

**MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES**

**APRIL 16, 2024
6:00 PM**

Pursuant to §92-3.7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the meeting was conducted as a remote meeting by interactive conference technology, via Microsoft Teams, <http://tinyurl.com/2p9zhjr2>.

In person testimony and viewing: Council Chamber, Kalana O Maui Building, 8th Floor, 200 S. High Street, Wailuku, Hawaii.

Video recording of meeting available at: www.mauicounty.legistar.com

TIME MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmember	Pres.	Abs.	Exc.	Time(s) In/Out (during meeting)
CM Pro Tempore Tasha Kama	√			
Vice Chair Yuki Lei Sugimura	√			
CM Tamara Paltin			√	
CM Gabe Johnson	√			
CM Keani Rawlins-Fernandez			√	Arr. 7:00 p.m.
CM Tom Cook	√			
CM Nohelani U‘u-Hodgins	√			
CM Shane Sinenci	√			
Chair Alice L. Lee	√			
TOTAL PRESENT	7		2	

Bill No. 60 (2024) A Bill for an Ordinance Relating to the Operating Budget for the County of Maui for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Bill No. 61 (2023) A Bill for an Ordinance Relating to the Capital Program for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2025

No legislative action was taken.

TIME MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:21 p.m.

TRANSCRIPTION

Council of the County of Maui on 2024-04-16 6:00 PM - Public Hearing

[GAVEL] >> THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET AND CAPITAL PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 WILL NOW COME TO ORDER. MS. CLERK, PLEASE PROCEED WITH ROLL CALL. >> CHAIR, PROCEEDING WITH ROLL CALL. MEMBERS PARTICIPATING FROM NON-PUBLIC LOCATIONS SHOULD STATE WHO IF ANYONE EXCEPT MINORS IS PRESENT WITH THEM AS PART OF ROLL CALL. COUNCIL MEMBER PRO TEMPORE TASHA KAMA. >> ALOHA AHE AHE CHAIR AND EVERYONE HERE.\r\n\r\n>> VICE-CHAIR YUKI LEI SUGIMURA. >> NICE TO SEE SO MANY PEOPLE IN THE CHAMBERS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. LOOKING FORWARD TO A GOOD MEETING ING COUNCIL MEMBER TAMARA PALTIN. >> EXCUSED. >> COUNCIL MEMBER GABE JOHNSON. >> ALOHA, CHAIR, COUNCIL MEMBERS, COMMUNITY MEMBERS.\r\n\r\nTHERE'S NO TESTIFIERS AT THE LANAI DISTRICT OFFICE. MAHALO. >> COUNCIL MEMBER KEANI RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ? >> I THINK SHE WILL BE JOINING US MOMENTARILY FOR, BUT NOW SHE IS EXCUSED. >> COUNCIL MEMBER TOMB COOK. >> GOOD AFTERNOON, CHAIR. GOOD AFTERNOON, ALL COUNCIL MEMBER NOHELANI UU-HODGINS.\r\n\r\n>> ALOHA, CHAIR, GOOD EVENING EVERYONE. >> COUNCIL MEMBER SHANE SINENCI. >> ALOHA. >> COUNCIL CHAIR ALICE LEE. >> ALOHA KAKOU. >> CHAIR, THERE ARE SEVEN MEMBERS PRESENT, TWO MEMBERS EXCUSED. FOR THE RECORD, I'M DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK RICHELLE THOMSON AND ALSO PRESENT IS COUNTY CLERK MOANA LUTEY AND PRESENT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK LEGISLATIVE DIVISION STAFF, LAUREN SALDANA, DELL YOSHIDA AND JOINING IS DIRECTOR DAVID RAATZ AND FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CORPORATION COUNSEL IS DEPUTY CORPORATION COUNSEL KRISTINA TOSHIKIYO.\r\n\r\n>> BEFORE WE PROCEED WITH THE PUBLIC HEARING, MAY I PLEASE REQUEST THAT EVERYONE KEEP THEIR MICROPHONES MUTED UNLESS IT'S YOUR TURN TO SPEAK. BEFORE WE PROCEED WITH TODAY'S PUBLIC HEARING, MAY I PLEASE REQUEST THAT EVERYONE KEEP THEIR MICROPHONES MUTED. AS A REMINDER, TESTIMONY MUST PERTAIN TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA. WHEN TESTIFYING PLEASE DIRECT YOUR REMARKS TO THE COUNCIL, AND NOT TO ANY INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBER, OR MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC. EACH TESTIFIER WILL BE ALLOWED TO SPEAK FOR UP TO THREE MINUTES ON EACH ITEM. FOR INDIVIDUALS WISHING TO TESTIFY ON TEAMS PLEASE CLICK THE RAISE YOUR HAND BUTTON TO BE ADDED TO THE TESTIFIER LOG. IF YOU ARE CALLING IN, PLEASE FOLLOW THE PHONE PROMPTS TO BE ADDED TO THE TESTIFIER LOG.\r\n\r\nDECORUM SHALL BE MAINTAINED AT ALL TIMES. ANY PERSON WHO BEHAVES IN A MANNER THAT DISRUPTS, DISTURBS OR IMPEDES THE ORDERLY CONDUCT OF ANY COUNCIL MEETING CAN, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE PRESIDING OFFICER OR A MAJORITY OF PRESENT COUNCIL MEMBERS, BE EJECTED, OR BANNED FROM COUNCIL MEETINGS, OR IF PARTICIPATING REMOTELY, MUTED OR DROPPED FROM THE MEETING. EXAMPLES OF DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR INCLUDE, BUT NOT LIMITED TO HECKLING, SHOUTING, USE OF PROFANITY, THREATENING OR SLANDEROUS REMARKS MADE TO ANY MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL , STAFF, OR GENERAL PUBLIC. MS. CLERK, PLEASE PROCEED. >> CHAIR, WE'LL BE PROCEEDING WITH THE PRESENTATION OF WRITTEN OR ORAL TESTIMONY. INDIVIDUALS THAT ARE IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER YOU MAY SIGN UP TO TESTIFY BY GOING OUT AND SEEING DELL IN THE LOBBY AREA.\r\n\r\nSHE CAN SIGN YOU UP. IF YOU ARE ON THE TEAMS WEBSITE, YOU CAN JUST RAISE YOUR HAND AND WE WILL PUT YOU ON OUR LOG. AT THIS TIME INDIVIDUALS MAY TESTIFY ON BILL 60 (2024) A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1ST, 2024 TO JUNE 30TH, 2025, AND BILL 61 (2023) A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE CAM PROGRAM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025. CHAIR, WE HAVE A NUMBER OF TESTIFIERS. WE'LL START WITH HAVILAH MILLS FOLLOWED BY MARLYNN TANJI. >> COULD YOU REPEAT THE NAME? >> HAVILAH MILLS. I HOPE I'M NOT SLAUGHTERING THAT.\r\n\r\n>> SHE IS ONLINE. OKAY. HELLO. >> THAT IS CORRECT. HELLO. MY NAME IS HALVA MILLS I'M THE FARM-TO-SCHOOL PROGRAM MANAGER FOR GRO SOME GOOD. I APPRECIATE YOUR TIME TONIGHT.\r\n\r\nAS MANY OF YOU KNOW, OUR PROGRAMMING IS ROOTED IN SCHOOLS. HOWEVER, WE'RE FINDING AN INCREASED INTEREST IN AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN OTHER AREAS, THROUGH NEW PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS WE'RE EXPANDING PROGRAMMING TO MEET THE NEEDS OF

OUR COMMUNITY P. COUNTY FUNDING IS INTEGRAL TO HELPING US ACCOMPLISH YOUR MISSION, FOR INSTANCE HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN HELPING SUPPLEMENT GARDEN COORDINATOR PAY, INTERIM COORDINATORS HAVE TIME AND SUPPORT NEEDED TO MAINTAIN THEIR GARDENS, DEVELOP EDUCATIONAL LESSONS AND LEAD AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMMING. PROVIDING MORE TIME TO STAFF MEANS JOB SATISFACTION, AND FORESTER CONTINUITY AND GROWTH WITHIN OUR PROGRAMS KEEPING PASSIONATE AND EDUCATED STAFFED ON MAUI AND IN IMPORTANT TEACHING POSITIONS. THIS PAST WEEKEND, WE COMPLETED THE INSTALLATION OF OUR FIRST EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION GARDEN AT WAILUKU ELEMENTARY, AND WE'RE TRAINING A COORDINATOR FOR PLACEMENT KAMEHAMEHA III AND LAHAINA INTERMEDIATE HAVE CONTACTED US ABOUT STARTING NEW SCHOOL GARDENS ON THEIR CAMPUSES. IN ADDITION, COUNTY FUNDING IN PART HELPS SUPPORT OUR GARDEN KIT PROGRAMS. WE DISTRIBUTED 3422 KITS TO CLASSROOMS ACROSS MAUI PROVIDING EVERYTHING THAT TEACHERS NEED TO LEADS STANDARDS BOYD HANSON GARDEN LESSONS NEARLY 4,000 PLANTS THAT KEKI WERE REDISTRICTED TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN NEED. THE DEMAND FOR KITS CONTINUES TO DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION AND TO INCREASE DISTRIBUTION BY AT LEAST 10% NEXT SCHOOL YEAR.

OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL WE SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED FALL, WINTER AND SPRING INTERCESSION PROGRAM ACT OUR COMMUNITY AGROFORESTRY GARDEN ENGAGING HUNDREDS OF STUDENTS WITH HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES AND OUR SPRING BREAK CURRICULUM WAS CREATED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII MANOA STEM PROGRAM, BRIDGE PLACE-BASED SCIENCE EDUCATION WITH SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING WHICH FOSTERED A DEEPER CONNECTION NOT ONLY TO THE LAND, BUT TO SELF AND OTHERS USING GARDENS AS A PLACE OF HALING. WE PLAN TO EXPAND THIS CURRICULUM. WE HAVE ALSO PARTNERED WITH MAUI NUI BOTANICAL GARDENS STRENGTHENING CONNECTION BETWEEN STUDENTS AND THE NATIVE FLORA OF HAWAII, PROMOTING CULTURAL AWARENESS, ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND FOOD SECURITY. FINALLY, COLLABORATING WITH THE HAWAII FARM-TO-SCHOOL HUI ON RAPID RESPONSE GRANT INITIATIVE WE HAVE BEEN PROVIDING MULTI-GENERATION TRAINING WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS TO THE PUBLIC OF THE INITIATIVE HIGHLIGHTS THE IMPORTANCE OF FOOD PRESERVATION AND FOOD SECURITY ALONGSIDE COMMUNITY CONNECTION. THROUGH SUPPORT OF GROW SOME GOOD FARM IT SCHOOL PROGRAMS THE MAUI DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE CAN ENSURE THE CONTINUATION OF THESE IMPACTFUL INITIATIVES THAT ENRICH THE LINES OF MAUI'S YOUTH AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM. IN CLOSING TO QUOTE A TEACHER THAT SAID, "I ABSOLUTELY BELIEVE THAT GROW SOME GOOD SUPPORTS NOT ONLY THE PROGRAM, BUT STUDENTS POSITIVE PERSPECTIVES IN LIFE, BRINGING -- BEING AROUND NATURE IS A HEALTHY WAY TO OPEN THEIR MINDS." THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME. >> THANK YOU.

MEMBERS, ANY QUESTIONS? CLARIFYING QUESTIONS? MEMBER KAMA. >> THANK YOU, CHAIR. THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE, MS. MILLS. CAN I ASK YOU HOW MUCH ARE YOU ASKING FOR? >> \$150,000. >> THANK YOU. THANK YOU, CHAIR. >> ANY MORE QUESTIONS? THAT IS A GOOD POINT EVERYONE, AS YOU COME UP, PLEASE BE SURE TO LET US KNOW WHAT YOU ARE ASKING FOR. OTHERWISE, YOU KNOW, WE WON'T KNOW, AND CAN'T HELP YOU, OKAY? MAY WE HAVE THE NEXT TESTIFIER. >> CHAIR, THE NEXT TESTIFIER IS MARILYNN TANJI.

IT'S YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY. IS SHE ONLINE? MARILYNN TANJI. LET'S COME BACK TO HER. >> CHAIR, NEXT TESTIFIERS WILL BE STUDENTS FROM MAUI HUI MALAMA. >> ARE YOU HERE? CAN YOU RAISE YOUR HAND? CAN WE SEE? IS MARLYNN TANJI HERE? THE STUDENTS WITH COME DOWN. NOW, IF YOU ARE GOING TO TESTIFY, BE SURE TO STATE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD AND BE SURE TO TELL US WHAT YOU ARE ASKING FOR. THIS YOUNG MAN IS WITH MAUI HUI MALAMA? VERY GOOD. YOU CAN START NOW.

MY NAME IS JASE LOPEZ. HELLO. MY NAME IS JASE LOPEZ. I'M 6 YEARS OLD. I'M FROM KAHULUI. I'M ENJOYING LEARNING JAPANESE AND THE MAUI HUI MALAMA. I LIKE TO WRITE AND TALK IN JAPANESE, SOMETHING NEW I HAVE TRIED IS ARTS. I LIKE DOING ALL MY ARTS AND THE JAPANESE CLASS. I LIKE WHEN I TAKE MY ART HOME, AND SHOW IT TO MY MOM AND DAD. MY BEST MEMORY OF HUI MALAMA IS MY SPIDER PLATE THAT I MADE. THANK YOU FOR KEEPING HUI MALAMA OPEN FOR US. >> VERY GOOD. MEMBERS, DID YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS? MAY WE HAVE THE NEXT TESTIFIER.

ALOHA. MY NAME IS ANINA AND I'M 11 YEARS OLD BORN AND RAISED ON MA I AND LIVE IN KAHULUI. I STARTED GOING BECAUSE IT WAS

DURING THE PANDEMIC ACHE MY MOM NEEDED ME TO DO SOMETHING AFTER SCHOOL AND DOING ONLINE ART CLASSES WITH KUMU NANCY. SOMETHING NEW I LEARNED AT SPRAY-PAINTING DURING THE ART CLASSES. THEY HAVE TAUGHT ME WHATEVER I DO IN ART IS A MASTERPIECE, AND I'M PROUD OF MY ARTWORK. IT HAS HELPED ME SPEAK MORE, AND I HAVE LEARNED TO EXPRESS MY FEELINGS AND TO ART. ALSO, LIKE LEARNING ABOUT MY HAWAIIAN CULTURE AND GOING TO FISHING CAMP WITH UNCLE SKIPPY.\r\n\r\nI LEARNED HOW TO TIE HOOKS TO THE FISHING POLE AND UNCLE SKIPPY TAUGHT US HOW TO CLEAN FISH AND CAT OUR LINES. I HAVE LEARNED TO BE PATIENT FOR FISHING, BECAUSE I'M A VERY IMPATIENT PERSON. BUT I HAVE LEARNED TO BE LESS IMPATIENT FROM FIRST QUARTER. MY BEST MEMORIES WERE GETTING SHAVED ICE FROM MY -- WITH MY MAUI HUI MALAMA FRIENDS. ALSO LIKED HELPING THE KUPUNA IS VERY IMPORTANT, BECAUSE ONE DAY WE'LL KNOW WHAT HE TO DO WHAT THAT HAPPENS TO SOMEONE YOU KNOW. ALSO MAUI HUI MALAMA TOOK US TO KIPP HULA ON THE EASTSIDE OF THE MAUI. I LOVE THE STAFF AT MAUI HUI MALAMA AND THEY HAVE GOOD WITH KIDS.\r\n\r\nI HOPE TO KEEP GOING TO MAUI HUI MALAMA PROGRAMS AND HELP OTHERS ACHIEVE MY GOALS THAT LIKE I DID. I WOULD BE VERY SAD IF THERE WAS NO MAUI HUI MALAMA, BECAUSE THIS IS THE MOST FUN I HAVE DOING A PROGRAM AND I HOPE THIS DOESN'T ACTUALLY HAPPEN BECAUSE I LOVE IT THERE. THANK YOU FOR HELPING MAUI HUI MALAMA. >> VERY GOOD. ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS, MEMBERS? IF NOT, THANK YOU. >> ALOHA MY NAME IS -- CARISA.\r\n\r\nI'M 10-YEAR-OLDS AND I AM FROM LAHAINA. I CAME TO MAUI HUI MALAMA FIRST TO GET START AFTER THE WILDFIRES. BUT NOW I GO THERE FOR AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS, SO I CAN STAY OFF MY PHONE AND NOT BE ADDICTED TO. I LIKE ALL THE THINGS I LEARN IN JAPANESE CLASS AND THINK TAMPA BAY WILL HELPFUL IN THE FUTURE. THEY TOOK ME TO O'AHU FOR JAPAN DAY AND I LEARNED HOW TO DO DANCE, AND DO JAPANESE CALLIGRAPHY. MY FAVORITE CLASS I LEARNED HOW TO USE THE TRADITIONAL JAPANESE CALCULATOR. MY BEST MEMORY WAS ON MY FIRST DAY, WHEN I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT CAR I WAS SUPPOSED TO GO INTO UNTIL THEY YELLED MY NAME.\r\n\r\nI AM ABLE GO TO MAUI HUI MALAMA AFTER SCHOOL, BECAUSE THEY COME TO PICK ME UP. I WOULD TELL OTHER KIDS THINKING OF COMING TO HUI MALAMA THAT THEY SHOULD JOIN. IT'S FUN AND VERY HELPFUL AND TEACH KIDS EVEN IF YOU MESS UP, NEVER GIVE UP. IF THERE WASN'T HUI MALAMA I WOULD ON MY FUN ALL THE TIME AND HAVE MUCH ATTITUDE. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SUPPORTING ME AND MAUI HUI MALAMA. MAHALO AND ALOHA. >> THANK YOU >> THANK YOU.\r\n\r\n>> ALOHA COUNCILS, AND COMMUNITY. MY NAME IS KEELY. >> CAN YOU SPEAK A LITTLE LOUDER, PLEASE. >> ALOHA COUNCIL MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY. MY NAME IS KEELY RYAN, I'M 13-YEARS-OLD AND I'M FROM -- I STARTED COMING TO MAUI HUI MALAMA BECAUSE I NEEDED HELP WITH MY HOMEWORK AND OFFERED FREE ONE-ON-ONE AND HELPS KIDS LIKE ME WITH SCHOOLWORK AND GIVES US ENCOURAGEMENT TO TRY DIFFERENT THINGS. THEY HELPED ME AS AN IP STUDENT TO IMPROVE MY GRADES IN SCHOOL AND RECENTLY I GOT TO GO ON A TRIP TO O'AHU FOR JAPAN DAY, WHERE I LEARNED HOW TO PUT ON KIMONO, USE THE SORBONNE BEAD CALCULATOR AND DOING CALLIGRAPHY. ANOTHER NICE THING ABOUT MAUI HUI MALAMA, THEY PROVIDE A FEW PANTRY THAT MY PARENTS AND I CAN GO SHOPPING FOR, AND SUPPLIES ONCE A WEEK.\r\n\r\nTHIS HELPS MY FAMILY A LOT, WHEN WE DON'T HAVE MUCH. I WOULD LET OTHER PEOPLE KNOW THAT MAUI HUI MALAMA IS A PLACE THAT KIDS CAN BE ENGAGED, ENTERTAINED AND EXPERIENCED ALL SORTS OF FUN AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES. I HOPE TO BECOME SOME KIND OF DESIGNER IN THE FUTURE AND MAUI HUI MALAMA HAS PROGRAMS -- ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM THAT OFFERS YOU GUIDANCE TOWARD THOSE DREAMS. WITHOUT MAUI HUI MALAMA MY GRADES WON'T BE, AS WELL AS ALL THE HOPES THIS AND DREAMS THAT THEY ENCOURAGE US TO BE. THEY ARE A STEPPING STONE TO MY FUTURE AND FOR KIDS LIKE ME. THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING MAUI HUI MALAMA. >> THANK YOU.\r\n\r\n>> HELLO. MY NAME IS AKASHA AND I'M 18 YEARS OLD. I'M FROM KAHULUI. I STARTED TAKING ART CLASSES -- >> TESTING. OKAY SOMEBODY HAS A DEVICE ON. TESTING. NOW IT'S GOOD.\r\n\r\nYOU CAN START AGAIN. SORRY. >> OKAY. HELLO EVERYONE. I'M 18 YEARS OLD AND I'M FROM KAHULUI. I STARTED TAKING ART CLASSES DURING THE PANDEMIC BECAUSE I NEEDED SOMEBODY TO DO TO KEEP ME BUSY OVER BREAK. AND WHAT BETTER WAY TO SPEND MY SUMMER THAN DOING WHAT I LOVE, ART.\r\n\r\nTHEN LAST YEAR, I WAS INVITED TO DO THE YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM AND THE YOUTH

ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM I ENJOYED USING THE LASER CUTTER TO MAKE OUR PRODUCTS. IT LETS ME USE ALL MY CREATIVITY AND TRANSFORM TO TAKE HOME AND SHARE WITH 'OHANA AND FRIENDS. MAUI HUI MALAMA WOW HAS HELPED ME COME OUT OF MY SHELL AND FIND CONFIDENCE DURING THE POP-UP SHOPS, I CAME ACROSS DIFFERENT PEOPLE AND HAVE LEARNED TO INITIATE CONVERSATIONS WITH THEM. MAUI HUI MALA IS A GREAT PLACE TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS AND ANY FAVORITE TIME WAS GOING TO ZIPPY'S AND SPENDING TIME WITH MY FRIENDS FROM THE YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM. I HOPE TO KEEP IN TOUCH AND HOPE OUT WITH HUI MALAMA AND THEY HELPED ME BY ENCOURAGING ME WITH THEIR KIND WORD AND PUSHED ME TO TRY MY VERY BEST. I WISH TO HELP THE YOUNGER KIDS WITH WHATEVER I CAN AND HELP THEM TO HAVE A FUN TIME, LIKE I DID. IF HUI MALAMA WASN'T AROUND I WOULD STILL BE THE QUIET GIRL I WAS BEFORE AND ALSO WOULD HAVE ANYTHING TO DO AFTER SCHOOL.\r\n\r\nI WOULDN'T HAVE MET THE WONDERFUL PEOPLE I KNOW NOW. AND I HAVE BEEN AND HAVE THESE FUN MEMORIES THAT I CARRY WITH ME EVERY DAY. MAHALO FOR SUPPORTING MAUI HUI MALAMA. THANK YOU. >> THANK YOU >> THANK YOU. >> GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS -- I'M 17 YEARS OLD AND I'M FROM WAILUKU.\r\n\r\nI STARTED COME TO MAUI HUI MALAMA JOINING THE YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM DOING TWO COHORTS THE PROGRAM AND ALSO ON MY SECOND YEAR OF RECEIVING TUTORING TO GET HELP WITH MY MATH. THIS YEAR I WAS STRUGGLING IN MY ALGEBRA 2 CLASS THE MOST DIFFICULT PART OF MY MATH CLASS IS THAT MY MATH TEACHERS WAY OF TEACHING US IS JUST TO HAVE US COPY DOWN NOTES WITHOUT REALLY EXPLAINING TO US. MY HUI MALAMA TUTOR AMY HAS HELPED ME AND MAKES SURE I UNDERSTAND THE WORK. MY GRADE WAS AN F AND RAISED TO I B FOR 3RD QUARTER AND NOW I HAVE AN A. I'M GRATEFUL -- I'M GRATEFUL FOR THE TUTORING THAT MAUI HUI MALAMA OFFERS. ANOTHER CHANGE FOR ME THIS YEAR, I'M NOT IN THE YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM. I'M VOLUNTEERING MY TIME TO HELP WITH THE WELCOME WEDNESDAYS AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM. EVERY WEDNESDAY AFTER SCHOOL I GO UP TO MAUI HUI MALAMA TO HELP THE YOUNGER KIDS WITH CRAFTS DONE IN ART CLASS AND HELP IN JAPANESE CLASS.\r\n\r\nTHEY NEED A LOT OF HELP BECAUSE THEY HAVE LEARNING DIFFERENCE OR BEHAVIOR DIAGNOSIS AND THEY NEED A LOT OF SUPPORT TO BE ABLE TO STAY FOCUSED, FINISH THEIR PROJECTS AND HAVE FUN PLAYING GAMES TOGETHER. I LOVE BEING ABLE TO HELP THE LITTLE KIDS WITH ANY OF ACTIVITIES BECAUSE THEY ARE ALL FUN TO BE AROUND AND I ALSO GET TO STEP OUT OF MY COMFORT ZONE. MAHALO, COUNCIL MEMBERS, FOR SUPPORTING MAUI HUI MALAMA AND FOR ALL OF THE KIDS AND FAMILIES THAT GO THERE. THANK YOU. >> HI COUNCIL MEMBERS. MY NAME IS MADISON AND I'M 11 YEARS OLD. I WANT TO TALK ABOUT MAUI HUI MALAMA, THE COOLEST PLACE S I HANG OUT AFTER SCHOOL.\r\n\r\nLIKE MY SECOND HOME BECAUSE I HAVE BEEN GOING THERE FOR FOUR YEARS NOW. IT'S REALLY FUN, BECAUSE I GET TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS, LEARN JAPANESE AND DO ALL SORTS OF ART PROJECTS. MY MOM IS SUPER BUSY AND SHE ALWAYS TELLS ME HAVING A GOOD PLACE TO GO AFTER SCHOOL IS SUPER IMPORTANT. THAT IS WHY MAUI HUI MALAMA YOU AIS AWESOME FOR ME. THEY PICK ME UP FROM SCHOOL, WHICH HELPS A LOT, SINCE MY MOM IS WORKING. I GET HELP WITH MY HOMEWORK FROM REALLY COOL TUTORS AND THEY MAKE LEARNING FUN. WE ALSO GO ON EXCITING FIELDTRIPS TO NEW PLACES, PLUS THEY HAVE A PANTRY WHERE WE GET FOOD IT TAKE HOME WHICH HELPS MY MOM SAVE MONEY ON GROCERIES SINCE IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US.\r\n\r\nTHIS PROGRAM IS SUPER IMPORTANT FOR US, FOR ALL OF US KIDS TO LEARN, AND OUR FAMILIES TO KEEP -- AND OUR FAMILIES IT KEEPS US SAFE, HELPS US LEARN AND SUPPORTS OUR PARENTS TOO. I REALLY LOVE IT. THANKS FOR LISTENING. >> THANK YOU. AREN'T YOU GOING TO SPEAK? ARE YOU THE TEACHER? OH, THANK YOU SO MUCH.\r\n\r\n>> CHAIR? CHAIR? >> YES. >> NO QUESTION. MAUI HUI MALAMA RECEIVES -- OR IS IN THE BUDGET FOR \$297,000. >> COULD YOU SAY THAT A LITTLE LOUDER? >> THEY ARE IN THE BUDGET FOR \$297,000. MAUI HUI MALAMA. PAGE 9. >> MAY WE HAVE THE NEXT TESTIFIER.\r\n\r\n>> CHAIR, MARLYNN TANJI HAS JOINED US ONLINE. IT'S YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY. FOLLOWED BY MEDB STUDENTS. >> GOOD EVENING, CHAIR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS. MY NAME IS MARILYNN TANJI AND I'M WITH HALE HOMEOWNER AND COUNSELING PROGRAM AND WE'RE ASKING FOR IN THIS FISCAL YEAR \$190,000. HALE HOMEOWNERSHIP AND HOUSING COUNSELING PROGRAM WOULD LIKE TO THANKING YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT, AND THE FUNDING FROM THE COUNTY HAS HELPED OUR COUNSELORS TO REACH OUT TO MAUI

RESIDENTS TO HELP THEM REACH THEIR HOUSING GOALS THROUGH EDUCATIONAL CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS AND INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING SESSIONS. TOPICS RANGE FROM LEARNING BASIC BUDGETING SKILLS, RENTAL COUNSELING, PRE- AND POST-PURCHASE COUNSELING FOR HOMEOWNERSHIP FIRST -TIME HOMEBUYERS, AS WELL AS HELPING HOMEOWNERS WITH SAVING THEIR HOMES FROM FORECLOSURES. WE HAVE EXPANDED ON OUR PROGRAM TO INCLUDE LONG-TERM DISASTER COUNSELING, BUT HELPING TO COUNSEL OR TO HELP WITH OVER 200 HOUSEHOLDS AFFECTED BY OF DEVASTATING MAUI WILDFIRES.\r\n\r\nSURVIVORS ARE STILL TRYING TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THEIR NEXT STEPS IN TRYING TO STABILIZE THEIR LIFE, AND COUNSELORS CONTINUE TO PROVIDE UPDATED INFORMATION TO HELP THEM THROUGH THESE NEXT STEPS, WITH GETTING THEM TO THINK ABOUT READYING THEIR LIFE AFTER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ENDS BY WORKING ON THEIR CREDIT, SAVING FOR DEPOSITS THAT WOULD IMPROVE THEIR CHANCES OF SECURING A RENTAL UNIT WHEN ONE IS AVAILABLE. ANOTHER AREA THAT THE COUNSELORS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT IS HOMEOWNERS THAT HAVE LOST THEIR HOMES TO THE WILDFIRES AND CURRENTLY IN A MORTGAGE FORBEARANCE PROGRAM TO HELP THEM EXTEND THEIR MORTGAGE FORBEARANCES TO FIND OUT WHAT OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO THEM IN TRYING TO SAVE THEIR PROPERTY FROM BEING SOLD OR FORECLOSED ON. AT THIS TIME, SERVICES ARE UNSURE WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO PROPERTIES WITH NO PHYSICAL STRUCTURE AND THE HALL-OF-FAMER IS NOT ABLE TO REBUILD OR RESUME MORTGAGE PAYMENTS. SO EVERYTHING IS UP IN THE AIR WITH THAT, AND IT PUTS A LOT OF STRESS ON THE HOMEOWNERS, BECAUSE THEY HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IS HAPPENING. SO COUNSELORS TRY TO EDUCATE THE SERVICES OF THE SITUATION, BUT YET WE'RE UNSURE OF THE DECISIONS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO OFFER OUR COUNSELING SERVICES AND HOME-BUYER EDUCATION CLASSES, AND HAVE NOW ADDED LONG-TERM DISASTER COUNSELING TO ANYONE THAT HAS BEEN AFFECTED BY A DISASTER. WE ASK FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR PROGRAM, SO THAT WE MAY CONTINUE TO OFFER SERVICES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.\r\n\r\nTHANK YOU. >> THANK YOU. MEMBERS, ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS? IF NOT, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. MAY WE HAVE THE NEXT TESTIFIER, PLEASE? >> CHAIR, THE NEXT TESTIFIERS ARE STUDENTS FROM MEDB, TO BE FOLLOWED BY GABRIELA EUSING. >> GOOD EVENING HONORABLE COUNCIL MEMBERS I'M TESTIFYING IN SUPPORT OF THE MEDB.\r\n\r\nI'M CURRENTLY AN 8TH GRADER AT THE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL AND BEEN IN THE STEM PROGRAM FOR THREE YEARS. DURING MY 6TH YEAR-OVER-YEAR MEDIA I WASN'T REALLY INVOLVED AND WASN'T SOMETHING I WAS INTERESTED IN. BUT AS I GOT TO KNOW THE CLUB AND THE PEOPLE MORE, MEDIA HOLDS A SPECIAL PLACE IN MY HEART AND ALSO OFFERED TO COMPETE IF THE STUDENT COMPETITION, AND ALL OF MY YEARS. I GOT TO STAY IN A HOUSE FULL OF PEOPLE I HADN'T REALLY KNOWN FOR A WEEK, BUT AFTER THE TRIP I WAS ABLE TO CONNECT AND GAIN FOREVER FRIENDSHIPS WITH THE PEOPLE YOU WAS SURROUNDED WITH. MEDIA GAVE ME A CHANCE TO BE MORE INVOLVED WITH THE STEM -- TO BE MORE INVOLVED WITH STEM WORKS SUCH AS GOING TO CAMPS STEM WORK CONVENTION AND O'AHU, AND MANY MORE FIELDTRIPS THAT REVOLVED AROUND STEM. I THINK THIS IS SOMETHING THAT I WANT TO PURSUE IN THE FUTURE. NOW ONLY HAS MEDIA GIVEN ME A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON LIFE, BUT I WAS ALSO ABLE TO CREATE MANY NEW FRIENDS AND CREATE MEMORIES.\r\n\r\nAND ALWAYS REMEMBER WOULD BE COMPETING AND BEING ABLE TO GO ON STAGE AND SHOW ALL THAT I HAVE ACCOMPLISHED BY SUPPORTING MAUI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD AND STEM WORKS PROGRAM, THE STUDENTS NEXT YEAR AND MANY MORE YEARS TO COME WILL GET THE CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE THE THINGS THAT I HAVE EXPERIENCED. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME. >> THANK YOU. EVERYBODY CAN COME FURTHER DOWN, CLOSER TO THE MICROPHONE. THANKS. >> GOOD EVENING HONORABLE COUNCIL MEMBERS. MY NAME IS RYAN WELCH AND I'M A 8TH STUDENT.\r\n\r\nI AM HERE TO SUPPORT MEDB. I AM PART OF THE STEM WORKS PROGRAM THIS CLUB HAS BEEN VERY PRIVILEGED TO RECEIVE FUNDING FROM MEDB WITH THIS PROGRAM I HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND THE STUDENT TELEVISION NEXT TO MEDIA COMPETITION IN 2022, 2023 AND 2024 IN LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA. IN PERSON DURING 2023, AND 2024, AND ONLINE DURING 2022. DURING STUDENT TELEVISION NETWORK I WAS ABLE TO TALK TO INDUSTRIAL PROFESSIONALS FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, GIVING ME A VIEW OF WHAT OPPORTUNITIES I COULD PURSUE. NEXT YEAR I WILL BE TRANSITIONING INTO HIGH SCHOOL, CARRYING THESE LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCES WITH ME.

MY SISTER WILL BE AT NEXT YEAR ATTENDING THE STEM WORKS PROGRAM. AND I'M HOPING YOU CONTINUE TO FUND THE STEM WORKS PROGRAM, SO SHE CAN EXPERIENCE THE MIND BLOWING ACTIVITIES I GOT TO PARTICIPATE WHILE IN THE STEM WORKS PROGRAM. >> THANK YOU.

NEXT TESTIFIER. >> GOOD EVENING, HONORABLE COUNCIL MEMBERS. MY NAME IS KAI AND TESTIFYING IN SUPPORT OF THE MEDB. I'M CURRENTLY AN 8TH GRADER AND SECOND YEAR IN THE ROBOTICS PROGRAM. I HAVE RECENTLY RETURNED FROM A TRIP TO LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA FOR A COMPETITION HOSTED BY STUDENT TELEVISION NETWORK, WHERE WE CREATE CONTENT UNDER TIME LIMIT. AS WELL AS A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP FOR ROBOTICS IN HAWAII, WHERE WE DOCUMENT PROGRAM AND BUILD ROBOTS FOR A CHANCE TO COMPETE WITH OTHER TEAMS AS A RESULT FROM BOTH TRIPS WE'RE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH A LOT. AT THE STUDENT TELEVISION NETWORK TRIP WE RECEIVED 6 AWARDS FOR FILM, NAT PACK, AND MANY OTHERS. AND AT VEX TOURNAMENTS. WE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH ALL OF THAT WITHOUT THE ASSISTANCE OF THE MEDB. AS A RESULT OF THE MEDB SUPPORT THROUGHOUT THESE YEARS I HAVE GAINED A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF STORYTELLING, ENGINEERING AND TEAMWORK, BUT THAT IS NOT THE ONLY BENEFIT I HAVE RECEIVED FROM THESE PROGRAMS. IT GAVE ME A NEW FAMILY AND A SPACE WHERE I COULD BE MYSELF DURING DIFFICULT TIMES IT PROVIDED ME WITH SUPPORT AND A SENSE OF COMMUNITY. TO ENSURE THAT OTHER STUDENTS LIKE ME HAVE THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES THAT I HAVE, PLEASE SUPPORT THE MEDB. THANK YOU. >> THANK YOU >> THANK YOU.

