

In Our Own Words

Sharing What the Hawai'i Community Foundation means to us

In celebration of the Foundation's 95th anniversary, we asked others in the community what the Hawai'i Community Foundation means to them and what their elevator speech for the Foundation would be.

This year's annual report contains descriptions from some of these voices—an interesting and colorful sampling that not only reaffirms the diverse nature of what we do, but also highlights some of the incredible relationships that we are grateful to have formed. We'd like to share these quotes with you here, in their entirety.



Mark Agne

Partner, Goldman Sachs
Agne Family Fund

The Hawai'i Community Foundation has been a way for my wife, Tomoko, and I to connect to Hawai'i. She is from Kyoto, I am from Chicago. We live in Tokyo, but spend all the time we can in Hawai'i. We intend to live there some day and HCF has helped us to better understand the community as well as find ways to contribute through causes that are meaningful for us.



Kekaihalai Avilez

Scholarship Recipient

The Hawai'i Community Foundation is a powerful advocate that ensures Hawai'i's future by educating its people, providing financial support and highlighting the importance of diversity through the administration of numerous unique scholarships like the Elena Albano Maka'alahilohi Scholarship, of which I am a recipient.

The Foundation has reminded me that although my academic journey is a personal one, it is not only about me. My story could be an encouragement to someone else, too.



Robert R. Bean

President & CEO (Retired), Alert Holdings Group
Hawai'i Community Foundation Board of Governors
Robert R. & Jacqueline J.H. Bean Fund #2
Jacqueline J.H. Bean Memorial Fund

The Hawai'i Community Foundation plays a major role in providing financial assistance to those qualified organizations through grants, so that the aid flows down and directly to those that can benefit the most. The Foundation provides millions of dollars annually in scholarship awards to thousands of young people to further their education and strengthen our community. One of the things I'm most proud of is the leadership role that the Foundation takes in training and educating other nonprofit organization leaders to further their ability to give back to the community in meaningful and thoughtful ways.

It is truly a moving experience for me. To be part of an organization, whose sole mission is to "give back" to the community, and do it so well, is awesome. The dedication of the Hawai'i Community Foundation employees and the role they play in community support is something to behold. It is an organization that continually rises to the top of the charts.



Wendy Burkholder

Executive Director, Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Hawai'i
PONO Fellow

Hawai'i Community Foundation is a team of people who deeply understand and, perhaps more importantly, truly value the meaning of the word "community." The support they lend to a broad spectrum of programs speaks clearly to their level of commitment to every member of our society. As the leader of an agency whose mission is to assist the financially overburdened our clients are often met with, at best — apathy; at worst — derision. My proposals to foundations were often summarily dismissed and I was told our clients were solely a "banker's issue." HCF was the first foundation to look deeper than the surface. They quickly recognized that people who were living with the inescapable desperation and anxiety that is inherent with the very real risk of becoming homeless or the deepest shame associated with being unable to provide adequate nutrition and medical care for their children were likely not faring well in any aspect of their lives. HCF understood that these difficulties erode the very foundation of healthy communities. Not surprisingly, the volatile state of the economy has resulted in our volume of clients more than trebling over the past four years, with more than 70 percent seeking assistance due to income loss or uninsured medical crises. Many are formerly middle class families, now thrust into the new reality of being part of the low-income sector — definitely a humbling transition. Despite their full participation in setting the stage for our economic meltdown, mainland banks have severely cut funding to agencies like ours at a time of unprecedented need. Conversely, HCF has bolstered their support so as to ensure these families are not abandoned in their quest to regain financial stability. It has not escaped HCF that our clients are members of our families, our neighbors, our co-workers, our communities, each deserving of assistance.

