair Sugimura and the Committee. We are Introducing our project and seeking funding assistance, and extending an invitation to visitor our center.

We greatly appreciate any consideration.

Mahalo nui loa.



RE: Request for Consideration of Matching Funds Support for Hawai'i Tourism Authority Community Enrichment Program Grant

April 15, 2025

Dear Chair Sugimura,

Aloha and warmest greetings. On behalf of the Oni Foundation, mahalo to you, Chair, and members of the Maui County Council for your leadership and commitment to economic resiliency and community enrichment.

By way of introduction, we are led by Foundation President Kumu Keoni Manuel, well-known entertainer, dancer, director, producer, and cultural ambassador; and Vice President Ku'ulei Pridgen, a dedicated professional entertainer with more than 35 years of extensive experience in Polynesian dance, culture and education. She excels in sharing mo'olelo, and she's an accomplished Polynesian musician as well as a skilled crafter and weaver.

On March 28, the Oni Foundation submitted an application to the Hawai'i Tourism Authority's Community Enrichment Program, a grant designed to foster community-based tourism products and enrich Hawai'i's tourism offerings in culturally appropriate ways. Our project reflects the values of regenerative tourism — ensuring that the visitor industry benefits both residents and visitors in meaningful, sustainable ways.

Our project seeks to bridge culture, community, and visitor engagement through experiences rooted in local knowledge, respect for place, and shared stewardship. We are honored by the opportunity to support this broader vision of tourism and community well-being.

While announcements of HTA grant awards are not expected until the week of June 5, we are proactively exploring ways to responsibly fulfill the grant's required matching fund component. We do not yet know the amount of a grant award, if any, that may need matching support. However, we respectfully request your committee's consideration for future Maui County funding assistance, should we be fortunate to have our grant approved. We are requesting \$100,000 from the HTA, but average grant awards are \$30,000.

Given the timing of our grant application, our request was not submitted in time for inclusion in Mayor Bissen's proposed Fiscal Year 2026 budget. Nevertheless, we have since turned in a formal request online to the Budget Office for consideration.

We understand the daunting fiscal challenges facing the County, especially in the wake of the August 2023 wildfires. We remain humbled by the work of your committee in balancing the many needs of our community. Our intention is to be transparent, forward-thinking, and collaborative in ensuring Maui's visitor industry evolves in ways that honor

both host and guest. Our mission is to perpetuate the multicultural diversity of Hawai'i through dance and the arts.

We would be deeply honored if you or any members of your committee would like to visit our Wonderful World of Aloha Center at the Queen Ka'ahumanu Center for a tour of our "Migrations" museum, which features authentic costumes from Polynesia, Hawai'i, Japan, Korea, China, the Philippines, Portugal, Mexico and Spain. However, we appreciate how your valuable time is limited, especially during your committee's budget deliberations.

Mahalo for your consideration, and for your continued advocacy for Maui County's residents' future prosperity and well-being.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

David Whitney
Executive Director
Oni Foundation

BFED Committee

From: Deb Marois <deb@convergecrt.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 3:26 PM
To: County Clerk; BFED Committee
Cc: Kiyabu-Crowell, Tina; Luana Kawaa; Kelli Maltezo; Shana Orta; Euconfra Connie Meekhof; Kelly Sim; Edeluisa Baguio-Larena; Cynthia Damo; Bobbie-Jo Moniz-Tadeo; Paul Tonnessen
Subject: Testimony for 4/17/25 Maui County Council
Attachments: Maui County Council - BFED Testimony 2025-04-15.pdf; Ho'oikaika FY26 Budget Proposal 2025-04-15.pdf; HP 2024 By the Numbers.pdf; HP Strategic Plan 2024-2026 FINAL.pdf; FINAL ACES Infographic EMAIL version 3-4-2025.pdf

Some people who received this message don't often get email from deb@convergecrt.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Aloha,

On behalf of Ho'oikaika Partnership, I am submitting this testimony along with supplemental materials in advance of the Maui County Council meeting scheduled for April 17, 2025 at 9 am for Reso 25-92 (Child Abuse Prevention month in Maui County) as well as for the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee as public testimony on the proposed FY 2026 Budget.

Several members of Ho'oikaika Partnership will attend the 4/17 Council meeting in person to witness the resolution and provide oral testimony. Additionally, I plan to provide oral testimony at the 4/17/25 Council meeting at 6 pm.

I hope we've followed all the requirements; please let me know if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Mahalo for your time and service,
Deb

Deb Marois, M.S.
Coordinator, [Ho'oikaika Partnership](#)
Principal, [Converge CRT](#), *Facilitating Collaborative Action*
808-765-7254

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/debmarois/>



April 15, 2025

To: Maui County Council and the Budget, Finance and Economic Development Committee

RE: April 17 County Council Meeting, Testimony for Reso 25-92 and public testimony on the proposed FY 2026 Budget

Aloha Chair and Council Members,

My name is Deb Marois, and I serve as the Coordinator for Ho'oiikaika Partnership—a coalition of over 75 allied organizations working together to prevent child abuse and strengthen families in Maui County. Mahalo for recognizing April as Child Abuse Prevention month, and the role of prevention in long-term recovery and resilience for Maui's 'ohana and workforce.

In the wake of the 2023 wildfires, our work has become even more essential. Families are under immense strain, and our service providers are facing burnout. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), which are traumatic events that happen before age 18, include abuse, neglect, and other disruptions that undermine a child's sense of safety and stability. ACEs can result in long-term health consequences and the risks increase as the number of ACEs increase. **Nearly 1 in 5 (19.8%) of adults in Maui County have 4+ ACEs before age 18.** And this was the statistic before the devastation of August 2023.

Research shows that we can prevent ACEs when we invest in family-centered solutions like paid leave, affordable childcare, and trauma-informed care. Research shows that **every dollar invested in prevention yields up to \$7 in savings through reduced healthcare and social service costs and lower incarceration rates.**

At Ho'oiikaika Partnership, we educate families and policymakers about these issues, and we build platforms for providers to come together and coordinate care. Our coalition's work directly strengthens family resilience and reduces long-term costs.