GOOD EVENING HONORABLE COUNCIL MEMBERS. MY NAME IS CRISTIN TABATA AND I'M AN 8TH GRADER TESTIFYING. AND I'M TESTIFYING IN SUPPORT OF THE MEDB'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT UNDER THE MAUI COUNTY OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. I HAVE BEEN IN THE STEM WORKS AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM SINCE 2021 AND THE PROGRAM HAS HELPED ME DEVELOP INTO THE PERSON I AM TODAY. I JOINED OUR SCHOOL'S CREATIVE MEDIA TEAM IN 6TH GRADE NOT KNOWING HOW TO OPERATE ANY CAMERAS AND APPLICATIONS, BUT WITH THE HELP OF THIS PROGRAM I WAS ABLE TO PLACE IN MULTIPLE CONTESTS RELATED TO FILM MAKING. I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO FAMILIARIZE MYSELF WITH VARIOUS EQUIPMENT FROM CANNON, AND APPLICATIONS SUCH AS FINAL CUT PRO, AND ADOBE CREATIVE CLOUD WITH THE SUPPORT OF MEDB'S GRANT. THE CLUB HAS ALSO EXPOSED ME TO SKILLED MENTORS FROM TELEVISION, AKAKU MAUI MEDIA AND AMERICAN SAVINGS BANK. EVENTS LIKE THESE HAVE SUEDE ME TO FILM MAKING AS A CAREER PATH AND OTHER STUDENTS HAVE FELT THE SAME WAY. ULTIMATELY THIS PROGRAM PROVIDED ME WITH THE SAFE SPACE WHERE BRIGHT IDEAS TURN INTO REALITY AND I'M SO GRATEFUL TO BE A PART OF THE STEM WORKS PROGRAM. I HOPE YOU CAN AID US IN DEVELOPING TOMORROW'S STORYTELLERS BY PUTTING OUR PROGRAM IN YOUR FUNDING. >> THANK YOU. >> GOOD EVENING, HONORABLE COUNCIL MEMBERS. MY NAME IS -- AND I'M TESTIFYING IN SUPPORT OF THE MEDB'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT UNDER THE MAUI COUNTY OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. I AM A STUDENT FROM INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL AND 8TH GRADE. THIS IS MY LAST YEAR OF BEING A MEMBER OF THE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM AND I WANTED TO PERSONALLY SPEAK AS A VOICE FOR ALL MY FELLOW CLASSMATES AND PEERS WHO HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO THE WONDERFUL THINGS THAT THIS PROGRAM HAS TO OFFER. WITH THE FUNDING OF THE MEDB, WE HAVE BEEN GRANTED THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE FUTURE PATHS THAT WE MAY TAKE AS STORYTELLERS. FROM INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS TO EVEN CONTENT CREATORS, ONE OF THE VERY FIRST YOUTUBE SUPER STARS SHARED HIS JOURNEY WHERE AT A NATIONAL CONVENTION AT LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA AND THIS STUDENT TELEVISION NETWORK BROUGHT INTO VIEW OF WHAT WE CAN TRULY ACCOMPLISH AS STUDENTS. WE EXPERIENCED FIRSTHAND THE CHALLENGES THAT COME WITH FINDING STORIES IN A BIG CITY. HOWEVER, OUR COMPETITION RESULTED IN SEVEN AWARDS SHOWING THE DEDICATION AND HARD WORK WE HAVE PUT INTO OUR PASSION. BEING PART OF THE MEDIA PROGRAM ALSO HELPS WITH GENERAL SOCIAL AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS. I WAS ABLE TO BUILD FAMILY, BUILD FRIENDSHIPS AND BUILD ON MY EDUCATION WITH THE PRACTICE, THE PROGRAM PROVIDES. I HAVE TRUE DEDICATION COMES WITH THE COMMIT ON WEEKENDS TO GET BETTER AT OUR CRAFT. I'M TRULY THANKFUL FOR THE TIME SPENT WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILIES, AS WELL AS PRACTICES REGARDING MEDIA AND ROBOTICS. ANOTHER OF MY EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES LIKE TO-MONTH-OLD IS THE ROBOTICS PROGRAM. WE HAVE BUILT AND PROGRAMMED ROBOTS TO COMPETE AT STATE-LEVEL

AND JUST RECENTLY QUALIFIED FOR THE WORLD COMPETITION BEING HELD IN DALLAS, TEXAS. SO I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE MAUI ECONOMIC BOARD AS THEY HAVE COMMITTED TO PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO HELP US GET THERE. SO TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE FOR THE BENEFITS I HAVE GAINED FROM THE MEDIA AND STEM WORKS PROGRAM, AS WELL AS THE SPECIAL MOMENTS WITH OTHERS, I WOULD LIKE TO ASK THAT MEDB TO CONTINUE TO FUND OUR PROGRAM, AND GIVE STUDENTS THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME. THANK YOU.\r\n\r\n>> ALOHA AND GOOD EVENING MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS MY NAME IS JOVIA DAVIS AND I'M SUPPORTING THE MAUI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD GRANT. I AM AN ALUMNI OF MEDB STEM WORKS PROGRAM WHICH HAS MADE A TRULY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON MY LIFE SO FAR, GRADUATING IN 2018 AND I RECEIVED A BACHELOR IN BIOMEDICAL. THROUGH STEM WORKS INTERN PROGRAM THAT I WAS ABLE TO DO MY FIRST INTERNSHIP. 14-YEARS-OLD AND FINDER FRESHMAN OF HIGH SCHOOL AND ABLE TO BUILD MY FUTURE CAREER. NOT ONLY LEARNING ABOUT ENGINEER AND ELECTRONIC AND SOFTWARE DESIGN I ALSO LEARNED SO MUCH THROUGH THE WEEKLY STEM WORKS WORKSHOPS ABOUT PERSONAL BRANDING HOW TO WRITE A RESUME AND COVER LETTER, NETWORKING AND BUILDING CONNECTIONS, AND MANY OTHER TOPICS UNDER CAREER DISCOVERY AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOP THAT HAVE CONTINUED TO SERVE ME WELL EVEN NINE YEARS LATER AND, IN FACT I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PASS ALONG THIS KNOWLEDGE TO FRIENDS I MET AT UNIVERSITY AND YOUNGER STUDENTS IN HAWAII TOO. NEARLY A DECADE AT THIS POINT, I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CONTINUE PURSUING INTERNSHIPS AND EXPERIENCES INCLUDING TWO MORE AMAZING INTERNSHIPS AND EXPERIENCE THAT AND KNOWLEDGE THAT I GAINED THROUGH THE STEM WORKS PROGRAM, THAT UNLOCKED SO MANY DOORS FOR ME AND MANY JOB INTERNSHIP INTERVIEWS IN UNIVERSITY I HAVE BEEN ASKED ABOUT MY PROJECT WORK AND ALL OF THE INTERNSHIPS AND PROJECTS ON MY VC COMPLETED HERE AT HOME ON MAUI, AND MANY OF THESE WERE COMPLETED BEFORE I EVEN GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL. AND IT WAS MOST IMPORTANTLY THOUGH STEM WORKS OPENED THE DOORS FOR GIVING BACK AND MENTORING OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE.\r\n\r\nTHIS PROGRAM INTRODUCES US TO MENTORS, ROLE-MODELS, AND OTHER LIFE-LONG LEARNERS AND GROW US INTO THOSE. I'M SO GRATEFUL TO BE IN THE SEM WORKS PROGRAM TO HELPING ME GROW INTO THE PERSON I AM TODAY. THANK YOU. >> SOPHIA. SOPHIA DAVIS, WOULD YOU COME BACK TO THE MIC? OF COURSE ALL OF YOU REMEMBER HER OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT OUR INAUGURATION IN 2020, ONLINE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF SCOTLAND. SHE LIVES IN KIHAI.\r\n\r\nIS AN OUTSTANDING PERSON, AS WELL AS A STUDENT, DURING COVID, SHE AND HER DAD CREATED A DEVICE TO HELP PEOPLE BREATHE BETTER. WHAT DO YOU CALL THAT? >> YES, WE WERE MANUFACTURING VENTILATORS FOR MAUI MEMORIAL, EMERGENCY VENTILATORS WE USED IN CASE WE REACHED CAPACITY. >> THANK YOU SO MUCH. SHE IS FROM KIHAI >> THANK YOU. >> GOOD TO SEE YOU. >> ALOHA, MY NAME IS CRISTIN DAVIS AND SUPPORTING MAUI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD GRANT.\r\n\r\nI AM AN ALUMNI OF MEDB STEM WORKS PROGRAM AND ALUMNI OF UH MANOA AND CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL. MEDB HAS SUPPORT MANY STUDENTS ACROSS THE ISLANDS, WITH STEM EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES, AND BOOSTED THEIR CAREERS IN STEM. I WENT THROUGH THE STEM WORKS PROGRAM AND HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE THE CHIEF MARKETING OFFICER OF A LOCAL TECH START-UP THROUGH THE PROGRAM. I GOT TO GO TO MANY STEM EVENTS INCLUDING THE STATEWIDE STEM CONFERENCE AND IN ADDITION, MEDB HAS SUPPORTED MANY OF THE STEM PROGRAMS AT SCHOOLS ON MAUI. THESE PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN Hugely IMPACTFUL IN GIVING OPPORTUNITIES TO MAUI'S YOUTH AND AS SUCH I BELIEVE THE WORK THAT MEDB DOES FOR THE ISLAND AND STATE IS PRICELESS. THANK YOU. >> THAT IS SOPHIA'S SYSTEM, HER NAME IS CRISTINE AND SHE LIVES IN KIHAI AS WELL.\r\n\r\nTHANK YOU FOR COMING. GOOD EVENING MEMBERS OF THE MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL AND CURRENTLY APE SENIOR AT MAUI HIGH SCHOOL AND PRESIDENT THE STEM CLUB AND PROGRAMMING CAPTAIN OF MAUI HIGH ROBOTICS. THROUGHOUT MY HIGH SCHOOL CAREER I WAS GIVEN MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO GET HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT STEM. I HAVE COMPLETED IN CYBER COMPETITION, WHERE I FOUND MY LOVE FOR CYBER SECURITY AND I'M ALSO A PROGRAMMER FOR MAUI HIGH ROBOTICS WHERE I CODED PARTS OF THE ROBOT AND WATCH THAT CODE IN ACTION WHEN OUR TEAM COMPETES WHEN WE MADE IT TO FINALS WHEN WE COMPETED TWO WEEKS AGO. THROUGH THE MONETARY GRANTS MAUI HIGH SCHOOL HAS BEEN ABLE TO

COMPETE EVERY YEAR AND PAY FOR MATERIALS NEEDED TO PUT OUR ROBOT TOGETHER. GETTING THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPETE AT THESE COMPETITIONS WAS A PRIVILEGE, AND I DEEPLY APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT OF MEDB FOR ALLOWING ME YOU AMANY OTHER STUDENTS THE CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE IT ALL. NOT ONLY DID I EXPAND MY KNOWLEDGE, BUT I ALSO GOT TO SHARE THAT EXPERIENCE WITH YOUNGER KIDS AND ENCOURAGED THEM TO TAKE THEIR INTERESTS IN STEM A STEP FURTHER.\r\n\r\nRECENTLY, MAUI HIGH ROBOTICS WORKED WITH THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO REINTRODUCE ROBOTICS TO STUDENTS AFTER IT WAS SHUT DOWN DUE TO COVID-19. HE WEEK STUDENTS VOLUNTEER TO TEACH KIDS THE FUNDAMENTALS OF PROGRAMMING, BUILDING COMPETENCY. NEXT YEAR, THE ROBOTICS PLANS TO HAVE AN OFFICIAL IQ TEAM AND BECAUSE OF MEDB IN A INSPIRED ME TO REACH OUT TO OUR COMMUNITY, AND PROVIDE -- -- TO REACH OUT TO THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY. MEDB DIDN'T ONLY PROVIDE MONETARY SUPPORT, BUT PROVIDES STUDENTS THROUGHOUT THE ISLAND A CHANCE TO GAIN EXPERIENCE THROUGH INTERNSHIPS AND COLLECT WITH LIKE-MINDED INVENTORIES THROUGH CONFERENCE. I WAS INSPIRED BY MIRROR MISSION TO ENCOURAGE FUTURE GENERATIONS TO TAKE UP THEIR INTEREST FOR LOVE OF STEM AND TO MAKE STEM MORE ACCESSIBLE TO MAUI STUDENTS. OVER THE YEARS MEDB HAS ALWAYS BEEN THERE TO SUPPORT ME AND OTHER KIDS AS INTERESTED IN STEM. WHETHER IT'S FROM FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, PROVIDING HANDS-ON OPPORTUNITIES AND EXPERIENCE, OR SIMPLY JUST INSPIRING OTHERS. MEDB HAS UNDOUBTEDLY MADE A LASTING IMPACT ON STUDENT FOR YEARS.\r\n\r\nTHAT BEING SAID, I HIGHLY ENCOURAGE THE SUPPORT OF MEDB AND THE SUPERINTENDENT OF ASPIRING STUDENTS OF MAUI. THANK YOU FOR LISTENING TO MY TESTIMONY. >> THANK YOU. >> GOOD EVENING EVERYONE. MY NAME IS SARAH AND I'M HONORED TO BE ABLE TO TESTIFY ON BEHALF OF THE MEDB AS A CURRENT JUNIOR AT MAUI HIGH SCHOOL. I WANTED TO TAKE A FEW MOMS TO SHARE WITH YOU THE PROFOUND IMPACT THAT STEM WORKS, RUN BY MEDB HAS HAD ON MY EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY. FROM THE VERY BEGINNING OF MY ACADEMIC CAREER, STEM WORKS HAS BEEN A BEACON OF SUPPORT AND INSPIRATION.\r\n\r\nIT WAS DURING MY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEARS THAT I WAS FIRST INTRODUCED TO THE WORLD OF STEM, ENGAGING ACTIVITIES FACILITATED BY STEM WORKS AND IGNITED A PASSION FOR STEM THAT CONTINUES TO BURN BRIGHTLY TODAY. AS I TRANSITIONED INTO MIDDLE SCHOOL I EAGERLY SEIZED THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ROBOTICS PROGRAM AT OUR SCHOOL. THIS DECISION NOT ONLY INTRODUCED ME TO THE FIELD OF ROBOTICS, BUT ALSO OFFERED ME THE INCREDIBLE PRIVILEGE OF ATTENDING THE ANNUAL STEM CONFERENCE. THIS CONFERENCE PROVED TO BE A TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCE PROVIDING ME AND MY FELLOW STUDENTS WITH INVALUABLE INSIGHTS AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE WITH ACCOMPLISHED PROFESSIONALS AND INNOVATORS IN THE FIELD OF STEM. NOW AS A CURRENT JUNIOR IN HIGH SCHOOL THAT HAS EXPERIENCED ALL OF THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT STEM WORKS HAS OFFERED ME, I AM DEEPLY COMMITTED TO PAYING IT FORWARD. I FIRMLY BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF EDUCATION TO SHAPE LIVES, AND COMMUNITIES. AND I HAVE MADE IT MY MISSION TO IMPART THE SAME ENTHUSIASM AND CURIOSITY ON THE NEXT-GENERATION.\r\n\r\nIN PURSUIT OF GOAL, I'M A MEMBER OF A CLUB TO EMPOWERING YOUNG GIRLS TO PURSUE PATHWAYS IN STEM. THROUGH MENTORSHIP AND HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES, JUST RECENTLY WE WERE ABLE TO HOLD A CAMP WE TAUGHT GIRLS FROM MAUI HIGH SCHOOL TO USE MODELING PROGRAMS AND 3-D PRINT THEIR DESIGNS. THESE WERE A FEW OF THE EVENTS THAT I LUCKILY GOT A CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN. IN CLOSING I'M IMMENSELY GRATE FOR THE OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED TO ME BY STEM WORK AND MEDB AND BECAUSE OF THEIR IMPACT ON THE FUTURE OF OUR STUDENTS. THEY HAVE NOT ONLY NURTURED MY LOVE FOR STEM, BUT ALSO EQUIPPED ME WITH THE SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE TO PURSUE MY DREAMS AND MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE WORLD. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME. >> CHAIR, THE NEXT TESTIFIER IS GABRIELA EUSING, FOLLOWED BY HENRY ANA TIMA.\r\n\r\nSORRY IF I MISPRONOUNCED THAT. >> GOOD EVENING, COUNCIL MEMBERS, MY NAME IS GABRIELA, AND I'M FROM KULA. FIRST AND FOREMOST I WANT TO EXPRESS MY HEARTFELT GRATITUDE FOR HUI MALA AFTER THE WILDFIRES. AS VICTIMS OF THE DISASTER THEIR HEM HAS BEEN INVALUABLE TO OUR FAMILY, PROVIDING ASSISTANCE AND RESOURCES WHEN NEEDED MOST. THANK FOR BEING THERE DURING THE DIFFICULT TIME. MAUI HUI MALAMA HAS A LIVE LYNN FOR ME AS MOTHER OF SIX KIDS AND INSTRUMENTAL MANY HELPING MY CHILDREN THRIVE FOR OFFERING EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT IN

TUTORING AND ENGAGING IN YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND CLASSES THAT TEACH VALUABLE SKILLS AND EMPOWERING MY CHILDREN TO SUCCEED IN THEIR LIVES. MAUI HUI MALAMA PROGRAMS HAVE PROVIDED MY CHILDREN WITH DEEPER UNDERSTANDING AND FOR OUR HERITAGE, FORESTING A STRONG SENT OF IDENTITY AND CONNECTION OUR CULTURE, ENRICHING MY CHILDREN'S LIVES CONTRIBUTING TO THEIR OVERALL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.

RECENTLY MY DAUGHTER HAS LEARNED TO WEAVE AND PLAY THE UKULELE. THE HUI MALAMA NOT ONLY SUPPORTS MY CHILDREN'S EDUCATION AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, BUT PUTS FOOD ON OUR TABLE THROUGH THEIR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND GOING BEYOND EDUCATION ENSURING THAT ANY FAMILY'S BASIC NEEDS ARE MET. I'M INCREDIBLY GRATEFUL FOR THEIR HELP. WITHOUT THEIR SUPPORT, MY CHILDREN WOULDN'T HAVE THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT THEY CURRENTLY ENJOY. I'M TRULY GRATEFUL FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE THAT THEY PROVIDE. NOT HAVE ALL OF MAUI HUI MALAMA PROGRAMS WOULD INDEED BE HARD FOR FAMILIES AND PROVIDED COUNTLESS OPPORTUNITIES, FRIENDSHIPS AND CREATING LASTING MEMORIES. MAUI HUI MALAMA HAS BEEN AN ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR LIVES AND WITHOUT IT WE WON'T WITH THE SAME LEVEL TO ENRICHING ACTIVITIES.

MAHALO FOR SUPPORTING MAUI HUI MALAMA. [READING SPEAKERS' NAMES] >> GOOD EVENING, COUNCIL MEMBERS. ALOHA. I'M HENRY, AND MY SON. I'M PART OF HUI MALAMA. HE HAS TWO OLDER SISTERS AS WELL, WHO ARE NOT HERE, BUT THEY ALL GO TO MAUI HUI MALAMA. I CAN EXPLAIN OR MENTION AS AN IMMIGRANT, ORIGINALLY FROM FRIENDLY ISLAND KINGDOM OF TONGA, AS A POLYNESIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER, HUI MALAMA IN TONGANESE IS BACKBONE IN LIFE.

YOU ARE SEEING IT MAKES A HUGE DIFFERENCE, HUI MALAMA IS ONE OF MANY ORGANIZATIONS SPEAKING OF THE QUALITY THAT COULD IMPACT OUR SOCIETY AS A WHOLE AND ESPECIALLY WHAT WE HAVE GONE THROUGH AS MAUI OTHER THAN THE FIRE OF LAHAINA. EVEN COVID-19 WAS A GLOBAL PANDEMIC. AS A FATHER AND PARENT, I'M DEFINITELY IMMENSE GRATITUDE FOR HAVING ORGANIZATION LIKE THIS. THE QUALITY THAT MY KIDS HAVE ESPECIALLY THIS BOY HERE, HE LOVES DRAWING AND ART. GOING ON FISHING TRIPS THAT HUI MALAMA TAKES THEM TO HANA AND OTHER PLACES. THOSE KIND OF THINGS, I THINK THAT IS THE VALUE THAT WE ALL SEEK OVERALL AS A FAMILY ORIENTED AND REALLY WHAT MAKES MAUI THE BEST. I'M GRATEFUL THIS IS DEFINITELY HOME.