Not unlike many leaders in the nonprofit sector, my transition to the executive director (ED) position ten years ago was a crisis-driven and tumultuous experience. Having already been with the agency for thirteen years, I clearly understood our mission and was deeply committed to the work of the agency. I was, however, not prepared for the demands of leadership. I was fortunate in that I had inherited an agency with an extremely dedicated, capable team already in place. Unfortunately, the agency was undergoing funding cuts, forcing changes to our business model. The pace of my first three years as ED as well as continuing to be the sole staff member at a branch office was beyond frenetic; reducing overhead, searching out new revenue streams, keeping up with changes, all while personally managing a case load of 350 clients, simply consumed me. When the opportunity to participate in the PONO program arose, I initially dismissed it as I was at a loss as to how to squeeze any more hours into my already overpacked work week and was swiftly approaching burn out. Luckily, I was convinced otherwise by former PONO graduates. The leadership skills I gained, the time spent with my peers and the relationships that developed from PONO were life changing and the experience has seen me through another six years. Despite being a large organization, HCF is extremely responsive and accessible. To be able to call or meet with a funder simply to float an idea or get their input is invaluable to an ED. To be asked for input by a funder, as HCF does, to be truly heard and understood and, further, to see action on their part as a result of sharing our experiences is enormously gratifying. Working with HCF makes me feel that I'm a valued and integral part of a visionary team, making positive changes in the lives of the people of Hawai'i — every day.



Diane Chadwick

Senior Philanthropic Services Officer, Hawai'i Community Foundation, Hawai'i Island Office
21 Years of Service

Hawai'i Community Foundation helps charitably inclined people give to the nonprofit organizations that serve our communities, connecting people who care with causes that matter. People can establish charitable funds with Hawai'i Community Foundation that can be permanently endowed, creating a resource that will be available long into the future.

I enjoy working for Hawai'i Community Foundation because we have the privilege of working with charitable organizations across the nonprofit sector, to understand their mission and see how they carry out their work, as well as the opportunity to meet generous people with a passion and interest to help others.



Timothy Y.C. Choy

Legacy Society Member
Timothy Y.C. Choy Fund

It enables the average citizen to create a fund that will go towards projects that the individual believes will help improve the quality of life in the community and to honor loved ones.

It has enabled me to know that my limited funds will be used responsibly and carefully while also allowing me to build it for the future— ‘from small acorns mighty oaks grow’ is made a reality through the Hawai‘i Community Foundation.



Roberta Chu

Senior Vice President, Island Manager for Hawai‘i Island, Bank of Hawai‘i
Leadership Council Member, Hawai‘i Island

Hawai‘i Community Foundation is a nonprofit organization whose vision and mission are to help the State of Hawai‘i communities. Over the years, it has changed in response to the needs of the many communities by creating innovative programs and services. I especially appreciate the formation of the West Hawai‘i Fund and the recently created East Hawai‘i Fund managed by HCF because it provides a flexible vehicle for community-minded individuals, regardless of assets owned, to give money for charitable purposes to support programs that serve the most needy on the island.



Lydia Clements

Director of Neighbor Island Philanthropic Services, Hawai‘i Community Foundation, Hawai‘i Island Office

The Hawai‘i Community Foundation is really a group of hundreds of people, businesses and families who give across the State of Hawai‘i with the help of our staff. We are a family of givers. Our story started 95 years ago, and we add family members almost every day. In the stories at the Foundation, you will see and hear many motivations and causes that make up what we call “the virtuous cycle,” which is really about how people give to causes that matter and how those who receive turn around and give in their own way. We inspire and support one another to show that philanthropy does make a difference.

As a member of the Hawai‘i Community Foundation staff, I am continually amazed at the breadth and depth of our collective knowledge, coverage and passion. When faced with questions for which I don’t have the answer, I depend frequently on my Foundation colleagues and their networks to identify options and solutions. What emerges from this collective effort almost every time is a more progressive, comprehensive and impactful approach.



Samuel A. Cooke

Senior Vice President (Retired), Morgan Stanley Dean Witter
Secretary, Hawai‘i Community Foundation Board of Governors (Founding Member)
President, Cooke Foundation, Ltd.