Since Governor Green designated Hawai'i as a trauma-informed state, we've made progress—but we still have far to go, especially here in Maui County post-disaster. Ho'oiikaika's cross-sector model of collaboration helps us move from awareness to action. We're educating families, supporting providers, and aligning services to prevent trauma and promote healing.

Ho'oiikaika Partnership steps in to fill pukas in our systems —connecting families to resources, supporting the workforce, and uniting agencies around prevention.

In 2024, Hoʻoikaika Partnership ***reached over 3,500 families, adults and keiki, trained more than 200 professionals, and distributed more than 3,000 culturally rooted children’s books to promote protective factors and early literacy.*** Navigation Services were in high demand following the wildfire disaster. The Navigator directly assisted 459 families including 60 on Molokaʻi, distributing more than \$147,000 in concrete supports, and also attended 13 outreach events. More than 100 providers from 28 agencies attended Healing the Healers sessions, held monthly throughout the year to help address vicarious trauma and prevent burnout.

But due to a gap in funding earlier this year, we had to pause both our Navigation Services and Healing the Healers peer support groups. We're grateful that new funding is allowing us to restart—but the instability cost us a staff member and momentum we’ve worked hard to build.

That’s why we humbly request a line item in the County budget to sustain and expand this critical work. These funds will allow us to:

- Provide "guide by the side" navigation services to 150–200 families, especially in rural areas like Molokaʻi, Hāna, and Lānaʻi;
- Continue Healing the Healers sessions to prevent provider burnout;
- Print and distribute 500+ “Kalo Boy” storybooks and other public education materials;
- Coordinate countywide collaboration through our coalition meetings, newsletters, and training sessions.

Our coalition is not a one-time project. It is the connective tissue that weaves together Maui’s social safety net. For the workforce, our partners value the collaboration and resource sharing, along with the relationship building that Hoʻoikaika Partnership offers. As one partner said, *"We are all trying to find balance with life, work, and family, and these gatherings help us remember that we’re not alone."*

We believe the County deserves a strong, connected workforce and that our ‘ohana deserve sustained support—not just in times of crisis, but every day. We are already raising other funds through grants and donations—and we’re asking the County to invest in the infrastructure that makes all those efforts more effective. We urge you to support a dedicated line item in the budget for Hoʻoikaika Partnership so we can continue building a stronger, more resilient Maui County.

I’ve attached additional documents including our budget proposal, strategic plan, 2024 results and ACEs fact sheet. Please contact me as needed at 808-765-7254 or deb@convergecrt.com.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.



Deb Marois, Coordinator, Hoʻoikaika Partnership



Ho'oiikaika Partnership – FY26 County Budget Proposal

Project: A Journey to Mālama 'Ohana: Coordinated Action to Strengthen Families and Prevent Child Abuse in Maui County

Funding Request: \$175,000

Responsible County Department: Human Concerns

Purpose & Countywide Relevance

Founded in 2008, Ho'oiikaika Partnership (HP) is a coalition dedicated to preventing child abuse and neglect while strengthening families in Maui County. With 50 active members from 25 organizations, HP is led by a 10-member Leadership Hui representing major public and private partners: Child & Family Service, Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Maui, Imua Family Services, Kamehameha Schools, Maui Family Support Services, PACT, Child Welfare Services, CAMHD/Maui Family Guidance Center, Maui District Health Office, and Casey Family Programs.

HP's work advances county priorities of building a healthy, thriving, and livable community, while aligning with DHC's strategies for capacity building, data-driven service delivery, and cross-sector collaboration. In the aftermath of the 2023 wildfires, the need for a coordinated system of family support has only grown. Our coalition is a proven, community-rooted solution for long-term recovery and resilience.

In 2024, HP engaged more than 2,000 families and 250 providers, offering outreach, public education, navigation services, workforce training, and peer support for frontline staff. HP's approach fills critical gaps in the system of care. We seek Council support for the continued implementation of HP's strategic plan to ensure sustainability and continued systemic impact.

Activities: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

HP Coordinator facilitates collaboration with 75+ agencies through meetings, committees, and shared projects. Maui Family Support Services, Inc. serves as fiscal sponsor.

1. Navigation Services & Outreach

- "Guide by the side" support for 15–20 families/month with system navigation, referrals and concrete support such as rent relief, diapers, hygiene kits, and other necessities
- Coordinate 'Ohana Fest + attend 6 outreach events, prioritizing Hāna, Moloka'i, and Lāna'i

2. Public Education & Policy Advocacy

- Print and distribute 500+ "Kalo Boy" books and other culturally-rooted materials to promote protective factors and early literacy

- Expand the *Talking is Teaching: Talk, Read, Sing* campaign with Kākou for Keiki
- Educate families & policymakers about preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

3. Cross-Sector Collaboration & Workforce Support

- Host monthly partner meetings for training, networking, and information sharing, especially to identify service gaps and opportunities to leverage existing resources
- Facilitate new partnerships and maintain website, newsletter, and partner database
- Continue Healing the Healers peer support sessions for providers
- Offer workforce training/professional development including an annual conference

Expected Outcomes & Metrics (FY26)

Initiative	Target Metrics	Outcomes / Impact
Navigation & Outreach	Serve 150–200 families; 6 events; 700+ families engaged	Increased stability and connection to support services for families, especially those impacted by fires or living in rural areas
Public Education & Advocacy	500 books; 50 posters; 10 policymakers reached; new social media followers	Expanded awareness of protective factors and early literacy, and stronger engagement with community and decision makers
Collaboration & Workforce Support	9 coalition meetings (75% report increased capacity, 5 new partnerships); 80-100 Healing the Healers participants (75% report improved well-being; 50% apply tools)	Enhanced coordination and resilience across the workforce; reduced burnout; improved continuity of care

Proposed Budget *This request is part of a larger budget supported by other grants and contracts.*

