

Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee (2023-2025) on 2023-04-10 9:00 AM

Meeting Time: 04-10-23 09:00

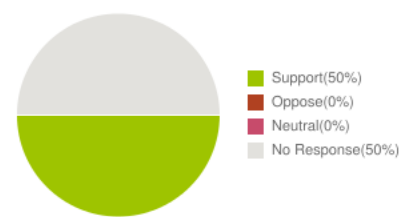
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee (2023-2025) on 2023-04-10 9:00 AM	04-10-23 09:00	2	4	2	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

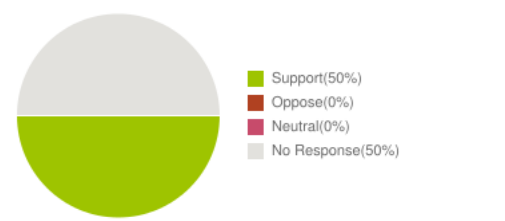


Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
A G E N D A	1	0	0	0
BFED-1 FY 2024 PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (BFED-1)	3	2	0	0

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

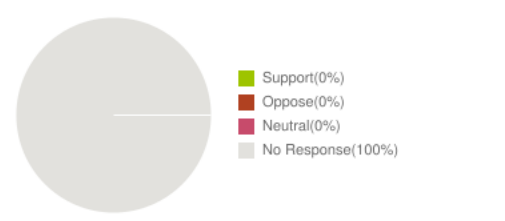
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for A G E N D A

Overall Sentiment

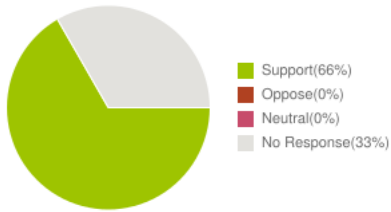


BFED Committee

Location:
Submitted At: 4:12pm 04-11-23
Testimony received 04-10-2023

Agenda Item: eComments for BFED-1 FY 2024 PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (BFED-1)

Overall Sentiment



BFED Committee

Location:

Submitted At: 2:31pm 04-10-23

Written testimony received 04/10/2023

Melanie Padgett

Location:

Submitted At: 2:14pm 04-10-23

Aloha Council Members,

My name is Melanie Padgett and I am the supervisor at the Maui County Early Childhood Resource Center (MCECRC), which is a program of Maui Family Support Services, Inc. (MFSS). I would like to thank you for supporting Maui County families by providing funding for the Early Childhood programs, specifically the Early Childhood Resource Center & Subsidies Grant and the Early Childhood Family Literacy Grant. The Maui County Early Childhood Resource Center provides Resource and Referral Services to more than 300 families of young children each year. The families we serve are all struggling to make ends meet as the cost-of-living rises. The biggest need clients of the Center have is for financial aid for quality childcare so that parents are able to work or continue their educations. MCECRC staff members assist parents to apply and qualify for the federal, state and private childcare subsidies they are eligible for. If families need for childcare aid cannot be met by the federal, state or private subsidies, they are guided to apply for the County of Maui Child Care Subsidies. In FY 23, approximately 120 children will receive childcare subsidy provided by the County of Maui to attend Preschools, Infant/Toddler Centers, and licensed family childcare homes in all areas of Maui Nui. Please note that while 120 children are approved for the County of Maui Subsidies, a further 200 plus children were helped to qualify for other subsidy programs in FY23.

With most parents in Maui County needing to work fulltime, it is necessary to build the capacity of high quality, licensed childcare programs, so all children needing care can be accommodated. Maui County Early Childhood Resource Center, in collaboration with Early Childhood Coordinator, Ka'ina Bonacorsi, convenes community partners to meet and develop strategies for growing the early childhood workforce. We encourage professional development for EC workers by offering scholarships for registration fees for conferences and trainings. MCECRC partners with PATCH to promote accreditation pathways to childcare providers with the goal of improving the quality of childcare across Maui County.