I'M MARRIED TO A LOCAL GIRL HERE, AND NO CHOICE, BUT TO STAY HERE. I'M GRATEFUL. IT'S UNIQUE. MALAMA PONO, MAHALO, THANK YOU SO MUCH. >> THANK YOU >> THANK YOU. >> SO FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH MAUI HUI MALAMA, THAT WAS AN ORGANIZATION, THAT WAS STARTED BY DIANE HO, WHO WAS A PROSECUTOR FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI, AND ALSO INSTRUMENTAL IN STARTING THE HAWAIIAN CANOE CLUB. AND SHE STARTED IT PRIMARILY FOR THOSE FOR WOMEN WHO WERE SINGLE, AND SINGLE MOMS.

SO THAT WAS MANY YEARS AGO. I WAS PRESIDENT OF THAT ORGANIZATION, AND THEN THEY MOVED, WELL WE MOVED THE LOCATION TO ABOVE THE HOSPITAL. I'M NOT SURE IF IT'S STILL THERE? BUT ABOVE THE HOSPITAL. AND IT THE BUILDING WAS THE HOME OF THE WALLET PELLEGRINO, HIS MOM USED TO BE GARCIA. SO WALLET GARCIA USED TO LIFE ON WELL STREET ACROSS FROM MY GRANDMOTHER AND SHE DONATED THE FAMILY HOME TO START MAUI HUI MALAMA IN THE NEW LOCATION ABOVE THE HOSPITAL. JUST SOME HISTORY FOR YOU.

NEXT TESTIFIER. >> CHAIR, THE NEXT TESTIFIERS ARE THE PARENTS FROM MEO HARD START, FOLLOWED BY REUBIN IGNACIO. >> HELLO. >> HELLO. >> MY NAME IS IT MISTY. I WORK AT WAILUKU, I'M A TEACHERS AIDE, AND THESE ARE MY KIDS THAT GO TO MEO. MY SON GRADUATED FROM THERE.

SO HE IS KINDERGARTEN RIGHT NOW. AND THEN MY DAUGHTER GOES THERE RIGHT NOW. I'M GOING TO TALK TO YOU GUYS ABOUT A PARENT DANIELL WILLIAMS, SHE GAVE ME HER REQUEST. MEO HEAD START WAILUKU -- MY NAME IS DANIELL. MY DAUGHTER ATTENDS MEO HEAD START. THIS PROGRAM IS AMAZING I'M A SINGLE MOM OF THREE AND OUR FAMILY HAS BEEN THROUGH A LOT. THE MOST RECENT EVENT THAT LED US MEO WAS HOMELESSNESS AND I FILLED OUT THIS APPLICATION AND SHE WAS ACCEPTED.

HEAD START PROVIDES A SAFE AND EDUCATIONAL PLACE FOR OUR FUTURE KEIKIS. HEAD START PROVIDES THREE MEALS AND HOURS ARE AMAZING. MONDAYS THROUGH THURSDAY, 7:30 TO 3:00 P.M. AND FRIDAYS IS HALF DAYS. THE TEACHING STAFF ARE VERY EMPATHETIC AND PROACTIVE. WE NEED PLACES LIKE MEO HEAD START. PLEASE KEEP FUNDING THIS PROGRAM, BECAUSE HEAD START REALLY NEEDS THAT. PLEASE INCREASE THE FUNDING, I THINK THIS IS NECESSARY IN ORDER FOR

MEO HEAD START TO HELP MORE FAMILIES.\r\n\r\nTHIS PROGRAM IS LIFE-CHANGING FOR ME AND MY DAUGHTER. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME. >> THANK YOU >> THANK YOU. >> HELLO AND GOOD EVENING, I'M FROM MAUI FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES COUNTY CONNECTION PROGRAM. THIS IS MY FAMILY. I AM HERE TO ASK FOR THE CONTINUED FINANCING OF THE MEO HEAD-START PROGRAM. MEO HEAD-START PROGRAM IS LIKE -- AND THOSE INVOLVED WITH IT, ARE LIKE GARDENERS.\r\n\r\nTAKING CARE, AND PLANTING THE SEEDS IN THE GARDEN THAT IS THE CHILDREN THAT GO THROUGH THIS PROGRAM. THEY HELP CULTIVATE AND PLANT AND HELP GROW THE CHILDREN, BUT NOT ONLY THAT, THEY ARE ALSO CULTIVATING FOR THE FUTURE. FOR THOSE WHO MAY NEED TO COME THROUGH THE PROGRAM AS WELL. SO FOR THOSE REASONS, AND FOR THE REASON THAT MY TWO CHILDREN HAVE GONE THROUGH THE PROGRAM AND SEEING THE POSITIVES THAT COME OUT OF IT, I ASK FOR THE CONTINUED FINANCING OF THAT PROGRAM. THANK YOU. >> THANK YOU. >> HI EVERYONE.\r\n\r\nMY NAME IS DEALA HONOHONO AND CURRENTLY AN EMPLOYEE AND PAST -- AND CURRENT PARENT OF MEO HEAD START. I AM HERE TODAY TO EXPRESS HOW MUCH I APPRECIATE THE COUNTY OF MAUI FOR SUPPORTING AND FUNDING FOR NOT ONLY OUR MEO KEIKI, BUT OUR MEO STAFF. MEO HAS PROVIDED A SAFE AND STABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR MY DAUGHTER FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS. MEO HEAD START HAS GIVEN MY DAUGHTER A HEAD START ON HER EDUCATION AND FOR THAT I'M FOREVER GRATEFUL OF THE HAVING THE PROGRAMS EXTENDED HOURS ALLOWS ME -- OH, MY GOSH -- NOT ONLY TO WORK TO PROVIDE FOR MY TWO DAUGHTERS. MAHALO FOR LISTENING TO MY QUESTION AND PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT OUR FUNDING FOR OUR MEO HEAD START. >> THANK YOU >> THANK YOU. >> ALOHA, MY NAME IS ALANA ROBINSON AND MY SON ATTENDS WAILUKU A HEAD START.\r\n\r\nFIRST OF ALL, I WANT TO SAY THAT I'M SO VERY BLESSED AND SO GRATEFUL FOR MEO HEAD START. AND FUNDING IS VERY IMPORTANT, BECAUSE NOT ONLY DOES IT BENEFIT MY SON ACADEMICALLY, BUT IT ALSO ALLOWS ME AS A SINGLE MOM TO HAVE OPPORTUNITIES TO WORK WHILE HE ATTENDS SCHOOL. MORE FUNDING WOULD BE VERY BENEFICIAL FOR SCHOOL HOURS, OR MORE FUNDING WOULD BE VERY BENEFICIAL SO SCHOOL HOURS COULD RUN THE SAME AS D.O.E. HOURS. ALSO IF THEY HAD AN AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM, THAT RAN UNTIL 5:00 P.M. WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL FOR WORKING PARENTS. THANK YOU. >> THANK YOU. >> HI EVERYONE.\r\n\r\nSORRY. THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE TONIGHT. MY NAME IS KELLY FURTADO AND MY SON IS ENROLLED AT HEAD START. I WANTED TO TAKE TIME TO ACKNOWLEDGE ALL THAT MEO HEAD START HAS DONE FOR ME AND MY FAMILY, A HUGE HELP FOR MY SON TO GET ACCEPTED INTO PRECOOL AND HELPING ME FROM APPLYING TO SCHOOL, TO THE CONTINUOUS CHECK-INS FROM CASE MANAGER PROVIDE MEG WITH RESOURCES. IT HAS BEEN A BLESSING TO HAVE THE KIDS IN SCHOOL UNTIL 3:00, IT GIVES US PARENTS MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO FIND A JOB TO PROVIDE FOR OUR FAMILIES. I WOULD LIKE TO HUMBLY ASK FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR TO COME TO CONTINUE ON WITH FUNDING SO THAT PARENTS AND CHILDREN CAN BECOME MORE SUCCESSFUL. WITH LONGER HOURS, IT IS PROVIDING CHILDREN MORE TIME TO BE IN A HEALTHY AND SAFE ENVIRONMENT, WHILE PARENTS ARE AT WORK.\r\n\r\nMEO HEAD START HAS BEEN A WONDERFUL BLESSING TO BE PART OF AND I'M THANKFUL TO BE HERE TODAY TO REPRISE THEM. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT. >> THE NEXT TESTIFIER IS REUBIN IGNACIO. >> GOOD EVENING, COUNCIL. IF YOU ARE ABLE TO PAY FOR AN ASSISTED-LIVING FACILITY, THEN THIS PROGRAM IS NOT FOR YOU. IF YOU DO NOT QUALIFY FOR MEDICAID, YOUR INCOME IS OVER THE LIMIT AND THIS PROGRAM MIGHT BE FOR YOU. IF YOU WANT TO LIVE IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME, BUT YOU NEED A LITTLE HELP, MAYBE TO GET IN AND OUT OF THE SHOWER, YOU NEED HELP WITH A SPONGE BATH, OR YOU CAN'T STRETCH YOUR ARM ALL THE WAY TO PUT YOUR SHIRT ON, THEN THIS PROGRAM MAY BE EXACTLY WHAT YOU NEED.\r\n\r\nMY NAME IS REUBEN IGNACIO AND I ADMINISTER THE PERSONAL CARE SUBSIDY PROGRAM. OUR BUDGETED GRANT AMOUNT FOR 2025 IS \$170,000 AND HUMBLY ASK FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT. OUR PROGRAM PROVIDES A CLIENT WITH SUBSIDY WHICH THEY USE TO HELP PAY THEIR CAREGIVER. THE COST OF A CAREGIVER CAN BE TOO HIGH FOR MANY, SOME MAY HAVE TO REDUCE AMOUNT OF TIME THEY REALLY NEED. I WANT TO SHARE AN EXCERPT FROM A TESTIMONY WRITTEN A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO FROM THE DAUGHTER OF A CLIENT: UNFORTUNATELY, THE CLIENT RECENTLY PASSED AWAY. MY NAME IS ANDREA. MY MOTHER IS SUSAN.\r\n\r\nMY MOTHER IS QUADRIPLLEGIC AND CONFINED TO A WHEEL CHAIR, ONLY THE USE OF

OUR RIGHT ARM DUE TO A STROKE A FEW YEARS AGO THAT PARALYZED HER AND FURTHER ASSISTANCE TO GET IN AND OUT OF BED, SHOWERING AND DRESSING. WE APPLIED FOR MEDICAID ASSISTANCE, ALTHOUGH SHE DID NOT QUALIFY, AS SHE WAS SLIGHTLY ABOVE THE INCOME THRESHOLD. I MAYOOR STARTED SEARCHING FOR HELP, AND THAT IS WHEN I FUND HALE -- THE PROGRAM HAS DEFINITELY SAVED US SO MY MOTHER CAN LIVE INDEPENDENTLY WITH ASSISTANCE. WE FOUND WOULD LOVING CAREGIVERS, AND THANKS TO HALE PERSONAL CARE SUBSIDY PROGRAM, MY MOTHER IS ABLE TO PAY THEM WITH THE MONEY SHE RECEIVES. HONORABLE COUNCIL, WE SERVE UP TO TEN CLIENTS AND WITH THE ADDITIONAL STATE FUNDING WE CAN SERVE MORE. WITH THE COST TO STAY IN AN ASSISTED-LIVING FACILITY, UPWARDS OF \$7,000 PER MONTH, THIS PROGRAM ALLOWS A CLIENT TO KEEP THEIR DIGNITY, AND INDEPENDENCE IN THEIR OWN HOME ON THE ONE HAND, AND ON THE OTHER HAND AVOID LIVING IN A FACILITY. IT'S A COST-SAVINGS TO THE CLIENT, THEIR FAMILIES, AND TO OUR COMMUNITY.\r\n\r\nMAHALO FOR YOUR TIME. >> THANK YOU. >> CHAIR, I HAVE A QUESTION? >> WE HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOU, FROM MEMBER KAMA. >> THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE MR. IGNACIO. MY QUESTION IS \$170,000 ENOUGH TO DO WHAT YOU WANT TO DO?\r\n\r\nOR WHAT PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY ARE NEEDING, I SHOULD SAY? >> NO, IT'S NOT ENOUGH. WE CAN CERTAINLY USE MORE. I HAVE HAD TO MANIPULATE THE BUDGET A LITTLE BIT, AS CLIENTS THROUGH ATTRITION, AS THEY PASSED AWAY, I DID NOT FILL THE SPOT, SO I COULD HAVE ENOUGH MONEY LEFT FOR THE QUARTER. SO WE COULD CERTAINLY USE MORE. >> YOU WANT TO TELL ME HOW MUCH MORE? >> I HAD ORIGINALLY ASKED FOR \$200,000. AND I'M VERY GRATEFUL FOR \$170,000. >> OKAY, YOU ANSWERED MY QUESTION.\r\n\r\nTHANK YOU, CHAIR. >> THANK YOU VERY MUCH. >> THANK YOU. >> NEXT TESTIFIER. >> CHAIR, NEXT TESTIFIER IS SCOTT LACOSTE, FOLLOWED BY MIRA DELA CRUZ. >> GOOD EVENING COUNCIL CHAIR. COUNCIL MEMBERS.\r\n\r\nCOMMUNITY. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR TIRELESS SERVICE DURING THESE UNPRECEDENTED TIMES. REALLY APPRECIATE IT. I STAND BEFORE YOU AS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR GROW SOME GOOD, A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO CULTIVATING A HEALTHY COMMUNITY, AND STRENGTHENING LOCAL AGRICULTURE, AND IMPROVING ACCESS TO NUTRITIOUS AND AFFORDABLE FOOD. PLEASE CONSIDER THE VITAL ROLE OUR COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL GARDENS PLAYS IN COLLECTIVE HEALING AND RECOVERY EFFORTS OUR GARDENS ARE NOT JUST GREENSPACES, BUT SANCTUARIES IN THE MIDST OF CHAOS THEY PROVIDE A HAVEN AND SHARED A POIGNANT STORY, HER GRANDSON BATTLED CANCER. VISITING OUR COMMUNITY AGROFOREST AT THE YWCA HAS BEEN SUCH AN EXPERIENCE. THIS IS THE ESSENCE OF OUR PROGRAM, ABOUT GROWING FOOD AND CULTIVATING RESILIENCE AND CREATING CONNECTIONS WITH NATURE THAT STRENGTHEN FAMILIES AND EMPOWER COMMUNITY AND PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY.\r\n\r\nSUCH AS COMMANDING OUR COMMUNITY AGROFOREST BY TWO-AND-A-HALF ACRES AND CONSTRUCTING A GARDEN AT WAILUKU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HAVE ALLOWED US TO ENHANCE THE SPACES AND AMPLIFYING THEIR IMPACT. OUR GARDENS ARE MORE THAN JUST PLOTS OF LANDS, BUT CLASSROOMS OF RESILIENCE, THROUGH TENDING TO THE GARDENS OUR STUDENTS AND MEMBERS WEATHER LITERAL AND METAPHORICALLY STORMS, AND THOSE DEALING WITH GRIEF FIND CO. IN CYCLE OF LIFE-AND-DEATH THAT GARDENING REPRESENTS THE WILDFIRES HAVE TESTED OUR COMMUNITY, BUT WE SHOWN STRENGTH AND DEPARTMENTATION BY SUPPORTING OUR PROGRAMS YOU REINFORCE THE SPIRIT OF OUR COMMUNITY THAT WILL CARRY US ALL FORWARD. OUR GARDENS ARE NOT JUST ABOUT PERSONAL RESILIENCE, BUT ALSO PLAY A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION AND JOB CREATION, AND PROVIDE INCOME SOURCES FOR PASSIONATE AND TALENTED NON-TRADITIONAL EDUCATORS WE RESTRAIN INDIVIDUALS FROM OTHER EMPLOYMENT SECTORS TO BECOME THE NEXT SCHOOL GARDEN EDUCATORS. ONE TRAINEE WILL BE PLACED AT THE SCHOOL GARDEN. BY INVESTING IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL INITIATIVES, THE COUNTY CAN STILL LAUNCH ECONOMIC RECOVERY WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY, LESSENING THE RELIANCE ON EXTERNAL ECONOMIC IMPACT, LIKE TOURISM. COMMUNITY CONNECTION AND OTHER CRUCIAL FACETS OUR GARDENS TAKES ON RENEWED SIGNIFICANCE.\r\n\r\nOUR GARDENS ARE HUBS WHERE THEY SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER AND FOSTER A SENSE OF BELONGING. WE STRENGTHEN THE SOCIAL FABRIC THAT HOLDS OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER, HELPING US HEAL COLLECTIVE. FOR INSTANCE WE HAVE SEEN FAMILIES BONDING OVER SHARED EXPERIENCES AND STUDENTS WHO WERE ONCE