Category	Amount
Healing the Healers Facilitation & Supplies	\$20,000
Public Education Printing & Media	\$20,000
Outreach Materials & Events	\$10,000
Navigator	\$65,000
Coalition Coordination & Committee Support	\$40,000
Evaluation, Administration, & Supplies	\$20,000
Total	\$175,000.00

Contact: Deb Marois, Coordinator, Hoʻoikaika Partnership
deb@convergecr.com | (808) 765-7254 | Makawao, HI



2024 Ho'oikaika Partnership Results "By the Numbers"

Navigation Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Assisted 459 families, including 60 new families on Moloka'i + Participated in 13 outreach events reaching over 1,221 families and 1,471 individuals + Received 410 referrals, distributed \$147,400.78 in concrete supports to families
Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Participated in 10 community events including hosting the annual 'Ohana Fest + Reached approximately 1299 families; 1235 Adults and 1086 Keiki
"Kalo Boy" Books	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Distributed 3314 books through programs and at least 20 community events. + Engaged more than 70 organizations to help with distribution
Public Education/ Comms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + 17,922 unique website visitors, up 3,963 from 2023 + 580 newsletter subscribers (50 new, 50% moderately/highly engaged) + 340 Facebook and 393 Instagram followers
Provider Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + 263 conference registrants; 72 agencies represented, 92% learned new info + 93 Protective Factors Framework participants, representing 31 different agencies with 29% earning a completion certificate
Healing the Healers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Held 12 sessions attended by 116 unique individuals from 28 agencies + About 90% attended on paid time; 94% intend to use the activities at work/home
Partner Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Held 11 coalition meetings attended by 87 people representing 48 organizations + 43 online Partner applications completed + 33 active committee members representing 23 different organizations

HO'OIKA PARTNERSHIP

*Working together to keep
our 'ohana safe and supported*



STRATEGIC PLAN

2024-2026

*Our symbol is the hukilau, a Hawaiian fishing net,
which serves to remind us that our strength is in
working together to ensure that our community
safety net has no puka(holes)*



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VISION

Our 'ohana are healthy, safe, and supported.

MISSION

Strengthen and expand the system of supports in Maui County by building a strong prevention and provider network that supports collaboration, shares knowledge and resources, and shapes policy to prevent child maltreatment.

VALUES

WE ACT WITH PURPOSE – WE EMBRACE OPPORTUNITIES
WE EMBRACE MEANINGFUL OUTCOMES – WE STRIVE FOR CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

ALOHA: All partners have strengths and are valued. All persons within the Partnership have an equal voice working together in relationships based on equality and respect.

LAULIMA: Together we are stronger in spirit and action than we are alone. We embrace opportunities to collaborate to improve the safety and well-being of our 'ohana.

HA'AHA'A: We recognize and acknowledge the contributions of all partners. We foster a learning culture and remain open to new ideas. We do not bring attention to oneself; instead, we act as a whole.

MĀLAMA: We honor primary caregivers and recognize that they are their children's first teachers. We act with confidence knowing that strengthening protective factors are in the best interest of our 'ohana.

KULEANA: Our responsibility is to keep our children safe. We are privileged to work together, educating the community, and embracing promising, emerging, and best practices.

PONO: We act with purpose. We are sensitive and respectful in our approach, recognizing the wide range of culturally diverse needs of our community. We take risks together to do what is right for our 'ohana.

HISTORY OF THE HO'OIKAIKA PARTNERSHIP

The Ho'oikaika Partnership is a cross-sector coalition of community-based organizations, individuals, county and state agencies committed to preventing child abuse and neglect in Maui County. The group is primarily comprised of providers of health and human services such as early childhood and parent educators, social workers, public health nurses, substance abuse counselors, law enforcement, faith-based leaders, and others concerned with ensuring our keiki grow up healthy, safe and supported.

Our roots began in 2007, when an oversight committee undertook research to identify best practices in child maltreatment prevention and index current projects and programs in Maui County. Among other findings, the report *Preventing Child Maltreatment in Maui County: A Report on Best Program Practices* identified the need for collaboration among public and private partners across the spectrum of prevention.

In 2008, the economic recession provided additional incentive to work together to sustain family support and child abuse prevention programs. The Ho'oikaika Partnership started with a 5-person team who were selected to participate in the University of North Carolina's PREVENT Institute, which provided training and technical assistance on coalition building and the protective factors and helped guide the development of the first strategic plan and logic model. The Child Abuse Protection Treatment Act provided funds to improve the systems' response to child maltreatment along with seed funding from the Consuelo Foundation.

The Ho'oikaika Partnership evolved to serve as a convener of agencies involved in the prevention of child abuse and neglect in Maui County – to improve coordination of efforts, increase partnerships, support the workforce, and further the use of evidence-based approaches, especially the protective factors. Over the years, more than 75 organizations have participated in Partnership activities.

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

In February 2021, the Ho'oikaika Partnership began a strategic planning process to identify goals for the next three years. This process was facilitated by external consultants, The Stellar Group, and took place through a series of three meetings, all held virtually via Zoom conferencing platform. The planning sessions were open to all partners, with a total of 46 participants. Five additional meetings were held with partners to refine the goals, objectives, and activities, as well as one final meeting to revise the mission, vision, and values.

The plan was completed in June 2021 and outlined five key goals. In addition to the "Core Partners," three new committees emerged from the planning process: Training & Professional Development, Wala'au a me kukākukā (conversation & discussion) /Community Engagement, and Advocacy.

In September 2021, Converge Consulting, Research & Training was contracted to provide coordination services, focused on strategic plan implementation. The Core Partners undertook the first annual strategic plan review in June 2022. The overall consensus was that while the goals were solid, the plan

was very ambitious and needed a longer timeline. In February 2023, the Partnership held its first post-pandemic, in-person meeting at the J.W. Cameron Center with 35 participants. During this “mini-retreat,” all partners considered each goal area, assessed progress, and suggested modifications.