While MCECRC supports families by helping them to access childcare, we also seek to strengthen parents as their child's first teacher by providing high quality children's books to families through the Reach Out and Read Program. In FY23 we partnered with pediatricians at 4 Maui health clinics, and are currently onboarding 3 new clinics on Lanai, Molokai and in Hana, to give 8000 books to children ages birth to 5 during their well baby/child visits. We launched an online early childhood library for childcare providers and home visitors to enrich the literacy activities for the children in their care.

Thank you for your continued support of the Maui County Child Care Resource Center and the families and childcare providers we serve. I invite you to stop by and visit the Center which is located at 2099 Wells St. Wailuku.

Melanie Padgett

808-242-1608, mauiecrc@gmail.com

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:14am 04-09-23

Aloha Maui County Council,

My name is Dr. Judy Aikawa. I am Vice-Chair of the Maui Humane Society Board of Directors. As a Board Member for the last 13 ½ years, I've had the privilege of watching the organization evolve into a truly extraordinary nonprofit which not only cares for almost 5,000 homeless and abandoned animals a year, but also supports the approximately 110,000 residents of Maui who are pet owners.

I want to begin my written testimony by thanking the Council for your longstanding support of Maui Humane Society. MHS has provided animal management services to the County of Maui for the past 36 years. We are proud of our partnership with the County and feel that our shared commitment has resulted in profound and positive impacts on the lives of both animals and humans and enhanced the human-animal bond which is essential to the emotional well-being and resilience of our community.

We are pleased that Mayor Bissen's budget has addressed funding for Humane Enforcement, animal sheltering and spay/neuter and we hope that the Council will approve the amounts included in the Mayor's budget. The one area that we feel merits additional funding support is MHS's efforts to lend a helping hand to the Island of Molokai by providing both sheltering and humane enforcement services to that community which needs help desperately. We hope the Council will vote to provide the additional funding required to meet Molokai's animal welfare needs.

Thank you for the opportunity to send written testimony--I am currently visiting on the mainland and unable to testify in-person.

Sincerely,

Judith Aikawa, MD

Kula, Hawaii

Helping Hawai'i Live Well

April 10, 2023

ADVISORY BOARD

John Boyd
Peter S. Ho
Timothy Johns
Edward Kubo
Patti Lyons
Sherry Menor-McNamara
Jerry Rauckhorst
Roy Sakuma
Jeffrey Watanabe

PRO BONO LEGAL COUNSEL

Paul Alston

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Phyllis Dendle,
President
Mary Pat Waterhouse,
Vice President
Andy Downes,
Secretary
Kimberly Miyoshi,
Treasurer
Adam Coles
Nolan Hong
Robin Johns
Beth-Ann Kozlovich
Ryan Kusumoto
Ann Mahi
Peggy Mierzwa
Elizabeth Naholowa'a Murph
Sherry King Niethammer
Andrew Park
Sandra Simms

Maui County Council

Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee
200 S. High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Budget Committee members,

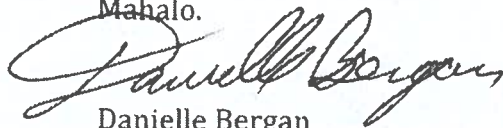
As the Maui Community Coordinator for Mental Health America of Hawaii, listed in the county budget as the Mental Health Association in Hawaii, we are deeply grateful for the support of the Office of the Mayor, Department of Housing and Human Concerns, the County Budget Office, and the Maui County Council of the important services we have provided the community of Maui County this past budget year.

Our 2022 Annual Report is currently at the printers, but I sent everyone the PDF last Thursday. This includes not only a section on our accomplishment in Maui County but a complete review of our statewide community outreach, mental health resilience & wellness education & engagement, advocacy, our financial statement, and a list of our funders.

Whether is it a community training for our youth, trainings for partner nonprofit agencies, MPD, MFD, our MCCC inmate support groups and our warm help line; we promise to continue to work vigorously to raise awareness for mental wellness, suicide prevention and helping to break the stigma that surrounds mental health by encouraging everyone, "that asking for help is a sign of strength not weakness."

In closing, we ask that you consider our funding request of \$110,000 for Fiscal Year 2024.

Mahalo.