ISOLATED FINDING PURPOSE IN THE GARDEN COMMUNITY. THESE CONNECTIONS. >> THREE MINUTES. >> AND STUDENTS. SORRY.\r\n\r\n>> COULD YOU CONCLUDE, PLEASE. >> SURE, OF COURSE. IN CONCLUSION OUR THEY ARE NOT JUST PATCHES OF EARTH, BUT SANCTUARIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS. I ASK YOU TO CONTINUE FUNDING OUR PROGRAMS. THANK YOU. >> THANK YOU. >> GOOD EVENING COUNCIL MEMBERS.\r\n\r\nI AM MARJORY DE LA CRUZ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MAUI DAY-CARE CENTERS AND HUMBLY THANK YOU AND THE COUNTY OF MAUI FOR THE SUPPORT YOU HAVE PROVIDES OUR ORGANIZATION THROUGH THE YEARS. YOU ARE AWARE MAUI ADULT DAY-CARE CENTER HELPS TO KEEP MAUI'S CHALLENGED ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS AT HOME FOR LONGER PERIOD OF TIME, PREVENTING PREMATURE ADMISSION TO A NURSING HOME, NOT ONLY DO WE SERVE CHALLENGED ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS, BUT WE SERVE ADULTS WITH COGNITIVE CHALLENGE, PHYSICAL CHALLENGES, 18 YEARS AND OLDER. IN FACT, THE YOUNGEST PARTICIPANT WE HAVE IS A 21-YEAR-OLD YOUNG MAN, WHO DUE TO A CAR ACCIDENT IS NOT PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED -- IS NOW PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED AND UNABLE TO WALK. IN ORDER FOR HIS FAMILY TO WORK, THIS YOUNG MAN HAS TO ATTEND MAUI ADULT DAY-CARE CENTER FIVE DAYS A WEEK FOR HIS SAFETY AND WELL-BEING. IN ADDITION TO OUR REGULAR DAYCARE PROGRAM, WE PROVIDE SERVICES, LIKE SUNDOWN PROGRAM EVERY FRIDAY, UNTIL 9:00 P.M. ALSO SATURDAY, AND SUNDAY RESPITE UNTIL 4:30 P.M. WE ALSO HAVE THE HIGH FUNCTIONING GENERATION PROGRAM AT THE VETERAN'S CENTER. SO WE PROVIDE SAFE COMPASSIONATE CARE FOR OUR CLIENTS AT THREE CENTERS ON MAUI, AND DROP-IN CENTER IN HANA. WE ALSO PROVIDE CAREGIVER SUPPORT FOR CAREGIVERS THROUGH SIX MONTHLY CARE GIVER GROUPS IN MAUI IN-PERSON OR OVER THE PHONE.\r\n\r\nTHE BETTER WE CAN SUPPORT THE CAREGIVER, OUR HOPES ARE TO PROVIDE COMPASSION AND CAREGIVERS WITH LITTLE OR NO REGRET. ALTHOUGH WE LOST OUR CENTER IN LAHAINA IN THE TRAGIC WILDFIRE WE QUICKLY WENT INTO ACTION TO CONTINUE SERVING OUR LAHAINA CLIENTS AND FAMILIES AND CONTINUED TO PROVIDE CARE TO OUR CLIENTS TO FREE UP THE TIME OF THE CARE GIVER TO WORK ON RECOVERY AND ASK PERMISSION FROM OUR LICENSING AGENCY TO ALLOW US TO IMMEDIATELY SERVE OUR CLIENTS WITHOUT THE NECESSARY PAPERWORK, THAT IS NORMALLY REQUIRED UPFRONT, SO THEY CAN COME RIGHT AWAY, AND THEY APPROVE IT. SO THIS ALLOWS OUR CAREGIVERS TIME TO OBTAIN WHAT WAS NEEDED. SO OUR FORMER LAHAINA CLIENTS AND NEW CLIENTS NOW ARE ATTENDING OUR KAHULUI, KE KIHEI AND WAILUKU AND HELPED WITH PARATRANSIT. >> THREE MINUTES. >> TO COME AND PICKUP FROM WHEREVER THEY ARE. WE HUMBLY ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR LINE ITEM OF \$514,740 FOR MAUI ADULT DAY-CARE CENTER AND HALE -- THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND AND GENEROSITY FOR THE MAUI DAY-CARE CENTER.\r\n\r\nTHANK YOU. >> CHAIR, WE HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOU. >> PRO TEM KAMA. >> MS. DELA CRUZ, YOU TAKE CARE OF CENTRAL MAUI AND IN HANA. DO YOU HAVE A FORMULA HOW YOU FIGURE OUT HOW MUCH EACH OF THESE CENTERS ARE APPROPRIATED?. 75% FOR MAUI ADULT DAY-CARE CENTERS AND 25% FOR HALE HU LOMO. >> VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA.\r\n\r\nMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. LET THE RECORD SHOW THAT MEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ HAS JOINED US, AND DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION? NO QUESTION. >> NO QUESTION. I'M HOME ALONE AT MY RESIDENCE. MAHALO, CHAIR. ALOHA EVERYONE AND KALAMAI FOR MY TARDINESS.\r\n\r\n>> MAY WE HAVE THE NEXT TESTIFIER, PLEASE. >> CHAIR, THE NEXT TESTIFIER IS RAMONA AKEENA HELLO, ALOHA COUNCIL MEMBERS. MY NAME IS RAMONA AND PICKLEBALL PLAYER. ONCE IN A WHILE I CATCH THE BUS TO KIHEI AND PLAY AT PICKLEBALL SINCE AUGUST 2021, ALMOST THREE YEARS THE TONIGHT I'M PETITION FOR MORE PERMANENT COURTS AT WAR MEMORIAL CORTS ONE AND TWO ARE USUALLY FOR TENNIS PLAYERS TO USE AND THEY ARE RARELY USED, AND ARE -- OR, AS MUCH AS PICKLEBALL PLAY AT COURT 3 AND 4. WE PLAY EVERY MORNING EXCEPT ON SATURDAY, BECAUSE THE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL HAS ALL COURTS ON SATURDAYS. WE ALSO PLAY TUESDAYS AND THURSDAY NIGHTS. IF WE CAN CONVERT COURTS 3 AND 4 INTO PICKLEBALL COURTS THAT WOULD BE GREAT, AND ADDRESS THE SHORTAGE FOR PICKLEBALL COURTS WAR MEMORIAL FOR THE KAHULUI COMMUNITY CENTER COURTS, AGAIN, ALL COURTS ARE RARELY USED FOR TENNIS AND MORE PICKLEBALL PLAYERS ARE SHOWING UP WITH PORTABLE NETS. SO MUCH CRASHES IN THE COURT TO BE RESURFACED AND SAFE FOR PLAY.\r\n\r\nPLEASE FIX IT AND WE PLAY OUR LEAGUES THERE. PLEASE CONSIDER CONVERTING COURTS 3 AND 4 AND THE COURTS NEAR SENIOR HOME INTO

PICKLEBALL PERMANENT COURTS. AND MEET THE NEED FOR THE PICKLEBALL COMMUNITY. LASTLY, FIX WAI PI'ILANI PICKLEBALL COURTS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, WE'RE ASKING FOR \$40,000. >> THANK YOU VERY MUCH. NO QUESTIONS.\r\n\r\nTHANK YOU. NEXT TESTIFIER. >> CHAIR? >> YES. >> WHO RAISED THEIR HAND? >> I HAVE A QUESTION FOR HER. >> MS.\r\n\r\nAKEEMA. >> EXCUSE ME, COULD YOU COME BACK? WHO HAS A QUESTION? >> I DO. >> OKAY >> MY QUESTION FOR YOU, YOU ARE ADVOCATING FOR PICKLEBALL. >> COULD YOU SPEAK INTO THE MIC. >> YOU ARE SAYING THAT YOU ARE ASKING FOR \$40,000. SO WHAT IS THE NAME OF YOUR ORGANIZATION?\r\n\r\n>> OH, WE JUST GO MAUI PICKLEBALL CLUB. >> YOU ARE SAYING TO REDO WHAT YOU ARE ASKING IS \$40,000. YOU ARE NOT ASKING FOR THE CLUB. >> FOR THE PARKS DEPARTMENT. >> THANK YOU. >> THANK YOU, YUKI. >> THANK YOU. NEXT TESTIFIER.\r\n\r\n>> NEXT TESTIFIER IS ANN PICATHLEY, FOLLOWED BY KAMALI'I FIGUEROA. >> ALOHA. YOU MUST ALL BE EXHAUSTED FROM THESE MULTIPLE BUDGET MEETINGS. MY NAME IS ANN PICATHLEY TO PEAK OUT FOR SUPPORT OF PICKLEBALL, LIKE RAMONA, I'M A MEMBER OF THE MAUI PICKLEBALL CLUB AND HERE REPRESENTING ALL 200 PEOPLE. UNFORTUNATELY, THEY CAN'T BE HERE. THEY ARE BUSY PLAYING PICKLEBALL. I WILL SAY P-BALL, BECAUSE I'M SIGNIFICANT -- PICKLEBALL IS TOO LONG.\r\n\r\nSO I PLAY AT THE WAR MEMORIAL UPPER TENNIS COURTS; RIGHT? SO IT'S TRIPLED AT LEAST TRIPLED IN THE LAST THREE YEARS, AND JUST FOR STATISTICS, ACCORDING TO THE SPORTS AND FITNESS INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION, PICKLEBALL PARTICIPATION HAS GROWN BY 158.6% IN LAST THREE YEARS. CONTINUES TO BE FASTEST GROWING SPORT IN THE UNITED STATES. IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW, IT'S THE FASTEST-GROWING SPORTS I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU HAVE BEEN LAST THREE YEARS, BECAUSE IT'S EVERYWHERE. SO THERE'S ALREADY TALK ABOUT GOING TO THE OLYMPICS. SO NOT REALIZING THAT THE PICKLEBALL NETS ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT THAN THE TENNIS NETS, BUT GOOD INTENTIONS. YOU MAY NOT FEEL IT'S A REAL NOBLE NEED, BUT SO MANY PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THIS SPORT, ADDING TO THEIR MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH AND CREATING THE WONDERFUL WELL-BEING.\r\n\r\nIT DOES CONTRIBUTE TO THE OVERALL WELL-BEING OF THE COUNTY. SO ANYWAY, I TALKED ABOUT THE BRIEF HISTORY. COMING UP TO TODAY, WE HAVE WHAT WE'RE DOING IS ALLOWING US TO DO IS GOING CHALKING PICKLEBALL LINES SUPER IMPOSING OVER THE EXISTING TENNIS COURT LINES; RIGHT? BRINGING -- LUGGING OUR HEAVY PORTABLE NETS UP THE HILL. PLAYING IN THE MORNINGS AND EVENINGS. IN THE MORNINGS, THERE'S NO TENNIS PLAYERS THERE. IN THE EVENINGS WE HAVE NOTICED DIMINISHING NUMBER OF TENNIS PLAYERS IN THE LOWER TENNIS COURTS.\r\n\r\nIF TENNIS PLAYERS COME THERE, WE HAVE TO BACK OFF. SO WHERE WAS I -- WHAT WAS I SAYING? SO THIS ISSUE ABOUT WHY THEY CAN'T HAVE BLENDED LINES, WHICH IS WHAT WE REQUESTED AT UPPER COURT SOMES BECAUSE THEY HAVE JUNIOR TENNIS TOURNAMENTS THERE. CONTRARY TO WHAT A PARKS AND REC TOLD US, YOU CAN HAVE THAT, IT'S ONLY LEVEL 2 AND PROFESSIONAL TENNIS, ACCORDING TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE USTA FOR THE STATE OF HAWAII. SO WE CAN HAVE BLEND LINES. >> THREE MINUTES. >> ALREADY? OKAY.\r\n\r\nSOMEBODY SENT THE PARKS STAFF TO DO A COUNT ON THE NUMBER OF PICKLEBALL PLAYERS. THEY WENT AT 4:00 AND NOBODY SHOWS UP UNTIL 4:30, 5:00 AND AFTER THAT, 30 PLAYERS AFTER THAT. SO NOT A REAL FAIR ASSESSMENT. WE DON'T WANT TO CREATE ANY TURF WARS. >> COULD YOU PLEASE CONCLUDE? HERE IS THE MOST INEXPENSIVE AND EASIEST OPTION TO HAVE THE UPPER COURTS AT WAR MEMORIAL PREPARED AND REPAINTED AND LEAVING EXISTING TENNIS NETS AND HAVING THE TENNIS LINES WHERE THEY WERE BEFORE. FOR A TOTAL OF FOUR PICKLEBALL COURTS WOULD COST ABOUT \$35,000. >> THANK YOU VERY MUCH.\r\n\r\n>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH. >> ANY QUESTIONS? IF NOT, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. NEXT. TESTIFIER. >> CHAIR, THE NEXT TESTIFIER IS KAMALI FIGUEROA, FOLLOWED BY DAIN KAI >> GOOD EVENING. MEO WE CAR ABLE TO USE THE PROGRAM AND NOW THE MEO YOUTH SERVICES.\r\n\r\nSPECIFICALLY WITHIN THE MEO YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAM I HAVE LEARNED MANY LIFE SKILLS THAT I WILL USING IN THE FUTURE, SUCH AS BUDGETING AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS. I HAVE GOTTEN TO HE CAN WITH MY PEERS AND COMMUNITY AND DOING COMMUNITY SERVICE ALL OVER THE I'LL. I LOVE GETTING TO KNOW ABOUT THE COMMUNITY AND IT'S PEOPLE. THIS YEAR MY PEERS VOTED FOR ME PRESIDENT OF THE MAUI TEAM TASK FORCE. IN WHICH I GET TO HELP WITH IDEA AND PLANNING REGARDING YOUTH ADVOCACY AND PEER-TO-PEER OUTREACH AND PREVENTING CAMPAIGNS. A GOAL I HAVE AS

PRESIDENT THIS YEAR IS TO BRING MORE AWARENESS ABOUT AFFECT OF BULLYING AND TEEN SUICIDE-PREVENTION. I WANT TO GRAB THE ATTENTION OF YOUTH AND SPARK IN THEIR INTEREST AMONGST PEERS I WANT YOUTH WHO STRUGGLING TO WITH THESE ISSUES TO BE ABLE TO KNOW WHERE THEY CAN FIND HELP AND USEFUL RESOURCES.

OVERALL, I KNOW THAT MEO YOUTH SERVICES HAS NOT ONLY BENEFITED ME, BUT HAS ALSO BENEFIT MY PEERS WHO HAVE ATTENDED AS WELL WITH. THIS PROGRAM HAS NOT ONLY HELPED TO MOLD EMPLOYEE INTO A GREAT STUDENT AND GOOD FRIEND TO MY PEERS, BUT ALSO TAUGHT ME TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR TO MY COMMUNITY. I WOULD NOT HAVE IMAGINED MY LIFE WITHOUT SUCH A WONDERFUL PROGRAM AND SUPPORTIVE STAFF. I WILL ALWAYS SUPPORT MEO YOUTH SERVICES FOR WHAT IT HAS TAUGHT ME AND I HOPE MY 10-YEAR-OLD BROTHER CAN'T WAIT TO BE PART OF IT. I HOPE THIS IS ROUND FOR MANY MORE GENERATIONS OF MAUI YOUTH. THANK YOU FOR LISTENING AND HAVE A GREAT NIGHT. >> THANK YOU.

ANY QUESTIONS? IF NOT, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. NEXT TESTIFIER. >> CHAIR, NEXT TESTIFIER IS DANE KAI, FOLLOWED BY CLARK JOHNSON. >> GOOD EVENING, COUNCIL MEMBERS. >> GOOD EVENING. >> MY NAME IS DANE KAI.

I AM ALSO 10TH GRADER AT MAUI HIGH. SHE IS OLDER. BUT I AM THE DIRECTOR OF YOUTH SERVICES AT MEO. FOR THE PROGRAM OFFER EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS AND WE HAVE ASSISTED MORE THAN 1200 YOUTH, 6-12TH GRADE ON THE ISLAND OF MAUI AND MOLOKA'I AND HOPE TO EXPAND SOON. UNDERAGED DRINKING, TOBACCO VAPING CYBERING BULLYING AND TEEN SUICIDE. I WOULD LIKE TO CALL IT THE BIG FOUR, YOU KNOW? THE ISSUES THAT AFFECT OUR YOUTH A LOT TODAY.

AND OUT OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES INCLUDE COMMUNITY SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERING, LIFE SKILLS, MENTAL HEALTH AND PHYSICAL FITNESS AND CULTURAL CONNECTION. LIKE KAMALI'I SAID SHE IS THE PRESIDENT OF OUR TASK MAUI CONNECTION. MAUI STANDING FOR MAKING AN UNFORGETTABLE IMPACT. THANKS FOR THE CORE FUNDING OF THE COUNTY, WE ARE ABLE TO SECURE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM THE LIQUOR COMMISSION TO SERVE LAHAINA YOUTH, AND THAT WAS GOOD LAST YEAR WILL BE THEIR NEXT MONTH IN THE SCHOOLS, TOO. WITH THE MOLOKA'I YOUTH SUICIDE-PREVENTION GRANT WHICH GIVES US THE OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE ALL OUR PREVENTION PROGRAMS OFFERED TO THE YOUTH ON MOLOKA'I. AND WE JUST HAD THIS LAST WEEKEND OUR SECOND ANNUAL CAMP, WHICH MEANS TO PREVENT. THAT IS THE NAME OF THE PROGRAM ON MOLOKA'I. SO THAT WAS, LIKE, 23 YOUTH ATTENDED THAT AND DID AN OVERNIGHTER AND HAD A LOT OF FUN. SO I JUST WANT TO END WITH THE COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS, THE SUBSTANCE-ABUSE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE ADMINISTRATION.

BUT ANYWAY, THEY SHOW, THE DATA SHOWS THAT FOR EVERY DOLLAR YOU GUYS INVEST IN PREVENTION, YOU CAN GET BACK UP TO -- AND THAT IS CONSERVATIVELY, \$18 OF FUTURE, YOU KNOW, SAVINGS AND COSTS. >> THREE MINUTES. >> I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AT MEO YOUTH SERVICES. THANK YOU. >> THANK YOU. QUESTIONS? WE HAVE A QUESTION.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA. >> I JUST WANT TO THANK DANE, I HAVE BEEN WATCHING YOU WORK WITH THE STUDENTS FOR MANY, MANY YEARS AND GROWING THE PROGRAM. I WANT TO THANK YOU VERY MUCH. >> THANK YOU. >> THANK YOU. ANY MORE QUESTIONS? THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

NEXT TESTIFIER, PLEASE. >> CHAIR, THE NEXT TESTIFIER IS CLARK JOHNSON, FOLLOWED BY TOBY GLAB MOST. >> GOOD EVENING, COUNCIL MEMBERS. AND THE PUBLIC. ALOHA, MY NAME IS CLARK JOHNSON, NICKNAME AKA, CHIP, REQUESTING ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY FROM THE KEIKI TO KUPUNA. EXCUSE ME. TOO OFTEN WE GET NOT ENOUGH RECOGNITION FOR THE PEOPLE WHO CANNOT DEFEND THEMSELVES WITH BIG PROJECTS.

I'M ASKING FOR DOUBLING THE FUNDING FOR THE KEIKI, FOR EDUCATION, FOR SUPPORT, FOR MEO. THEY HAVE HELPED ME OUT BIG TIME. AND FOR OTHERS, TOO. ALSO FOR COUNCIL MEMBER GABE JOHNSON, WHO HAS PIONEERED A TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM THAT IS REALLY GOOD FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI. I WANT TO SEE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THAT. WE GET THOSE -- AND THE BUSES, THE BETTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, FOR THE COMMUNITY. SO I'M ASKING THAT WE DOUBLE THE FUNDING FOR THESE PROGRAMS, BECAUSE THIS IS OUR INVESTMENT.