Next, a charter was developed to establish operating principles and governance guidelines. The charter refined the partnership structure, creating a Leadership Hui (formerly Core Partners) and four standing committees, each aligned with a goal area: Seamless Safety Net, Training & Professional Development, Public Education & Advocacy, and Community Engagement.

Leadership Hui partners formed an ad-hoc task force to revise the strategic plan, with a focus on consolidating and re-organizing objectives, as well as refining and reducing activities. In February 2024, partners and allies gathered once again for an annual review. Partners discussed progress and identified achievements, while each committee considered additional changes to their goal’s objectives and activities. In May 2024, the Leadership Hui approved final revisions. A total of 53 people participated in the strategic plan review and update. Participant lists are included in Appendix A and B.

HO’OIKAIKA PARTNERSHIP GOALS

1. Create a seamless safety net of services to support children and their caregivers
2. Strengthen the prevention and provider workforce
3. Educate and advocate for policy, program, and systems changes to prevent child abuse and neglect
4. Engage the community in the prevention of child abuse and neglect
5. Strengthen the foundation of the Ho’oikaika Partnership

STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS: 2023 ACHIEVEMENTS

Expanded community engagement, new collaborations, and multiple funding sources, including a Maui Strong grant, bolstered Ho’oikaika Partnership’s reach and recognition as a vital resource for keiki and ‘ohana. Key achievements include creating a new charter that formalized partner roles and responsibilities; tripling provider participation in the annual ‘Ohana Fest; publishing the children’s book *Kalo Boy’s Adventure to Make Pono: He Huaka’i ‘Ohana; Talking is Teaching* implementation with early literacy partners; and launching *Ho’oikaika Cares: Healing The Healers*, a monthly gathering for self-care, respite and peer support in response to the aftermath of wildfires that devastated Maui Island in August 2023. Navigation services expanded, serving 412 families (759 individuals) and participating in 12 outreach events. The annual conference drew 274 registrants, with 215 attending the opening session. Additionally, Ho’oikaika Partnership enabled five partners to attend the annual Institute for Violence, Abuse, and Trauma summit in Honolulu. The Leadership Hui support of an UH Maui College application helped gain \$6,000 and provide full support for 15 students to enroll in a class in the human services program.

GOAL 1: CREATE A SEAMLESS SAFETY NET OF SERVICES TO SUPPORT CHILDREN AND THEIR CAREGIVERS

A 2016 Service Gap Analysis found that for ‘ohana and keiki on Maui Island involved with Child Welfare Services (CWS), there was inconsistent, untimely, strained or lack of communication/ documentation between CWS, providers, and families regarding: case status, services availability, referrals, lack of clarity about roles and expectations, program requirements and contract limitations, and discharge readiness. To address this and other systemic problems, strategies to support comprehensive and coordinated service delivery are needed including navigation services to help families obtain resources and weave a seamless safety net among providers.

OBJECTIVE 1.1: Promote information sharing to improve coordination between service providers.

ACTIVITY 1.1.1: Create and maintain provider section on the Ho‘oikaika Partnership website.

ACTIVITY 1.1.2: Develop ways to streamline communication among providers such as a provider portal on the HP website, integrating information at monthly meetings, and creating ways to directly share and update partners on local resources and services.

ACTIVITY 1.1.3: Explore the use of shared intake forms, referral platforms (such as Unite Us and AUW 211), and assessment tools among providers to improve service coordination and reduce the burden on families trying to access services.

OBJECTIVE 1.2: Identify and address needs and gaps in the provider network and system of supports available for Maui children and families, including family or person-centered services.

ACTIVITY 1.2.1: Collect data using tools such as focus groups, interviews, surveys, and/or a partner inventory, to understand family perspectives on strengths, needs and gaps to inform provider and Partnership activities.

ACTIVITY 1.2.2: At least annually, learn from CWS Section Administrator and staff and other providers of Voluntary Case Management (VCM) and Family Support Services (FSS) about client/participant needs, and implement activities to help meet those needs.

ACTIVITY 1.2.3: Provide Ho‘oikaika Navigation Services to help participants access concrete supports, connect families to providers, and coordinate with other programs to prevent abuse and/or promote healing.

GOAL 2: STRENGTHEN THE PREVENTION AND PROVIDER WORKFORCE

Strengthening the provider workforce improves the quality of services and supports delivered to ‘ohana and keiki who are at risk of or involved with CWS to better meet their needs and reduce the incidence of child maltreatment. Training on the protective factors helps to develop a common language and framework for working with families across the workforce. Fostering cross-sector relationships and trust is crucial for leveraging diverse expertise, resources, and perspectives to address complex societal challenges more effectively and innovatively. It also enhances collaboration, strengthens community resilience, and ensures more sustainable and impactful solutions.

OBJECTIVE 2.1: Expand knowledge and use of the protective factors among providers.

ACTIVITY 2.1.1: Continue to host Annual Conference focused on increasing knowledge and use of the protective factor framework at an individual, organizational and systems level.

ACTIVITY 2.1.2: Train providers to deepen the use of protective factors.

OBJECTIVE 2.2: Improve cultural humility of the Maui County prevention and provider workforce.

ACTIVITY 2.2.1: Incorporate topics related to equity and cultural humility into monthly meetings.

ACTIVITY 2.2.2: Facilitate the sharing of training opportunities and resources on equity, culturally relevant services, mandated reporting, and other topics among partners.

OBJECTIVE 2.3: Increase access to training and professional development for staff in partner agencies to improve both the quality and cultural relevance of services offered.

ACTIVITY 2.3.1: Conduct annual post conference survey of partners’ training, professional development, and self-care needs.

ACTIVITY 2.3.2: Promote professional development through multiple channels including the website, newsletter, “brown bag” workshops, and other venues.

ACTIVITY 2.3.3: Facilitate the sharing of training opportunities and resources on equity, culturally relevant services, mandated reporting and other topics among partners.

OBJECTIVES 2.4: Foster relationships and trust among partners.