Danielle Bergan
Maui Community Coordinator
Mental Health America of Hawaii

RECEIVED AT BFE D MEETING ON 4/10/2023

Self-Care Trainings

LIVE YOUR LIFE WELL

Provides an opportunity to reflect on our self-care routines. Utilizes 10 proven tools to help better cope with stress, improve one's outlook on life, and have healthy relationships.

TIPS & STRATEGIES FOR SURVIVING AND THRIVING

Focuses on self-care tips, mental health strategies, and resources for community members. Discusses how to help our most vulnerable that need additional support.

MANAGING COMPLEX EMOTIONS IN A COMPLEX WORLD

Discusses the negative effects of stress and anxiety, identifies healthy ways to keep balance, reviews warning signs, and outlines community resources.

A PRACTICE IN COPING SKILLS

Reviews the importance of self-care and coping skills to manage anxiety, in three distinct ranges. Coping skills for self, others, and keiki will be reviewed. Community resources shared.

Advanced Trainings

- Reviewing the Basics of Motivational Interviewing
- Brief Review of Trauma Informed Care
- Addressing Anxiety and Stress for Direct Service Providers
- Braving the Negative Impact of Covid-19 on Mental Health
- Building a Foundation of Self-Care for Caregivers
- Waiting for Change: A Direct Service Providers Guide to Self-Care and Grief Literacy

For more information regarding these trainings, contact info@mentalhealthhawaii.org



1136 Union Mall #208
Honolulu, HI 96813
Oahu (808) 521-1846
Maui (808) 242-6461
mentalhealthhawaii.org
noshamegethelp.org

Follow Us:

IG: @livenaau, @mhahawaii
FB: MHAHawaii
TikTok: mhahawaii
Youtube: mhaofhawaii

2023 Mental Health Trainings



Mental Health America
of Hawai'i

RECEIVED AT BFED MEETING ON 4-10-2023
Submitted by Danille Bergman (BFED-1)

Community Trainings

COLLEGE: DOING EVERYTHING, EVERYWHERE, ALL AT ONCE

College students have a lot on their plate. In this webinar, you will learn to acknowledge sources of stress and anxiety, practice coping skills, and gain ways to improve mental health.

HEALING & GRIEF

This presentation reviews the statistics and aspects of grief, impact on self-care, and healing tips. Learn how to support someone through loss. Identify available community resources.

HEALING GARDENS

Want to learn more about the healing aspects of gardening and mental health? This presentation discusses the positive impacts of green spaces and helps you plan a sensory garden.

MENTAL HEALTH 101

Our 101 courses cover current statistics of mental health, in Hawai'i, for specific groups including but not limited to youth, adult, and military. It is a 30 minute introductory presentation.

SEXUAL & GENDER MINORITY 101

Overview of SGM-related terminology, the differences between gender identity and sexual orientation, some of the struggles of SGM individuals, and ideas of ways to be a supportive ally, along with local and national resources.



SUICIDE PREVENTION 101

This is a foundational suicide prevention training. Participants will be introduced to the landscape of the issue of suicide, risk/protective factors, warning signs, best practices for connecting with someone who may be suicidal, safe messaging, and community resources. Cameras must be on during session. Meets ACT 270.

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) is a 7.5 hour training that teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders.

Youth MHFA, Adult MHFA, and Public Safety available.

Youth Trainings

YOUTH SUICIDE & BULLYING PREVENTION

Ideal for middle school and high school aged youth, increases knowledge of bullying and suicide, identifies risk factors and warning signs, and provides skills and resources to help prevent or intervene.

BECOME A DEFENDER

Interactive training that introduces older elementary students to the subject of bullying, how to prevent it, and how to talk about dealing with difficult emotions. Tailored to 5th grade students. Limited to 50 youth per group.

KEIKI SELF-CARE

This presentation discusses how keiki express and experience emotions. Practice skills to help your keiki build their own emotional toolboxes and learn mindfulness exercises.

SELF-CARE FOR YOUTH

Designed to teach youth tools to help them feel stronger, more hopeful, and able to cope with stress. Ideal for: High school-aged youth and young adults who want to learn tools to take care of their mental health and wellness.