FROM THE STEM PROGRAM FOR OUR YOUTH, TO THE SUPPORT OF KUPUNA IN OUR COMMUNITY. WE NEED TO SUPPORT OUR FUTURE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. AND DOING THAT, AND WITH THAT, MAHALO. >> THANK YOU. MEMBERS QUESTIONS? IF NOT, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

MAY WE HAVE THE NEXT TESTIFIER, PLEASE. >> CHAIR, NEXT TESTIFIER IS TOBY, FOLLOWED BY MANDY SILVER FLORES. >> HELLO

EVERYONE. MY NAME IS TOBY, AND I'M A SUBSTANCE-ABUSE COUNSELOR AT MALAMA FAMILY RECOVERY CENTER, AND MALAMA IS AN ALL-WOMEN'S FACILITY SUBSTANCE USE FACILITY AND WE HOUSE AND WE HELP TO TREAT WOMEN WHO ARE SUFFERING FROM SUBSTANCE -ABUSE, AND MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS THE MALAMA IS A NONPROFIT AGENCY WE RUN HEAVILY ON DONATIONS AND FUNDERS AND GRANTS. AND I'M BASICALLY HERE TO SAY THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND TO CONTINUE FUNDING, BECAUSE PALLA, MYSELF INCLUDED I'M IN RECOVERY COMING UP ON 7 YEARS AND WITHOUT MALAMA, AND PEOPLE'S RESILIENCE, YOU KNOW? IT WOULDN'T, A LOT OF WOMEN WOULD LOSE THEIR CHILDREN AND THEIR LIVES AND I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU VERY MUCH, AND CONTINUE TO SUPPORT. I KNOW I'M NOT TO, BUT IF YOU CAN, MORE, BECAUSE MORE IS ALWAYS BETTER, OKAY?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. >> THANK YOU. WE HAVE A QUESTION. MEMBER JOHNSON. >> THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU DO FOR THE COMMUNITY. IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT. YOU MENTIONED YOU COULD USE MORE.

DO YOU HAVE A NUMBER? >> I MEAN, YOU CAN BALLPARK A NUMBER YOURSELF. MY BOSS SPECIFICALLY SAID DO NOT, BUT I MEAN, THE AMOUNT OF MONEY DOESN'T JUST GO TO NOTHING, YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN? IT ALWAYS GOING TO SOMETHING. MOTHERS, THE CHILDREN, DIAPERS, TRANSPORTATION, CARE COORDINATION, YOU NAME IT? WE HELP PEOPLE COME OUT OF JAIL AND COME TO TRY TO DO MORE THAN JUST TIME. YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN?

SO SPEAKING FROM EXPERIENCE, THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS. FOR THE WOMEN WHO ARE COMING IN, THE OUT REACH TEAM AND HOUSING FIRE VICTIMS IT GOES BEYOND MORE THAN JUST WHAT PEOPLE SEE. BECAUSE HONESTLY MALAMA FAMILY RECOVERY CENTER IS NOT NEARLY ADVERTISED TO THEIR FULL POTENTIAL. LIKE IT'S A HIDDEN GEM. >> YOU MENTIONED THAT YOU DO OUTREACH. >> THEY DO OUTREACH. >> YOU HAVE AN OUTREACH TEAM.

HOW MANY PEOPLE? >> WE HAVE AN OUTREACH TEAM. I'M NOT SURE OFF THE TOP OF MY HEAD. I WOULD SAY ABOUT 12. THERE COULD BE MORE FOR TRANSPORTATION, JUST TO GET THESE LADIES AROUND TO DO WHAT THEY DO, HELP PEOPLE, ASK THEM WHAT THEIR NEEDS, ARE, DO SCREENINGS, GO TO WHERE THESE PEOPLE ARE. BECAUSE IF WE MISS THE OPTION OF NEEDING HELP, WE MISS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SAVE A LIFE. >> THANK YOU. >> WHEN SOMEBODY IS NEEDING HELP, WE NEED TO HELP THEM AND SERVE THEM, YOU KNOW?

SO I JUST WANT TO SAY THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT. >> ARE YOU STILL A SISTER AGENCY OF ALOHA HOUSE . ? >> YES. IT OVERSEES ALL AGENCIES. SO MALAMA RECOVERY CENTERS SO THE LADIES CAN DO SUBSTANCE-ABUSE COUNSELS AND WORKING ON THEIR EDUCATION WITH THE CHILDREN IN THE BACKROOM, BEING TAKEN CARE OF, AND ALOHA HOUSE IS THE ALL WOMEN, NO CHILDREN, AND MEN, AND THEN MAUI YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES, WHICH IS THE ADOLESCENTS, AND THEN JUVENILE ISSUES LIKE THAT. >> THANK YOU. >> THANK YOU VERY MUCH. >> THANK YOU >> THANK YOU.

CHAIR, THE NEXT TESTIFIER IS MANDY SILVA FLORES, FOLLOWED BY ADRIANNE. >> ALOHA AND GOOD EVENING ESTEEMED COUNCIL MEMBERS, AND FELLOW COMMUNITY MEMBERS. MY NAME IS MANDY SILVA FLORES. SENIOR OF KING KEKAULIKE WITH BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS AND TONIGHT I WANT TO SHARE WITH YOU WHY IT HOLDS SUCH A SPECIAL PLACE IN MY HEART. BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS OF MAUI ISN'T JUST AN ORGANIZATION, BUT IT'S A LIFELINE FOR CHILDREN AS YOUNG AS 6 YEARS OLD PROVIDING THEM WITH MEMORABLE OPPORTUNITIES, AND GUIDANCE THAT SHAPES THEIR FUTURES. PERSONALLY I HAVE EXPERIENCED FIRSTHAND THE PROFOUND POWER OF THIS PROGRAM THROUGH MY RELATIONSHIP WITH MY BIG SISTER. BETH HAS BEEN MORE THAN JUST A MENTOR TO ME.

SHE HAS BEEN A HUGE SUPPORT, AND ALWAYS FULL OF ENCOURAGEMENT. HELPING ME DEVELOP ESSENTIAL LIFE SKILLS AND NURTURING MY SOCIAL GROWTH, WHETHER WE WERE EXPLORING THE OUTDOORS AND INDULGING IN HOMEMADE TREATS ON RAINY DAYS BETH WAS ALWAYS THERE, FOSTERING THE BOND BEYOND A SISTER AND THROUGH OUR SHARED EXPERIENCES I HAVE NOT ONLY GROWN AS A PERSON, BUT ALSO GAINED A CHERISHED MEMBER OF MY 'OHANA. BETH ISN'T JUST MY BIG SISTER, SHE IS SOMEONE MY FAMILY AND I HOLD DEAR TO OUR HEARTS. AS I PREPARED TO AGE OUT OF THE PROGRAM AND EMBARK ON THE NEXT CHAPTER OF MY LIFE, I'M FILLED WITH GRATITUDE FOR THE PROFOUND BIG BROTHERS AND BIG SISTERS HAS GIVEN TO ME AND GIVING BACK TO THE PROGRAM THAT HAS GIVEN ME SO MUCH. WHEN I GRADUATE FROM COLLEGE AND BEGIN MY CAREER TO -- IF CLOSING I HUMBLY URGE YOU TO CONTINUE YOUR UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF MAUI AND

INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE OUR COMMUNITY'S CHILDREN, EMPOWERING THEM TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL AND BECOME THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND FOR LETTING ME TO SHARE MY STORY TONIGHT. MAHALO NUI LOA.\r\n\r\n>> THANK YOU. MEMBERS, QUESTIONS? NO QUESTIONS, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. [READING SPEAKERS' NAMES] I COME BEFORE YOU TO ASK FOR FUNDING FOR THE ACRES ACROSS THE HAIKU COMMUNITY CENTER THAT IS CURRENTLY FOR SALE. THESE ARE THREE PARCELS AND THEY TOTAL ONLY 6.5 MILLION. 133 ACRES. LET'S GO FOR IT.\r\n\r\nI BELIEVE WE NEED A NORTH SHORE PARK. I APPRECIATE THE BEACHES, BUT I WOULD RATHER HAVE AN AREA WHERE WE COULD BICYCLE, FAMILIES BICYCLE, PICNIC TABLES. THERE'S NO PICNIC TABLES ON THE EASTSIDE FOR PEOPLE TO HAVE FAMILY GET TOGETHERS. WHAT ELSE CAN WE PUT THERE? A PLAYGROUND. I KNOW THERE'S ONE UP AT GIGGLE HILL, BUT MANY HAVE USED THE ONE AT HAIKU SCHOOL AND THEY ARE CURRENTLY, OR HAVE FENCED IT IN. SO NOW THE COMMUNITY CANNOT USE THAT LITTLE PLAY GROUND THAT IS RIGHT THERE.\r\n\r\nSO IF WE GET A PARK ACROSS THE STREET, WE COULD PUT A PLAYGROUND THERE AND PUT SOME RECREATIONAL COURTS, PICKLEBALL. I HAPPEN TO LIVE BEHIND THE PICKLEBALL COURT. IT'S VERY NOISY. THEY WAKE ME UP AT 7:00 IN THE MORNING, RIGHT NEXT TO THE HOUSE. AND I BELIEVE IN EXERCISE, BUT IT WOULD BE NICE TO MOVE THEM ACROSS THE STREET. SKATEBOARDING. HAVE A SKATEBOARD PARK.\r\n\r\nOKAY. SO THE LIGHTHOUSE RIGHT THERE IS A COUNTY ROAD. OVER THE WEEKEND, I DON'T KNOW IF YOU KNOW, WE HAD A BIG FIRE DOWN THERE. THE HELICOPTERS WERE COMING AND DUMPING WATER ON THE FIRE. I DON'T KNOW HOW THOSE FIRE TRUCKS GOT DOWN THERE? VERY DANGEROUS. THAT IS, YOU KNOW, A FIELD OF INVASIVE GRASS BY NOW.\r\n\r\nAND IF WE DON'T MAINTAIN THE LIGHTHOUSE ROAD, THAT COULD ALSO GO UP AS WELL. WE'RE RIGHT ACROSS THE STREET. SO WE WERE COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS THERE WAS NO WIND BLOWING ON SATURDAY NIGHT AND PUT THE FIRE OUT. VERY DANGEROUS, DISINTEGRATED DANGEROUS CARS, HOMELESS PEOPLE LIVING UP THERE. IT'S SAD, ALSO, A FIRE HAZARD. SO WHAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT IS HOW WE'RE GOING TO DEAL WITH THE FIRE, IF A FIRE COMES TO THIS SIDE OF THE ISLAND? I READ THAT THERE'S ONLY 60 FIREFIGHTERS FOR ALL OF MAUI COUNTY, IS THAT CORRECT?\r\n\r\nTHERE'S THREE ISLANDS. >> NO, THAT IS NOT CORRECT. >> GOOD. I THINK THAT WE NEED MORE FIREFIGHTERS. SO THAT WE CAN MAKE SURE NOTHING HAPPENS OVER HERE. >> THREE MINUTES. >> THANK YOU.\r\n\r\n>> THANK YOU. NEXT TESTIFIER. >> CHAIR, NEXT TESTIFIER IS GEORGIA PINSKY, FOLLOWED BY CECILIA GARCIA. >> ALOHA, GOOD EVENING, COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS. MY NAME IS GEORGIA PINSKY, AND I WILL START BY ADDRESSING THAT. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF BEGINNING FARMER EDUCATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY AND AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT. I NOTICED AS I WAS LISTENING TO OUR OTHER SPEAKERS SOME POSSIBLE HOLES IN OUR AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION, SO I WORK WITH A LOT OF YOUNG ADULT FARMERS IN THE 30-60 AGE GROUP, GROW SOME GOODS ABSOLUTELY AMAZING.\r\n\r\nTHERE SEEMS TO BE A MISSING LINK IN THE AGE GROUP OF LIKE 18-25. AND TRANSITIONING THOSE KIDS, WHO ARE PARTICIPATING IN GROW SOME GOOD AND FSA AND MOVING THEM FROM THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT INTO A CAREER IN AGRICULTURE. SO MY PROGRAM ISN'T EXACTLY DESIGNED FOR THAT AGE GROUP AND SO I'M JUST PUTTING IT OUT THERE, IF YOU HEAR OF PROGRAMS WORKING IN THAT AREA, HELPING TO MOVE YOUNG PEOPLE FROM SCHOOL INTO A CAREER IN AG, DEFINITELY SUPPORT THAT. BECAUSE I THINK WE LOSE A LOT OF OUR YOUNG MOTIVATED FARMERS AS THEY EXIT OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL AND THEY DON'T EXACTLY KNOW WHERE TO GO IF THEY HAVEN'T MOVED DIRECTLY INTO AN AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM. I RECENTLY HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SIT WITH UNCLE BOBBY OF TARO FARM AND TALKING ABOUT REGENERATIVE PROJECTS AND HE WANTED TO TALK ABOUT HIS REGENERATIVE VALUES AND THAT VALUES INFLUENCE PRACTICES AND METHODS AND ACTIONS. SO THE VALUE DOESN'T COME THROUGH, AND IT ACTUALLY ENDS UP MAKING IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR THOSE WHO ARE ACTUALLY TRYING TO CONTRIBUTE TO OUR FOOD PRODUCTION. COUNTY REGULATIONS ARE THE NO. 1 STRESSOR FOR THE 40-60 FARMERS I'M WORKING WITH.\r\n\r\nALMOST EVERY DAY I RECEIVE A CALL FROM A FARMER WHO IS ANXIOUS AND DOING THEIR BEST TO BE IN COMPLIANCE AND UNSURE OF HOW AND WHAT AND WHO TO TALK TO AND WHAT STEPS TO TAKE. WORKING WITH THE CTAHR SEEDS OF WELL-BEING AN INCREDIBLE PROGRAM. AG PRODUCER MENTAL HEALTH IS A PROBLEM, I CAN GET YOU SOME OF THOSE

STATISTICS, IF YOU ARE INTERESTED. THE AG PRODUCER STRESS AND ANXIETY LEVELS ARE MORE THAN DOUBLE THE POPULATION IN HAWAII, AND I'M STRUGGLING WITH THE FACT THAT THE COUNTY REGULATIONS ARE THE BIGGEST CAUSE OF MOST OF THOSE STRESSORS. IN ADDITION AS SOME OF YOU MIKE KNOW I'M A FULL-TIME RESIDENT 96713, BUT -- IT'S NOT HANA AND WE HAVE RURAL RESIDENT SAFETY ISSUES THAT I WANTED TO BRING TO YOUR ATTENTION. >> THREE MINUTES. >> GIVE ME 30 SECONDS.\r\n\r\nWE HAVE ACCESS ISSUES IN ALELI AND KAL EPA, I LIVE ON A 6-MILE STRETCH OF ROAD THAT WASHES OUT ON BOTH SIDES ABOUT 00 RESIDENTS WE HAVE MANY KUPUNA AGING IN PLACE, THERE ARE NO BACKUP FACILITIES. WE HAVE NO EMERGENCY CALL BOXES, NO PUBLIC FACILITIES FOR ANYBODY TO TAKE A PEE BETWEEN HANA BACKPACK AND THEY USE HISTORIC ROCK WALLS TO LEAVE PAPER TRAILS AND THEY HAVE NO OPTIONS. THANK YOU. >> MEMBERS, QUESTIONS? WE HAVE A QUESTION FROM VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA. >> THANK YOU. >> NICE TO SEE YOU HERE.\r\n\r\n>> THANK YOU. >> ARE YOU STILL WORKING WITH PHILLIS? >> YES. >> I THINK SHE IS TESTIFYING LATER. >> WHAT PROGRAM? ARE YOU TESTIFYING FOR A PROGRAM? >> NO, I'M TESTIFYING ON BEHALF OF MYSELF THIS EVENING AND RURAL RESIDENT CONCERNS AND TESTIFYING FOR MAUI FARMER NETWORK AND TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT.\r\n\r\n>> OKAY. SO YOU ARE WORKING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF AG? >> YES, OUR PROGRAM IS FUNDED THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF AG. WE HAVE A LINE ITEM THERE. >> HOW MUCH IS IT? >> \$90,000, IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN. >> THANK YOU.\r\n\r\n>> ONE MORE QUESTION FROM PRO TEM KAMA. >> THANK YOU AGAIN FOR BEING HERE, GEORGIA. SO YOUR CONCERNS REGARDING THE RURAL RESIDENCY CONCERNS, ARE YOU WORKING WITH ANY AGENCY OR ENTITY TO BE ABLE TO RESPOND TO SOME OF THOSE THINGS THAT YOU BROUGHT UP? >> SO LAST YEAR, JUNE 4TH, MAHINA MARTIN CAME FROM A TEAM FROM THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AND MET WITH US, JORDAN FROM PUBLIC WORKS WAS THERE AND TOLD US THAT THE BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION WAS SET TO BEST BEGIN IN AUGUST AND OBVIOUSLY AUGUST CAME AND WENT AND THE FUNDS WERE REAPPROPRIATED RIGHTFULLY SO. WE HAVE NO UPDATE ON WHEN IT'S GOING TO BE REPAIRED AND YOU KNOW WHAT BUYS? I'M COMMUTING HOME TONIGHT. WAS RAINING THERE WITH I LEFT THIS MORNING.\r\n\r\nYOU COULD GET TWO MILES FROM HOME AND MY CELL PHONE ISN'T WORKING AND I HAVE NO WAY TO REACH MY FAMILY. >> SO AT THIS POINT IN TIME, YOU ARE ASKING FOR AN UPDATE FROM PUBLIC WORKS, YOU ARE ASKING -- AND I HEARD YOU MENTION THE NEED FOR A TOILET OUT THERE ON THAT SIDE, TOO. >> PLEASE. >> OKAY. >> I HAVE HEARD NUMBERS OF SOMEWHERE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF 600 TO A THOUSAND CARS EVERYDAY AND THEY HAVE NO WHERE TO USE ANY FACILITY UNTIL THEY REACH KEA KEA. IT'S HARD TO HAVE A RESIDENT WAIT TO WARRANT THOSE MUCH-NEEDED SAFETY MECHANISMS >> COULD YOU CALL MY OFFICE TO TALK TO ME LATER. >> I WILL.\r\n\r\nTHANK YOU. >> THANK YOU. >> CHAIR, NEXT TESTIFIER IS CELIA GARCIA. >> HOW MANY MORE AFTER THAT? >> WE HAVE A TOTAL OF 29. AND MS. GARCIA IS THE 20TH, WE HAVE NINE MORE. >> YOU MAY START.\r\n\r\n(SPEAKING SPANISH) >> TRANSLATOR: I'M THE INTERPRETER FOR CELIA AND SHE WANTS TO EXPRESS HER SUPPORT FOR MEO, WHO HAS HELPED HER FOR 26 YEARS. AND SHE IS THANKFUL FOR YOU LISTENING. HERE IS WHAT -- I WANT TO TELL YOU THAT MEO SERVICE HAS HELPED A LOT WITH INTERPRETERS, THE DOCUMENT PREPARATION, COUNSELOR VISITS, AND TO OBTAIN RESOURCES TO SUPPORT THE LAHAINA PEOPLE THAT WERE AFFECTED BY THE LAHAINA FIRES AND IN KULA. A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR GLADYS BISA. NEXT TESTIFIER. >> JENN MATHER, FOLLOWED BY GEORGE BURNETT. ALOHA MAI KAKOU.\r\n\r\nFIRST I'M GLAD I WASN'T CALLED AFTER THOSE KEIKI BECAUSE THIS WAY MORE ARTICULATE THAN I COULD BE. I'M A RESIDENT OF KAHULUI AND IN SUPPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025. I HAVE LOOKED AT THE MAYOR'S BUDGET AND GEOGRAPHIC SPECIALISTS ARE IMPORTANT TO CREATING CONNECTIONS WITH OUR ISOLATED COMMUNICATIONS IN LANA'I AND MOLOKA'I AND HANA AND TO HAVE A CULTURAL HERITAGE COMPONENT IN IT TO BE ABLE TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE OUR BICULTURAL LANDSCAPE AND HERITAGE SITES AND HISTORICAL ARTIFACTS AND TO BE ABLE TO CREATE AND NURTURE PARTNERSHIPS WITH CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANIZATIONS THAT ALREADY EXIST IN OUR COUNTY AND I FEEL LIKE THE BULK OF OUR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS HAVE SOME SORT OF CULTURAL COMPONENT IN THEM SO WE ALREADY HAVE THIS BASE; RIGHT? THAT WE CAN GO TO HELP THEM PLAN, TO HELP THEM PREPARE, TO ASSESS RISKS, AND TO HELP MITIGATE HAZARDS. AND USING THESE SPECIAL GROUPS NOT JUST AS