ACTIVITY 2.4.1: Host monthly partnership meetings.

ACTIVITY 2.4.2: Identify, promote, and host opportunities for self-care, celebration and fun among partners such as peer support groups (Healing the Healers) and collaboration at events.

GOAL 3: SUCCESSFULLY EDUCATE AND ADVOCATE FOR POLICY, PROGRAM, AND SYSTEMS CHANGES TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Education and advocacy are powerful ways to engage the public and policy makers on topics related to child abuse and neglect in order to create systems-level change in the county, state, and nationally. This can help change the way programs and organizations operate to better prevent child abuse and neglect in Maui County and raise the profile of the Hoʻoikaika Partnership and its partners as leaders on these issues. Advocacy can also empower and raise up the voices of parents, caregivers, and youth with lived experience. Advocacy and education on child abuse and neglect to community and legislative leaders has been a longstanding interest since the Partnership formed.

OBJECTIVE 3.1: Adopt annual advocacy priorities.

ACTIVITY 3.1.1: Create internal Hoʻoikaika Partnership structure (Charter) to support the ability to have an advocacy platform, given the diverse membership that includes state agencies, community-based organizations and individual members.

ACTIVITY 3.1.2: Develop a process to select policy priorities with other organizations that are in alignment with the mission, goals, and values of Hoʻoikaika Partnership such as policies that address the prevention of child abuse and neglect, family violence and trafficking of youth; transformation of the child welfare system; and support for the workforce.

ACTIVITY 3.1.3: Identify and cultivate natural partners to inform and support the advocacy agenda.

ACTIVITY 3.1.4: Provide input related to statewide child abuse and neglect prevention, including participation in the development of the Hawaiʻi Children’s Policy agenda.

OBJECTIVE 3.2: Build capacity of partners and allies to educate and advocate by providing training, resources, and information.

ACTIVITY 3.2.1: Provide advocacy training at annual conference and year-round outreach.

ACTIVITY 3.2.2: Develop and/or share educational materials, position papers, action alerts, and example language to support advocacy priorities and public education goals.

ACTIVITY 3.2.3: Compile and/or share data and reports on incidence of child maltreatment as well as prevention activities in Maui County with partners, policy makers, first responders, and the public.

ACTIVITY 3.2.4: Partner with local leaders to educate and advocate on systemic barriers.

OBJECTIVE 3.3: Empower those with lived experience in Maui County to inform public policy, program, and systems level change.

ACTIVITY 3.3.1: Promote Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI) and other Maui County and statewide programs that focus on increasing family voices.

OBJECTIVE 3.4: Strengthen relationships with policy- and decision-makers, raising Ho’oikaika Partnership's visibility and positioning it as a primary resource for matters impacting children, families, and the workforce that serves them.

ACTIVITY 3.4.1: Identify and participate in relevant county and state level meetings, coalitions, and collaborations on topics important to strengthen the system and prevent child maltreatment.

ACTIVITY 3.4.2: Facilitate individual partners to meet with Maui County Council members annually.

ACTIVITY 3.4.3: Partner with local leaders such as Women Helping Women, Maui Police Department, and other first responders, to deliver an annual “State of the Children” in Maui County.

ACTIVITY 3.4.4: Educate about protective factors, Ho’oikaika Partnership, and available resources.

GOAL 4: ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY IN PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

As a community, greater understanding and awareness of child abuse and neglect can help reduce risk factors, provide supports, promote resiliency, and reduce stigma for families seeking services. It can also help community members learn how to identify child abuse and neglect and how to respond. Engaging and educating the public about preventing child maltreatment has been a longstanding focus of the Hoʻoikaika Partnership.

OBJECTIVE 4.1: Decrease stigma around, and increase equitable access to, services.

ACTIVITY 4.1.1: Better understand partner relationships and spheres of influence with different communities.

ACTIVITY 4.1.2: Develop new relationships with non-child welfare influencers and natural helping networks who can host conversations and/or events with their community members about child maltreatment and family strengthening.

ACTIVITY 4.1.3: Invite communities to share stories around needs and barriers to accessing services and what's working.

OBJECTIVE 4.2: Host community events and provide educational materials that promote prevention of child abuse and neglect.

ACTIVITY 4.2.1: Plan a community event for Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month.

ACTIVITY 4.2.2: Create and/or compile and distribute educational materials focused on child abuse and neglect prevention and family strengthening, especially to promote the protective factors and public education campaigns such as Talking is Teaching and Aloha at Home, among others.

GOAL 5: STRENGTHEN THE FOUNDATION OF THE HO'OIKAIKA PARTNERSHIP

Ho'oikaika Partnership has a long history in Maui County, and strong engagement from agency partners. Partners are eager to create more structure to successfully achieve the mission and goals in the strategic plan. Adopting a collective impact approach includes a common agenda, shared measures, mutually reinforcing activities of partners, continuous communication, and an identified and funded backbone organization.

OBJECTIVE 5.1: Formalize participation through partnership agreements and operating principles.

ACTIVITY 5.1.1: Develop partnership agreements.

ACTIVITY 5.1.2: Develop operating principles that include partnership structure, leadership, decision-making and partner expectations.

ACTIVITY 5.1.3: Create an onboarding process for new partners. Explore a buddy system/mentorship model for new partners.

OBJECTIVE 5.2: Increase partners' understanding of collective impact work and decide if this approach should be adopted in the future.

ACTIVITY 5.2.1: Explore and learn about collective impact to develop a shared understanding of the model and structures for working together to achieve shared goals.

OBJECTIVE 5.3: Improve partner engagement and participation in work of the Ho'oikaika Partnership.

ACTIVITY 5.3.1: Create committees to accomplish the goals in the plan, including leadership structure, and invite partners to participate: Seamless Safety Net ▪ Public Education & Advocacy ▪ Community Engagement ▪ Training & Professional Development ▪ Leadership Hui

ACTIVITY 5.3.2: Continue development of the HP website and/or other communication tools to improve sharing of resources and information within the partnership to strengthen the safety net.