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH IN HAWAII

Provides an overview of the state of youth mental health in Hawai'i, shares possible solutions and available resources available both locally and nationally.

BFED Committee

From: County Clerk
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2023 8:21 AM
To: BFED Committee
Subject: FW: County Council Testimony
Attachments: Testimony FY 24 Budget Rcarr.pdf

From: Richard Carr <richard@harfcenter.org>
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2023 8:12 AM
To: County Clerk <County.Clerk@mauicounty.us>
Subject: County Council Testimony

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

Good morning,

I would like to testify for Chairperson Sugimura and the Council Members on behalf of Hawaii Animal Rescue Foundation.

I know the workload that the Council undergoes to prepare and finalize a budget that covers the needs of the diverse community of Maui County, So I am requesting to submit my written testimony.

Thank you for the consideration or our request and for all of the hard decision that have to be made to finalize the budget,

Richard Carr
Chief Operations Officer,
Hawaii Animal Rescue Foundation
www.harfcenter.org



April 10, 2023

Yuki Lei Sugimura, Chairperson
Maui County Council
200 South High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

via: county.clerk@mauicounty.us

Subject: Department of Housing and Human Concerns
Animal Management Program
FY2024 Budget

Dear Chairperson Sugimura and Council Members:

Thank you for allowing me to testify today on behalf of Hawaii Animal Rescue Foundation's Community Education and Animal Center in Waihe'e. My name is Richard Carr, and I am the Chief Operations Officer of Hawaii Animal Rescue Foundation aka HARF.

HARF was established in 2011 with its primary focus on pet adoption and humane education. Over the years our scope of work expanded to include partnerships with animal welfare organizations statewide, the Department of Education, and numerous youth-at-risk organizations. We also provide no-cost and low-cost spay and neuter services to the community which include working with the Cat Colony groups to provide special surgery days, just for the island cats.

In 2017, we purchased 10 acres of land in Waihe'e, Maui. The property is nestled between the beautiful Pacific Ocean and the lush West Maui mountains. It is an ideal place to heal, learn and grow. A place where those most at risk get a second chance at a new beginning. It is a supportive and nurturing environment that allows traumatized, neglected, and abused animals and children to heal, build resiliency and learn to trust again.

In 2019, we broke ground on Phase I, of the Center project – the Multi-Use Barn. Phase I is currently 90% complete. The Barn will house homeless dogs and rescued farm animals, have space for staff and volunteers, provide gathering spaces for youth enrichment activities, and veterinary services and provide a home for HARF's humane education programs.

The County committed \$250,000 for the completion of this project in its 2023 fiscal year budget. We are still waiting for the release of these funds. Once funds are released, we anticipate we will have final occupancy, be able to close out our building permit and move in within six months.

Completion of this project is critical now, more than ever. We are experiencing an island-wide crisis with more animals being surrendered, a lack of temporary foster families, and low adoption numbers due to the lack of affordable housing, especially pet friendly housing. The Maui Humane Society, to whom we are a transfer partner, has been at capacity for many, many months now. They currently have 24 dog kennels and they are using overflow play yards to create additional space to house animals. The completion of our project will include 22 additional kennels, almost doubling the capacity of dog rescue in our community which includes Hana, Lanai and Molokai.

The rising cost of living, a lack of affordable and pet-friendly housing, and a post-pandemic mental health crisis have put a strain on community resources like never before.

With your help, we can help fill the gap in service. We are requesting monetary support in the amount of \$100,000 to provide additional resources for animal care and sheltering for dogs. With the current rise of the cost of goods coming into our islands, we know that the increase of precious kennel space to save more animals will come with a higher cost of food, vet services and additional resources to assure that each animal is given the love, care and compassion needed to make them adoption ready.

HARF is working hard to help Maui County to get back to the pre-COVID days when we had more adopters than dogs available for adoption. This is achievable and with everyone working together, we can once again be a place where our animals all have a place to call home.

Thank you again for your time and consideration of our request.

Yours for a humane world,

Richard Carr

COO, Hawaii Animal Rescue Foundation