STAKEHOLDERS, BUT WITH OTHERS WE CREATE BETTER PLANS, BETTER FUTURE AND WE CAN RESPOND BETTER AS WELL. SO I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT THE FUNDING IS SUSTAINABLE AS THE IMMEDIACY OF THIS MOST RECENT DISASTER AND ADMINISTRATION AND COUNCILS CHANGES WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT WE NEVER ALLOW ANYBODY TO FORGET HOW IMPORTANT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IS. THAT PLANNING, PREPARING AND I KEEP SAYING THESE WORDS, BUT THEY ARE REALLY IMPORTANT, MITIGATING AND ASSESSING THAT WE DO THAT IN THE BEGINNING. SO THAT IS HOW WE MEASURE SUCCESS; RIGHT? THAT WE DON'T MEASURE SUCCESS THROUGH OUR RESPONSE AND RECOVERY. THAT SHOULD BE SECONDARY, BECAUSE WE HAVE KICKED ASS IN THE BEGINNING; RIGHT? AND THEN QUICK SIDE NOTE BECAUSE I THINK I STILL HAVE TIME SELL THEM THE ACRES AT THE BAY AND LINE ITEM TO RESTORE CULTURAL RESOURCES THAT EXIST LIKE LO'I, MAHIKI GROUNDS AND RESILIENCY HUI TO TAKE CARE OF THE DISASTER -- THE SURVIVORS FROM LAHAINA IN A CULTURAL APPROPRIATE MANNER FOR THEIR MENAL WELL-BEING AND THEN MAUI NUI BOTANIC GARDENS, EVERYTHING THAT THEY ASKED FOR, I THINK THEY HAVE A LINE ITEM FOR \$150,000 AND SINGLE-HANDED REVEGETATING ALL OF MAUI. >> THREE MINUTES. >> GIVE THEM \$150,000 AND NO HALLI O MAUI HAVE BEEN TRYING TO MAKE AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN PERPETUITY IN MAUI COUNTY FOR 20 YEARS AND I KNOW YOU STILL HAVE MONEY IN FY'2024 IN YOUR HOUSING FUND. SO GIVE THEM THAT AND GIVE THEM LOTS MORE MONEY IN 2025. THANK YOU. >> THANK YOU.

CHAIR, THE NEXT TESTIFIER IS GEORGE BURNETT, FOLLOWED BY KATHY FLEMING. >> GOOD EVENING, CHAIR, AND COUNCIL MEMBERS. MY NAME IS GEORGE BURNETT TESTIFYING AS AN INDIVIDUAL BEFORE I SAY WHAT I HAVE PREPARED, I WANTED TO THANK ALL OF THE PREVIOUS TESTIFIERS. ESPECIALLY THE STUDENTS AND ALSO THOSE, WORKING FOR THE NONPROFITS AND PICKLEBALL PLAYERS. I VOTED FOR CREATION OF THE WATER AUTHORITY AND EXPECTING THAT DEPARTMENT TO BE CREATED AND APPROPRIATELY FUND, BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY EXPERTISE IN WHAT WOULD BE AN APPROPRIATE AMOUNT OF FUNDS FOR THAT. HOWEVER, THE REASON I'M HERE, I READ AN ARTICLE IN THE CIVIL BEAT, WHICH CONCERNED ME, AND IT WAS SUGGESTING THAT THERE MIGHT NOT BE ENOUGH FUNDS GIVEN TO THAT AGENCY. AND SO WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO FULLY DO WITH A IT'S SUPPOSED TO DO.

I HAVE LIVED IN QUITE A FEW PLACES ON THE MAIN LAND, BUT NEVER ANY PLACE LIKE THIS THAT WATER WAS CONTROLLED BY NON-LOCAL ENTITIES AND VERY DISTURBING TO THINK THAT LIFE-GIVING WATER TO ANY EXTENT BE CONTROLLED BY AN OFF-ISLAND INTEREST THAT ARE MOTIVATED BY PROFITS. OUR WATER SHOULD NOT BE A SOURCE OF PROFIT FOR OTHERS, AND I BELIEVE THAT VOTERS WERE SAYING THIS, AND THAT WE THE PEOPLE OF MAUI SHOULD HAVE SOLE CONTROL OF OUR WATER RESOURCES, AND I OPPOSE ANYTHING TO THE CONTRARY. TO ME IT'S JUST COMMONSENSE AND SO VITALLY IMPORTANT. I ALSO VOTED FOR THE CREATION THE DEPARTMENT OF 'OIWI RESOURCES AND THIS SAME ARTICLE INSPIRED ME TO COME HERE AND SUGGEST PERHAPS THERE WASN'T GOING TO BE ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR THAT DEPARTMENT. AGAIN, I HAVE NO EXPERTISE. MOVING TO MAUI, WHICH I DID ELEVEN YEARS AGO, IT'S BEEN FULL OF UNEXPECTED EXPERIENCES I HAVE A VAGUE KNOWLEDGE OF OVERTHROW OF THE KINGDOM OF HAWAII BEFORE LIVING HERE, BUT NO IDEA OF ITS LASTFUL AND HURTFUL ON THIS AND WITH THE HAWAIIAN CHURCH ACROSS THE STREET, THAT THIS SUBJECT IS FREQUENTLY DISCUSSED AND WORKING AS AKAKU ON A NUMBER OF SHOWS THIS HAS BEEN THE TOPIC AND BY LISTENING TO PRESENTATIONS RIGHT HERE IN THIS CHAMBERS AS GUEST BY MEMBER PALTIN AND MEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ AND OTHER THINGS THAT HAVE INFLUENCED ME AS WELL OF THE IT'S BY MY OBSERVATION THAT ISSUES OF SUCH IMPORTANCE TO MANY HAWAIIAN SUCH AS THE DESECRATION OF BURIALS OR DISPUTES OR LAND TITLES THAT ARE PUSHED ASIDE FOR FINANCIAL INTERESTS OF OTHERS. SO I STRONGLY SUPPORT AND EXPECT FULL FUNDING, WHATEVER THAT SHOULD BE FOR THIS DEPARTMENT, AND I CAN'T IMAGINE THAT THE WILL OF THE VOTERS WOULD CREATE THIS DEPARTMENT AND NOT PROVIDE ADEQUATE FUNDS.

THANK YOU ALL . ANY QUESTIONS? IF NOT, THANK YOU VERY MUCH, NEXT TESTIFIER, PLEASE. >> NEXT TESTIFIER IS KATHY FLEMING FOLLOWED BY ALLY PINI HO. >> GOOD EVENING, COUNCIL MEMBERS. I FEEL LIKE I'M THE ONLY ONE THAT IS COMING TO YOU NOT TO ASK FOR FUNDING, BUT TO TALK ABOUT THE PROVIDING OF THAT FUNDING. I'M -- I HAVE TAUGHT HIGH SCHOOL FOR 20 YEARS AND I'M GLAD I GOT TO GO LAST SO I COULD HEAR ALL THOSE

WOULD WONDERFUL KIDS. I HAVE LIVE ON MAUI 6 YEARS AND BEEN A SHORT-TERM RENTAL OWNER THAT WHOLE TIME.\r\n\r\nI HAVE ALWAYS PAID MY TAXES GLEEFULLY, BECAUSE I FEEL LIKE I'M GIVING BACK YOU KNOW? IT'S A WAY I CAN HELP. I JUST WISH SO MUCH OF IT DIDN'T GO TO THE TOURISM AGENCY, BUT I JUST BEEN DISMAYED EVER SINCE THE FIRE, THE SHORT-TERM RENTAL OWNERS ARE THE SCAPEGOATS, BAD GUYS AND I'M A MEMBER OF THE AIRBNB INDUSTRY AND FEEL IT'S SO DISTORT ED IT'S LIKE WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE RICH PEOPLE THAT LIVE OFF-ISLAND AND MOST OF US GOT INTO SHORT-TERM RENTAL JUST TO SUPPLEMENT OUR INCOME, SO THAT WE COULD LIVE HERE. IT'S NOT ABOUT GETTING RICH. IT'S ABOUT SURVIVING. AND YOU KNOW, I MAKE A COUPLE GRAND A MONTH, AND I CAN BUY MY GROCERIES. I AM AFRAID THE REASON I'M TALKING TONIGHT IS BECAUSE THE MAYOR HAS -- IS GOING TO BOOST THE PROPERTY TAX RATES CONSIDERABLY.\r\n\r\nI MEAN IT'S THE SECOND HIGHEST ON THE WHOLE LIST FOR SHORT-TERM RENTALS. AND YEAH, WE CAN PASS THOSE -- THAT EXTRA COST ONTO OUR GUESTS, BUT I'M TELLING YOU, WE ARE -- THE COSTS ARE TOO HIGH. THE PEOPLE I MEET, THAT COME TO THE ISLAND, THEY ARE NOT RICH PEOPLE EITHER. THEY ARE PEOPLE THAT MAYBE SAVED FIVE OR SIX YEARS TO COME HERE AND HAVE A LIFE-LONG DREAM TO BE ON MAUI. AND THEY ARE PAYING 18% TAXES. PAYING AIRBNB'S CHARGES AND PAYING ME, AND YOU KNOW, IT'S ALREADY BECAUSE OF THE EXTRA COSTS, AND BECAUSE OF THIS TERRIBLE MEDIA COVERAGE OF HOW HORRIBLE SHORT-TERM RENTALS ARE IN HAWAII. WE, ALL -- THE HOSTS AND I HAVE SEEN OUR OCCUPANCY RATE GO WAY DOWN. WE DIDN'T NOTICE IT RIGHT AWAY, BECAUSE PEOPLE TEND TO MAKE THEIR RESERVATIONS 6-9 MONTHS IN ADVANCE IF I LOOK AT MY CALENDAR FOR 2024, IT'S ALL EMPTY.\r\n\r\nI'M NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO PAY THOSE TAXES, BECAUSE I'M NOT GOING TO MAKE ANYTHING EITHER. AND I THINK I WANT THE SAME THING AS EVERYBODY IN THIS ROOM WANTS, I WANT MORE FUNDING FOR MAUI. >> THREE MINUTES SO I JUST ASK YOU MAYBE TO THINK ABOUT THE FACT THAT TOURISM IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR ISLAND, AND TAKE IT A LITTLE EASIER ON THE SHORT-TERM RENTAL OWNERS. >> THANK YOU. MEMBERS, ANY QUESTIONS? IF NOT, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. MAY WE HAVE THE NEXT TESTIFIER, AND THEN THE ONE AFTER THAT.\r\n\r\n>> CHAIR, NEXT TESTIFIER IS ALLY, FOLLOWED BY LISA DARBY. >> GOOD EVENING, CHAIR LEE AND COUNCIL MEMBERS. I FIRST WANT IT SAY THAT I'M REALLY HUMBLLED TO BE GIVING TESTIMONY AMIDST THE VERY MANY COMPELLING AND PROFOUND NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY. MY NAME IS ALLY, AND I'M THE DIRECTOR OF ADAPTATION DANCE THEATER, MAUI'S ONLY CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY AND TO RESTORE \$20,000 BACK INTO THE OED BUDGET. I GREW UP DANCE AT MAUI ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS BEFORE I CONTINUED MY COLLEGE AT STANFORD AND UC IRVINE FOR GRADUATE STUDIES AND EVENTUALLY DANCING FOR A PROFESSIONAL BALLET COMPANY IN THE BAY AREA. I CAME HOME EVERY SUMMER I WAS AWAY FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS TO DANCE WITH ADT IN THEIR BRING IT HOME CONCERT SERIES THAT AIMS TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR HAWAII RAISED ARTISTS SO THEY DON'T HAVE TO LEAVE THE ISLAND TO PURSUE THEIR ARTISTIC CAREERS. IN 2021, I MOVED BACK HOME WITH MY HUSBAND AND NEWBORN SON AND BECAME THE CREATIVE DIRECTOR AND A CREAM I WOULD NOT HAVE FELT CONFIDENT TO FILL WITHOUT THE OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY ADT, SENDING IT'S 10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY LAST YEAR AND INCLUDED IN THE MAYOR'S BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023 AND 2024. BUT WE'RE NOT INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025. WE'RE LOCATED ON PAGE 584, 604 OF THE PDF ITSELF.\r\n\r\nWE'RE A SMALL ORGANIZATION, AND WITHOUT THIS SUPPORT FROM THE COUNTY, OUR MAIN PROGRAMMING, BRING IT HOME, WHICH HAS GROWN TO INCLUDE TWO EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND EMERGING PROFESSIONAL DANCERS, PLUS OUR FOUR-WEEK RESIDENCY AND FREE NIGHT CONCERT AND EMPLOYEES ANYWHERE FROM 10-15 HAWAII ARTISTS ANNUALLY WILL GO IF NOT RESTORED, ADT SUPPORTS COMMUNITY BY BOOSTING ARTS ECONOMY, CREATING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES, LIKE OUR WORK WITH THE ELDERLY AT KULA HOSPITAL, AND THE VERN'S CENTER OR AT THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH OPEN CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS FOR MAUI YOUTH AND BRINGING PROFESSIONAL CONTEMPORARY PERFORMANCES TO OUR AUDIENCE. MOST IMPORTANTLY OUR WORK IS AN IMPORTANT FORM OF HEAL AS CLICHE, IT'S MORE PREVALENT THAN OTHER. LAST SUMMER THE COUNTY SUPPORT OUR BRING IT HOME PERFORMANCE AMIDST THE DEVASTATING LAHAINA AND KULA FIRES IN THE THEATERS TO BRIGHTEN THEIR SPIRITS FOR THE WORK AHEAD

TO ROO BUILD. WE'RE A SMALL, BUT MIGHTY COMPANY WITH IMPACT AND TO KEEP CREATING ART, HEALING AND COMMUNITY AND THE ABILITY TO KEEP OUR MAUI RAISED ARTISTS ON MAUI FOR YEARS TO COME SO I ONCE AGAIN ASK THAT YOU RESTORE \$25,000 FOR ADAPTATION DANCE THEATER AND MAHALO FOR YOUR WORK AND PROVIDING FOR THE NEEDS OF THE MAUI COMMUNITY. THANK YOU. >> MEMBERS, QUESTIONS STP MANY PHOT, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. >> CHAIR, THE NEXT TESTIFIER IS LISA DARKY, FOLLOWED BY MARJORIE CALDER.\r\n\r\n>> GOOD EVENING, COUNCIL. GOOD EVENING, CHAIR. IT'S BEEN A WHILE. MY NAME IS LISA DASHY AND FOUNDER OF SHARE THE MANA AND HEALING SOLUTIONS FOR HOMELESSNESS. I'M NOT HERE IN HAD A CAPACITY. I'M HERE AS A COMMUNITY MEMBER. I THINK I WAS HERE 20 YEARS AGO.\r\n\r\nYOU GET A LITTLE, IF YOU HAVE BEEN TESTIFYING FOR 20 YEARS, A LITTLE STAR, SOMETHING? AND UNFORTUNATELY, I'M TESTIFYING ON THE SAME THINGS. I HAVE TO SAY I LOVE COMING TO THE EVENING TESTIMONY OPPORTUNITIES, BECAUSE WHEN YOU HEAR THE KIDS AND WHEN YOU HEAR INDIVIDUALS FROM THE NON-PROFITS IT'S LIKE THE ONLY TIME TOO REALIZE YOUR HARD WORK IS DOING SOMETHING. SO I REALLY APPRECIATE THAT. I'M OF COURSE THE BEARER OF BAD NEWS AND WHAT IS NOT GETTING DONE. I WANT TO SAY, I HAVE BEEN TRYING TO FOLLOW THE BUDGET, BUT IT'S BEEN IMPOSSIBLE SINCE INDIVIDUALS WERE ATTACHED INTO THE WHOLE FIRE PROCESS, AND FEMA, AND AMERICAN COMPLETE AND UTTER DISASTER. IT WASN'T JUST PHENOMENALLY DIFFICULT DURING COVID, BUT NOW IT'S OFF THE CHARTS BECAUSE THE CHAOS THAT ENSURED AND I DON'T KNOW HOW TO ADVOCATE FOR MONEY FOR ANY OF THIS, BECAUSE THINGS ARE SO CHAOTIC.\r\n\r\nWITH THAT SAID, AFTER LISTENING TONIGHT, WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO SAY, I KNOW THERE'S SOME LINE ITEMS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND THINGS LIKE THAT. I THINK THOSE MONIES NEED TO GO DIRECTLY TO MALAMA, THEY NEED TO GO DIRECTLY TO EVERY MALAMA THAT HAS COME HERE TONIGHT, AND ANY OF THE FARMING PROGRAMS, ANY OF THE MONEYS THAT ARE GOING TO INVEST IN PEOPLE, BECAUSE EVERY SINGLE PERSON ON MAUI IS STRUGGLING AND THE PROGRAMS THAT HAVE BEEN HERE TONIGHT ARE KEEPING PEOPLE SANE AND SAFE, AND IF YOU HAVE THAT, YOU WON'T NEED PUBLIC SAFETY. IT'S COMMONLY KNOWN AND SOMEBODY SIT ON IT. THE GENTLEMAN, IGNACIO, HE IS HELPING KUPUNA GETS THEIR SHIRTS ON AND OFF. NOBODY SHOULD FEEL EMBARRASSED TO ASK FOR -- PUT ANOTHER ZERO BEHIND THAT, BECAUSE THE WORK THAT IS HE DOING IS GOING TO SAVE HOW MANY AMBULANCE RIDES? THESE ARE NO-BRAINERS. I CAME HERE MONTHS AFTER THE FIRE AND SAID IT'S ONLY GOING TO GET WORSE AND FROM THE VANTAGE POINT OF THE WORK I'M GOING IT'S CHAOTIC.\r\n\r\nTHAT IS WHY YOU HAVEN'T SEEN ME AND IT'S NOT BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO COME HERE AND BRING EDUCATION AND INFORMATION AND I WATCHED EVERY COUNCIL MEMBER TURN OVER ALL THESE DECADES AND YET I'M STILL HERE AND THERE IS STILL NOT BUS STOPS WHERE KUPUNA SIT ON THE GROWING. SO I DON'T WANT TO HEAR MONEY GOING INTO TRANSPORTATION UNTIL THOSE BUS STOPS GET BUILT. I CAME HERE 20 YEARS AGO AND ASKED FOR THAT AND THEY TOLD ME TO BE PATIENT. TIME IS UP. LET'S -- SPEAKER PHONE HAS TO HOLD THE MONEY ACCOUNTABLE AND NOT JUST KEEP WRITING CHECKS. SO I'M HERE TO SAY PLEASE REALLY REVIEW THESE AND GIVE THEM TO THE PEOPLE THAT YOU KNOW ARE DOING THE GOOD WORK AND BE CRITICAL OF WHOEVER IS NOT GETTING IT DONE. PLEASE, GET SOME SLEEP TONIGHT, BECAUSE YOU ARE GOING TO NEED IT FOR TOMORROW.\r\n\r\n>> THANK YOU. >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK. >> MEMBERS, ANY QUESTIONS? IF NOT, THANK YOU VERY MUCH, LISA. THANK YOU. >> CHAIR, THE NEXT TESTIFIER IS MARGIE CALDER, FOLLOWED BY PACHECO. >> AND WHO AFTER THAT?\r\n\r\n>> PHYLLIS ROBINSON AND LAST TESTIFIER CURRENTLY SIGNED UP -- >> HELLO EVERYONE. JUST HERE ASKING FOR THE COMMITTEE TO PLEASE PUT FUNDING TOWARDS FIRST OF ALL WELL ACTUALLY ASKING FOR YOUR HELP TO PLEASE ASK THE STATE TO FINISH CLEARING THE BRUSH NEXT TO HONOAPI'ILANI, AND WE HAVE FIRES THERE EVERY YEAR; RIGHT? AND I NOTICED THEY STARTED CLEARING SOME, BUT THERE'S A LOT MORE. THERE'S BROKEN DOWN CARS IN THERE. IT'S JUST BESIDES BEING UNSIGHTLY, IT'S SUPER DANGEROUS AND WE'RE JUST WAITING THAT MORNING OF THE FIRE, I WAS -- I WENT TO WORK, AND HAD A QUARTER TANK OF GAS AND ACTUALLY THOUGHT I LEFT WORK LUCKILY AND THOUGHT I WOULD BE WALKING HOME OUT OF GAS. I THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE A FIRE ON THE WAY HOME. I DIDN'T KNOW LAHAINA WOULD BURN, BUT THAT IS STILL A BIG PROBLEM.\r\n\r\nPLEASE ASK THE STATE WHEN THE BYPASS WILL BE FINISHED? IT'S BEEN A LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER. OVER 40 YEARS.