OBJECTIVE 5.4: Monitor progress on the strategic plan and report on progress regularly to partners.

ACTIVITY 5.4.1: Track progress on strategic plan goals, objectives and activities and report annually. Explore including on website/provider portal.

ACTIVITY 5.4.2: Bi-annually review and update the strategic plan with engagement of the full partnership, or sooner as determined by the Leadership Hui.

ACTIVITY 5.4.3: Create a structure to support committees reporting out to Ho'oikaika Partnership.

OBJECTIVE 5.5: Increase sustainability of the Ho‘oikaika Partnership by securing sufficient funding to support infrastructure needed to achieve goals.

ACTIVITY 5.5.1: Create and share annual state fiscal year budget for Ho‘oikaika Partnership activities.

ACTIVITY 5.5.2: Explore ways to sustain the partnership through grants, sponsorships, partnership fees, in-kind contributions, and other supports.

APPENDIX A: 2023-2024 STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW PARTICIPANTS

The following 53 partners and allies participated in reviewing and revising the strategic plan. Organizational affiliations were at the time of participation and may have changed since that time.

- Annie Reinecke, Child Welfare Services, Maui Section Administrator
- Bobbie-Jo Moniz-Tadeo, Imua Family Services, Clinical Director
- Courtney Ikawa, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Maui, Regional Director
- Danielle Bergan, Mental Health of America Hawai'i, Community Coordinator
- David Litman, Teran James Young Foundation, Program Director
- Deb Marois, Converge Consulting, Research & Training, Principal
- Denise Wong, Parents and Children Together, Clinical Supervisor
- Dezza Santos, UH Maui College, Intern
- Edel Baguio-Larena, Maui Family Support Services, Inc., Chief Executive Officer
- Euconfra "Connie" Meekhof, Parents and Children Together, Family Peace Center Supervisor
- Heather Greenwood, UH Manoa, Cooperative Extension, Extension Faculty
- Heather Pietras, Parents and Children Together, Crisis Advocate
- Heidi Allencastre, Maui Family Support Services, Navigator
- Heidi Taogoshi, Hawai'i Department of Health, Maui District Health Office, Public Health Nursing section, Public Health Nurse
- Jayme Galase, Maui Family Support Services, Lead Parent Educator
- Jen Cox, Kākou for Keiki, ECDHS Project Manager
- Jeny Bissell, Hawai'i Department of Health, Maui District Health Office, Family Health Services Division Supervisor
- Jessica Brazil, Mindful Living Group, Founder
- Jonathan Stenger, Kamehameha Schools
- Ka'iulani Galon, Hawai'i Department of Health, Family Health Services Division, Child and Youth Program Specialist IV
- Kalei Kailihiwa, Kamehameha Schools, Regional Director
- Kandice Johns, The Maui Farm, Executive Director
- Kanoe Kamaunu, Keiki O Ka 'Āina, He Lei Piko Home Visiting Program
- Kate Griffiths, Office of Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Senior Policy Analyst
- Keala Kaopuiki-Santos, Kamehameha Schools
- Kelly Sim, Casey Family Programs, Senior Director
- Kristin Mills, Hawai'i Department of Health, Maui District Health Office, Public Health Educator
- Leana Riglos, Big Brothers Big Sisters Maui, Community-Based Case Manager
- Leilani Frost, Child and Family Services, Support Services
- Leilani Kepler, UH Maui College, Work Based Learning Specialist
- Leinaala Kealoha, UH Maui College, Intern
- Leslie Armstrong, Child Welfare Services, Supervisor
- Leslie Garo, Hawai'i Public Health Institute, County Coordinator
- Marcial Pualani Basbas, Child & Family Service, Family Success Coach
- Maricel Abad, Hawai'i Department of Health, Maui District Health Office, Public Health Nursing, Assistant Supervisor

- Mary Nakooka, Malama Family Recovery Center
- Megan Morrow, Malama Family Recovery Center, Family Services Coordinator
- Mele Andrade, Hawai'i Children's Action Network, Director of Community Engagement and Training
- Mia Kaulana Sado-Magbual, Child & Family Service, Family Success Coach
- Michele Maalea, Maui Youth and Family Services, Program Director
- Misty Banner, Ka Hale A Ke Ola Homeless Resource Center, Child Services
- Nicholas Winfrey, Maui United Way, Executive Director
- Paul Tonnessen, Friends of the Children's Justice Center, Executive Director
- Sara Hauptman, Hawai'i Department of Health, Maui District Health Office
- Selene LeGare, University of Hawai'i Maui College, Program Coordinator
- Shana Orta, Child & Family Service, Director of Maui Programs
- Shari Osajima, Mālama I Ke Ola Health Center
- Shayna Carroll, The Maui Farm, Program Director
- Shelly Brown, Maui Family Support Services, Program Clinical Supervisor
- Tania Ilaoa, Boys & Girls Clubs of Maui, Director of Child & Club Safety
- Tina Kiyabu-Crowell, Department of Health, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division/Maui Family Guidance Center, Quality Assurance Specialist
- Yukari Murakami, Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i

APPENDIX B: 2021 STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION PARTICIPANTS

A total of 46 partners attended the Strategic Planning Sessions. Some partners attended all days, while others attended only one or two of the sessions, depending on their availability. Partners who attended the planning sessions include:

- Heidi Allencastre, Parent Leadership Training Institute / Maui Family Support Services Intern
- Mele Andrade, Parents and Children Together, Ulupono Family Strengthening Program, Program Supervisor
- Leslie Armstrong, Child Welfare Services, Supervisor
- Edel Baguio-Larena, Maui Family Support Services, Chief Executive Officer
- Misty Bannister, Ka Hale A Ke Ola Homeless Resource Center, Children's Service Coordinator
- Stephen Bennet, Boys and Girls Club, Director of Operations
- Danielle Bergan, Mental Health America of Hawai'i, Maui Community Coordinator
- Jeny R. Bissell, BSN, RN, Family Health Services Section, Maui District Health Office, State of Hawaii Department of Health, Supervisor
- Kendra-Bitzig, PATCH, Maui Coordinator
- Monica Borge, Kaiser Permanente, QUEST Integration Intake Service Coordinator
- Molly Bradley-Ryk, Maui Police Department, Juvenile Counselor
- Shelly Brown, Maui Family Support Services, Ka Pu'uwai Supervisor
- Brandee Carvalho, Parent Leadership Training Institute, Parent Leader
- Denise Carvalho, Hui No Ke Ola Pono, Pediatric Health Clinic, Registered Nurse
- Kainoa Correa, Kaiser Permanente, QUEST Integration Intake Service Coordinator
- Emily Daoang, Child & Family Service, Neighborhood Place of Wailuku Program Director, CCSS, VCM
- Keku DePonte, University of Hawai'i Maui College, Ku'ina Program Coordinator
- Andrew Fox, Hui No Ke Ola Pono, Pediatrician
- Krissy Garcia, Kaiser Permanente, QUEST Integration Intake Service Coordinator
- Nicole Hokoana, Maui Behavioral Health Resources, Chief Operating Officer
- Punahale Hoopii, Office of Youth Services, Juvenile Parole/ Community Liaison
- Kandice Johns, The Maui Farm, Executive Director
- Kathi Jones, Maui Family Support Services, Ka Pu'uwai Registered Nurse
- Jewelyn Kahele, Hawai'i Department of Education, Baldwin-Kekaulike-Maui Complex, McKinney Vento Liaison
- Meja Kaniho, Keiki O Ka Aina, Regional Supervisor (PAT & HIPPY)
- Kristen Kaya, Teran James Young Foundation, Administrative Assistant
- Roxann Kehus, Hawai'i Department of Health, Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Program Specialist
- Tina Kiyabu-Crowell, Hawai'i Department of Health Maui Family Guidance Center, Quality Assurance Specialist
- Kupono Lucero, Malama Family Recovery Center, Counselor II
- Deb Marios, Converge Consulting Research & Training
- Bobbie-Jo Moniz-Tadeo, Imua Family Services, Clinical Director and Early Childhood Specialist
- Gail Murakami, Lili'uokalani Trust, Kīpuka Maui, Social Services Team Lead

- Jessica Pazos, Maui Family Support Services, Islands of Hope Navigator
- Heather Pietras, Parents and Children Together, Senior Crisis Advocate
- Lisa Ponichtera, Malama Family Recovery Center, Clinical Director
- Venus Rosete-Medeiros, Kamehameha Schools Strategies and Transformation Group, Nā Moku Director of Community Strategies in Maui, Molokaʻi & Lānaʻi
- Meridith Russell, Family Court, Juvenile Client and Family Services Administrator
- Mia Sado-Magbual, Child & Family Service, Neighborhood Place of Wailuku, Family Success Coach/Specialist
- Ailene Schwartzlow, Kaiser Permanente, QUEST Integration Intake Service Coordinator
- Kelly Sim, Casey Family Programs, Strategic Consulting Unit Senior Director
- Hauʻoli Tomoso, Episcopal priest, community connector, MSW
- Laurie Tochiki, EPIC ʻOhana, Executive Director
- Paul Tonnessen, Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Maui, Executive Director
- Marcie Ventura, Hawaiʻi Department of Education, Canoe Complex, School-Based Behavioral Health Specialist
- Sara Watkins, Maui Family Support Services, Healthy Families America Family Support Worker
- Karen Worthington, Islands of Hope/Hoʻoikaika Partnership Coordinator

HO'OIKAIKA PARTNERSHIP

*Working together to keep
our 'ohana safe and supported*



Visit www.HooikaikaPartnership.com for more information.
For inquiries, please email info@hooikaikapartnership.com.



ACEs are Adverse Childhood Experiences

Even though bad things happened to me when I was a kid, I can thrive.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are traumatic events or unstable environments children experience before age 18. These stressful incidents can harm social, cognitive, and emotional functioning and undermine the safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments keiki need to thrive.

Impact: ACEs disrupt a child's sense of safety, stability, and bonding, and can have lasting effects on health and well-being. ACEs often occur together; can result in toxic stress; and are associated with many adverse outcomes, including substance use, suicide, overweight/obesity, lower education and earnings potential, and chronic disease.

Maui County

140

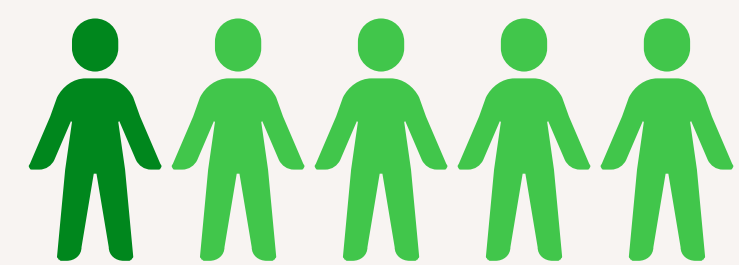
Number of confirmed child abuse & neglect victims in 2023

20%

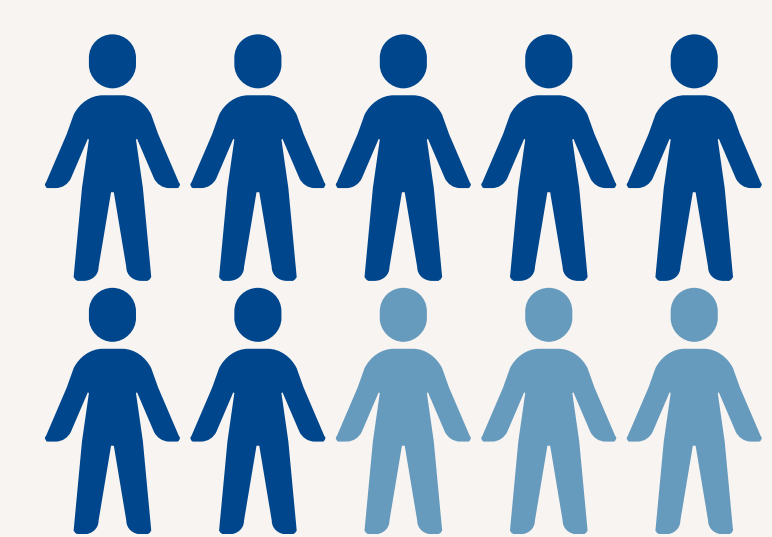
of youth do not have a supportive adult they can talk to