ESPECIALLY TO THE NORTH OF LAHAINA. OR BASICALLY THAT PART WHERE IT JUTS DOWN INTO SAFEWAY AREA. THAT PART TO THE NORTH WAS SUPPOSED TO BE FINDER YEARS AGO. AND THAT IS PART OF THE REASON THAT RESIDENTS HAD TROUBLE ESCAPING WAS BECAUSE THEY WERE FORCED IN AND OUT OF DOWN INTO LAHAINA, ALL WE SAY LAHAINA IS CLOSED, THAT PART IS STILL OPENED.\r\n\r\nAND FOR THE PEOPLE THAT LOST THEIR HOMES THAT IS TERRIBLE AND FOR US THAT DRIVE PAST IT EVERY DAY, THE TOURISTS ARE COMING, BUT IT HAS TO AFFECT THEM AS WELL. PLEASE PUT FUNDS TOWARDS CREATING A GREEN FIRE BREAK AROUND LAHAINA WITH NATIVE PLANTS AND TREES AND STREAMS FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE OCEANS. I'M SURE IT'S BEEN TALKED ABOUT NOT ONLY BECAUSE THAT IS THE WAY IT SHOULD BE, BUT TO PREVENT SUCH A TRAGEDY AGAIN. I'M SURPRISED THAT IS NOT TALKED ABOUT EVERY NIGHT ON THE NEWS. WHY IS NO ONE TALKING ABOUT PA'IA? THAT IS ONE OF OUR LAST AMAZING HISTORIC TOWNS AND WE NEVER LEARN. OUR TOWN BURNED DOWN BECAUSE NOTHING WAS -- YOU KNOW, NO ONE WAS THINKING ABOUT CREATING A GREEN FIRE BREAK.\r\n\r\nIT'S JUST DESPICABLE. THE ROADS IS A COMMON PROBLEM, WE'RE ONE THE WEALTHIEST ISLANDS OR WE WERE AND YET WE HAVE THESE TERRIBLE ROADS AS I SAID A COUPLE OF MONTHS AGO. IT'S RIGHT NEXT TO OUR POST OFFICE, IF YOU BUYS DON'T HAVE FUNDING, YOU KNOW, I ALWAYS HEAR EVERY EXCUSE AND I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH IT COSTS, BUT TO DO A PERMANENT. PATCH NEXT TO THE POST OFFICE. CENTRAL AVENUE THAT ROAD IS TERRIBLE. KANILOA AVENUE NEXT TO WAR MEMORIAL, I DON'T THINK IT'S BEEN REPAVED 20 YEARS. HIGHLY COMPROMISED.\r\n\r\nI DON'T WANT TO START WITH THE UP COUNTRY ROAD AND HAIKU ROAD THAT IS FALLING INTO THE GULCH. >> THREE MINUTES. >> MEO, HUI MALAMA, ALL GREAT CAUSES, BUT THE PLAY GROUND IS OUR ONE PLAY GROUND IN TOWN. CENTRAL AREA. THAT ALL KIDS OF ALL AGES WITH PLAY AT. >> CAN YOU CONCLUDE, PLEASE? >> THEY MELTED THAT PLAYGROUND PARTIALLY TO THE GROWN, A BUNCH OF STRUCTURES ARE BROKEN.\r\n\r\nSO EVERYONE SHOULD BE PROTESTING, AND HAVING THAT FIXED RIGHT AWAY. IT SERVES HUNDREDS OF KIDS A WEEK, AND ESPECIALLY THE LAHAINA DISPLACED KIDS, I SEE THEM ALL THE TIME. YES, THESE ARE THE IMPORTANT REASONS I'M HERE, THE PICKLEBALL YOU WANT THOSE PICKLEBALL PEOPLE TALKING ALL THE TIME? I'M ONE OF THEM, DO IT, IT CAN'T BE THAT MUCH MONEY TO REPAINT THE LINES AND PUT NETS IT. SERIOUSLY. THANK YOU. >> THANK YOU.\r\n\r\nMEMBER UU-HODGINS. . >> THANK YOU. WHAT I WANT TO CLARIFY, WE HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT PA'IA TOWN. I'M FROM THERE. SO THAT HAS BEEN ON TOP OF MIND NOW. I WANTED TO, WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY MELTED >> YOU DIDN'T KNOW, THERE WAS A FIRE THERE A MONTH OR TWO AGO. SOMEONE SET FIRE PURPOSELY OR ACCIDENTALLY TO A SLIDE, AND IT JUST COMPLETELY WAS BURNED SO MUCH, IT JUST MELTED.\r\n\r\nI HAVE PICTURES. >> I DIDN'T KNOW THAT. >> AND EVEN BEFORE THAT, A BUNCH OF OTHER STRUCTURES, THERE WAS TWO SLIDES AND SOMETHING ELSE. THANK YOU. NEXT TESTIFIER, PLEASE. >> KELSIE PACHECO AND [SPEAKER NOT UNDERSTOOD] >> HI. MY NAME IS CHELSEA.\r\n\r\nCURRENTLY IN THREE OF MEO'S PROGRAM AND WITH I.D.S AND SOCIAL SECURITY CARD WHEN I GOT OUT AND TO REENTER SOCIETY. I WAS IN THE WOMEN'S RE-ENTRY PROGRAM AND HELP ME CURRENTLY WITH MY RENT AND BEEN ABLE TO SAVE MONEY AND PAY IN MY FINES AND ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF MYSELF AND GET READY. THESE PROGRAMS HAVE HELPED ME STAY MOTIVATED AND ONTRACK TO BETTER MYSELF AND MY PLANS FOR MY FUTURE. I'M GRATEFUL. THANK YOU. >> THANK YOU. GOOD LUCK TO YOU.\r\n\r\nNEXT TESTIFIER. >> CHAIR, THE NEXT TESTIFIER IS PHYLLIS ROBINSON. >> GOOD EVENING, COUNCIL CHAIR LEE AND ALL OF THESE DEDICATED COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS, WHO HAVE TO KEEP GOING THROUGH THESE LENGTHY BUDGET HEARINGS. SO I BOW TO ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR TIME. I'M HERE TONIGHT BECAUSE I WANTED TO PERSONALLY THANK THE COUNTY FOR HAVING THE VISION TO FUND A COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. BY CREATING THIS DEPARTMENT, WE'RE HELPING CREATE FOOD SECURITY FOR OUR ISLANDS. AND THE TRANSITION FROM BEGINNING FARMER TO FOOD PRODUCER IS FRAUGHT WITH CHALLENGES.\r\n\r\nTHANKFULLY, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE HAS SUPPORTED OUR MAUI FAMILY FARMER TRAINING NETWORK, AS WE HELP OUR SMALL FAMILY FARMERS NAVIGATE THIS CHALLENGING TRANSITION. MAUI FARMER NETWORK IS NOW COACHING OVER 50 SMALL FAMILY FARMERS, AS THEY APPLY FOR FARM LOANS, MICRO GRANTS, ALL GEARED TOWARDS EXPANDING EXPONENTIALLY THEIR LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION, WHILE ALSO PROTECTING OUR PRECIOUS 'AINA THROUGH CLIMATE SMART PRACTICES. SO ALL IS

HELPING TO CONTRIBUTE TO OUR ISLAND'S FOOD SECURITY. THIS YEAR, WE ARE EXPANDING OUR PROGRAM TO LANAI AND MOLOKA'I AND EXCITED TO DO THAT AND HAVE FARMERS SIGNED UP FROM BOTH ISLANDS. SO WE'RE EXCITED ABOUT OUR NEXT STEPS. PLEASE HELP US, AND ALL OF THE -- EXCUSE ME. SORRY.

PLEASE HELP US, AND ALL OF THE WORTHY PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT OUR LOCAL FARMERS. DO SO BY FULLY FUNDING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE LINE ITEM. THEY DESERVE IT. THANK YOU. >> THANK YOU. VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA. >> THANK YOU.

NICE TO SEE YOU HERE. THANK YOU FOR STICKING AROUND TO TESTIFY. >> THANK YOU. >> SO MAUI FARMER NETWORK, WHAT WAS THE FUNDING THAT YOU GOT? >> WE HAVE \$90,000, AS A LINE ITEM IN THE AG BUDGET. YES, THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUDGET. >> SO YOU WORK WITH THEM DIRECTLY?

HE YES. >> THANK YOU. >> THANK YOU. ANY MORE QUESTIONS? IF NOT, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. NEXT TESTIFIER. >> CHAIR, NEXT TESTIFIER CURRENTLY SIGNED UP, IF ANYONE WISHES TO TESTIFY, PLEASE RAISE YOUR HAND IN TEAMS, OR LET US KNOW IN THE CHAMBERS.

WE'LL GIVE LAST CALL AFTER MR. TANGONG. >> GOOD EVENING, CHAIR, COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS, AND ALL THOSE WHO HAVE HUNG AROUND FOR THIS TO THE VERY END. MY NAME IS KEALOHA TANGA, RECENTLY APPOINTED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND I WANT TO END THIS PROCESS BY SHARING AN EXPERIENCE THAT I HAD LAST WEEK. SO I GREW UP IN WHERE THE 64 ACRES EXIST, UP THERE, BODY BOARDING, FISHING, HANGING OUT WITH MY BROTHER AS GRAND MA AND AUNTIE WOULD HAVE THEIR AFTERNOON TIME. AND SO WHEN I WOULD BE OUT THERE, KNOWING THE OCEAN VERY WELL, TURTLES WERE NEVER A THING. WE JUST DIDN'T SEE THEM.

LAST WEEK, I SAW TWO TURTLES. I WAS OUT THERE WITH MY BOYS, 5 AND 8 AND HANGING OUT AND TELLING THEM ABOUT THE WORK THAT WE DO. AT FIRST I THOUGHT IT WAS TRASH, BECAUSE WE HAD A BEACH CLEAN UP ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO WITH 3600 OF DEBRIS AND IN 2023, THEY COLLECTED ROUGHLY 2600 POUNDS. SO IN ONE SINGLE DAY, THEY COLLECTED MORE THAN THE ENTIRETY OF THE YEAR IN 2023. AND IT'S GOING TO GET WORSE. SO I THOUGHT IT WAS TRASH AND DID A DOUBLE TAKE AND SAW IT BOB DOWN AND FOR AIR AND REALIZED IT WASN'T ONE TURTLE BUT IT WAS TWO. SO I CAN SEE TURTLES PRETTY MUCH MOST AREAS ON MAUI AND THIS IS AN AREA THAT YOU TYPICALLY DON'T. NO TURTLES SEEN IN THE BAY SINCE 2015. THE SEDIMENT COVER THAT SPANS 40 YARDS OUT FROM THE SHORELINE HAS MADE SURE OF THAT, THAT THE OBSCENE AMOUNT OF DEBRIS THAT OUR SHORELINES PICK UP ADDS TO THAT. SO THIS WAS THE MOMENT, WHERE I REALIZED THAT THE WORK THAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING, THE WORK THAT I'M I WOULD NOW TAKING ON, IS ACTUALLY WORKING.

THE MALAMA 'AINA HAS REALLY HELPED. THE MALAMA KAI CONTINUES ON. AND THE MALAMA IKI HAWAII, THE REVITALIZATION OF LO'I KALO, THE PRACTICES THAT COME IN FROM THE HUI AND THE PLANTS THAT WE'RE REPLANTING AND THE WATERS THAT WE'RE OPENING UP ARE WORKING. SO I END THIS VERY LONG PROCESS THAT YOU HAVE GONE THROUGH THE LAST COUPLE OF WEEKS IN LOOK AT THE FUTURE, I'M ENCOURAGED. WHILE WE ARE DO NOT CURRENTLY HAVE A LINE ITEM ON THE BUDGET, I MEAN, THIS IS LIKE MONTH TWO MORE ME, I JUST WANTED TO LET EACH AND EVERY KNOW THAT I LOOK FORWARD TO SPEAKING WITH ALL OF YOU VERY SOON. MAHALO. >> VERY GOOD.

THANK YOU. ANY QUESTIONS? IF NOT, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. PRO TEM KAMA >> I WILL ASK, AND THEN KEALOHA, COME BACK. ALTHOUGH YOU DON'T HAVE AN LINE ITEM IN THE BUDGET YOU ARE NOT ADVERSE TO RECEIVING MONEY; RIGHT? . >> NOT AT ALL. NO.

DEFINITELY. IF THERE'S MONEY AVAILABLE, THEN WE WOULD DEFINITELY DO A LOT WITH IT. WE HAVE BEEN A BEAR BONES NONPROFIT FOR A WHILE AND DO AMAZING WORK. FOR ME COMING IN AND SEEING WHAT HAS BEEN DONE LAST TEN YEARS WITH MINIMAL STAFF AND FUNDING, HAVING MORE WITH JUST EXPONENTIALLY CONTINUE THE GREAT WORK THAT HAS HAPPENED. >> WHAT DOES MORE LOOK LIKE? >> \$250,000 TO START WOULD BE AMAZING. >> OKAY.

THAT IS A GOOD NUMBER. >> THAT WOULD DEFINITELY HELP IN TERMS OF EXPANDING THE CURRENT STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM THAT WE HAVE AND TO REBUILD OUR GREENHOUSE AND NATIVE PLANTS PROGRAM. >> THANK YOU. THANK YOU, CHAIR. >> ANY MORE QUESTIONS? >> NICE TO SEE YOU. >> GREAT TO SEE YOU, TOO.

I WAS GOING TO ASK YOU TO CALL ME AND LET'S TALK FURTHER. >> OKAY. >> I WILL GIVE YOU MY PHONE NUMBER. >> KULA TOWN SIDE NOW. >> YOU LIVE DOWN THIS SIDE NOW? >> NO, I LIVE ACROSS FROM WAIHOLI. >> ANY MORE QUESTIONS?

LAST CALL. >> FAITH CHASE SIGNED UP TO TESTIFY. PLEASE UNMUTE ON YOUR END. >> ALOHA, COUNCIL, FAITH

CHASE. I DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO READ THROUGH THE WHOLE BUDGET. I DO -- I WILL, AND I WILL COME BACK TO TESTIFY. I JUST WANTED TO ACTUALLY POINT OUT THAT \$15,000 FOR THE AQUIFER WATERSHED WOULD BE REALLY HELPFUL FOR A MATCHING GRANT AROUND THE CORNER.\r\n\r\nSO I WILL FIND OUT WILL THAT WILL TUCK IN AND MAKE COMMENT ON OTHER BUDGETARY ITEMS, HAVE A FULL-TIME JOB, UNLIKE THE LAST TWO YEARS, IF YOU COULD KEEP THAT MANY MIND, WHOEVER DISTRICT, IS THAT SHANE'S DISTRICT, IS IT HALF/HALF? \$15,000 FOR WATERSHED PROJECTS IN KAHIKI NUI REGION. THANK YOU. >> ANYBODY ELSE? LAST CALL. >> IF ANYONE WISHES TO TESTIFY, PLEASE RAISE YOUR HAND IN TEAMS, OR COME DOWN TO THE PODIUM. CHAIR, THERE'S NO ONE INDICATING THAT THEY WISH TO TESTIFY.\r\n\r\nSO COUNT DOWN, 3, 2, 1. >> ANY OBJECTIONS TO CLOSING PUBLIC TESTIMONY AND ACCEPTING WRITTEN TESTIMONY FOR THE RECORD? >> NO OBJECTIONS. >> SO ORDERED. THIS BRINGS US TO THE END OF THE PUBLIC HEARING. IT'S 8:20, THIS MEETING IS ADJOURNED EVERYONE. [GAVEL]