80%

of teens do not get the mental health help they need



Nearly 1 in 5 (19.8%) adults in Maui County have 4+ ACEs before age 18



7 OUT OF 10

ACEs are linked to child welfare issues, which add further challenges for our communities

*Youth Behavioral Survey 2023

ABUSE



physical



emotional



sexual

NEGLECT



physical



emotional

HOUSEHOLD DYSFUNCTION



mental illness



incarcerated family



intimate partner violence



substance abuse



divorce, separation

Learn More About ACEs



Impact

More ACEs = More negative health risks



Risks Linked to ACEs

BEHAVIOR



addiction



missed work

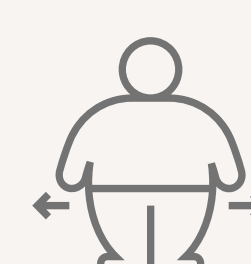


depression

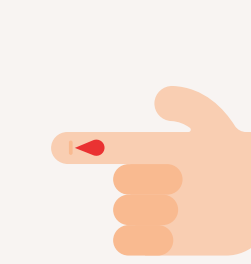


suicide

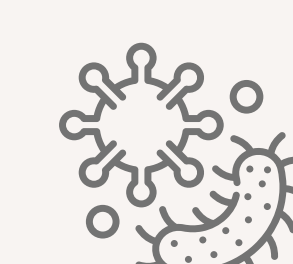
PHYSICAL HEALTH



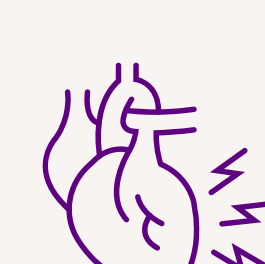
obesity



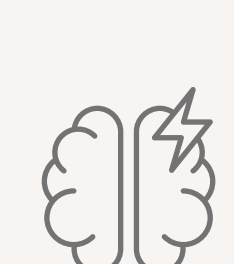
diabetes



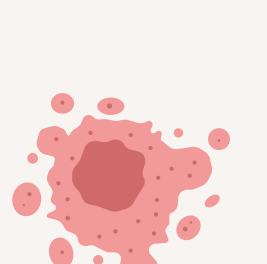
STDs



heart disease



stroke



cancer

In Hawai'i: ACEs are reported widely. A survey conducted by the CDC and other agencies shows that over 60% of adults in Hawai'i have experienced at least one ACE, with a substantial percentage experiencing multiple ACEs, directly increasing the risk of health issues and social challenges.

Cultural and Social Impacts: For Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, historical trauma can worsen ACEs impacts, creating cycles of poverty, substance abuse, and mental health issues across generations.

Protective Factors Make 'Ohana Strong

Even though bad things happened to me when I was a kid, I can thrive.

Protective Factors

Protective factors help buffer the negative impact of ACEs and give keiki a better chance to thrive - even in tough circumstances. Research shows these conditions make a big difference in helping 'ohana overcome challenges and build healthier, more stable lives. Studies show a positive, supportive relationship with one or more adults has the most impact.



Mālama 'Ohana
Create nurturing attachments



How You Stay
Establish strong social connections



Parenting Can Be Hard, But Can
Learn about parenting and child development



First, Make Yourself Pono
Strengthen your own resilience as a parent



Show Keiki Aloha
Help keiki learn social and emotional competence



No Shame
Ask for help in times of need

Protective Factors,
Learn More



Prevention Benefits

Preventing ACEs Leads to Healthier Families and Communities Over Generations.

- **Improved Health Outcomes:** Reduces rates of depression, heart disease, diabetes, cancer, and obesity by addressing root causes.
- **Better Life Opportunities:** Leads to higher educational attainment, stable employment, and increased income levels.
- **Reduced Risky Behaviors:** Lowers involvement in substance use, violence, and suicidal behavior.
- **Economic Return:** Every dollar invested in prevention yields up to \$7 in savings through reduced healthcare and social service costs and lower incarceration rates.
- **Break the Generational Cycle of ACEs:** Parents with multiple ACEs are more likely to pass trauma to their children, perpetuating poor health outcomes.
- **Stronger Communities:** Builds resilience, fostering healthier families, a more productive workforce, and better preparedness for future crises.

What Can Policymakers do to Prevent ACEs?

Enact Family-Centered Policies that Enhance Economic Security and Boost Protective Factors such as:

- **Increase Economic Resilience:** Support affordable childcare, paid family leave, livable wages, child tax credits, and housing assistance to reduce 'ohana stress and create stable environments.
- **Invest in Prevention Programs:** Allocate funding for parenting education, family support services, mental health care, and early childhood education to address ACEs before they occur or escalate.
- **Strengthen Community Resources:** Expand access to after-school programs, home visiting programs, and substance abuse services so families can build resilience.
- **Integrate ACEs Prevention in Schools and Healthcare:** Equip educators and providers with ACEs training and screening tools to identify and respond to trauma earlier.

About Ho'oikaika Partnership

Ho'oikaika Partnership is a coalition dedicated to preventing child abuse & neglect in Maui County, ensuring that all 'ohana are healthy, safe, & supported. We promote family well-being by building a strong prevention & provider network, strengthening & expanding support systems, fostering collaboration, sharing knowledge & resources, & advocating for policies that prevent child maltreatment. Through our work, we aim to strengthen family bonds, foster resilience, & create a connected, thriving community.

For more information and data sources, please visit hooikaikapartnership.com