From my perspective there are three areas of philanthropic might in our state, they are the Hawai‘i Community Foundation, The Weinberg Foundation and Senator Daniel K. Inouye. Without them, we would be a lot less off. The Hawai‘i Community Foundation is an integral organization to the charitable success of the State of Hawai‘i.



Christina Cox

President, KCAA Preschools
Ho'okele Award Recipient

I have been working in the nonprofit world in Hawai'i for 30 years and Hawai'i Community Foundation has served as the beacon of hope, lighting the way for us, through the years. As the world around us began to change, the Foundation adapted to meet the "new normal," offering a different kind of grantmaking support. Organizational Capacity Building grants proved to be a key factor in helping our organization evaluate and improve business practices, enabling us to better help those we serve. And now, HCF is leading the way, yet again, with innovative approaches to grantmaking, to push us to meet the demands of our ever-changing world and the needs of those we serve. All this while serving as good stewards of those funds trusted to the Foundation by a caring community of donors.

From a personal perspective, HCF is so much more than a Foundation. Here in Hawai'i we are fortunate to have a group of philanthropic community leaders that care about nonprofit executives as a group and who are truly committed, each in their own unique way, to help our organizations to succeed. Beyond all of the financial support we have received I find that when I think of HCF, the first thing that comes to mind is their dedicated staff guided by strong leadership. On more than one occasion, they have been there to tell me the hard truths, to give me honest feedback and to light the way forward.



Pualani Enos

Executive Director, Hui Malama Learning Center
Nonprofit Grant Recipient

HCF provides essential capacity-building resources and financial support to organizations and individuals who are best equipped to deliver critical services and support to all aspects of our community. HCF is operated by a highly skilled, well-informed and insightful staff with leadership that inspires and motivates nonprofits to continue to build and grow the efficacy of their services through on-going research, critical analysis of what works within and among the diverse island communities and providing organizations with preeminent technical assistance. HCF recognizes the important role that Hawai'i can play in the global economy through a well-educated, equipped workforce through supporting education, youth work force development and sustainable agricultural projects throughout Hawai'i. HCF has the foresight to supporting creative approaches to complicated problems through projects, networks and coalitions that facilitate group learning while at the same time ensuring accountability to program beneficiaries and communities. Grants management is efficient, thoughtful and well organized. Grant proposal requirements are straightforward and grant managers are readily available to answer questions and guidance in building a successful proposal. Grant award requirements are reasonable and offer grantees every opportunity to realize success in service delivery, as well as, capturing important learning that can inform the entire field of service in Hawai'i and around the world. Through ongoing, diversified research and evaluation HCF assists organizations, individually and in collaboration, to utilize practices grounded in evidence-based approaches to reach articulated outcomes and objectives that honor the diverse cultures and unique needs of our island communities. HCF's reasoned approach ensures that practitioners and policy makers in Hawai'i are well equipped to bring best practices to beneficiaries, create positive outcomes to the larger community, and capture valuable knowledge and approaches to be shared with other communities throughout the world.

Hawai'i Community Foundation plays a critical role in the community through financial support of programming, technical assistance related to a variety of program areas, training and one-on-one support for collaboration, and state-wide youth development/prevention networks. As a first time executive director of a nonprofit, I have been fortunate to participate in several HCF granting programs, content training, professional development opportunities and two networks. Each of these experiences has inspired, encouraged and supported my own growth as a leader and manager and resulted in significant positive changes throughout my organization. Changes include improved operations, fiscal health, data management, fund development, and most importantly increased efficacy and efficiency in services. For example, a few years ago, we began implementing a whole foods program for our students with an emphasis on purchasing and growing locally grown food.

(Enos—continued from page 4)

At that time, most funding sources did not allow for food related costs and the high cost of implementing a daily, free, mandatory breakfast, snack and lunch program with organically, grown food versus processed foods was difficult to sell. However, two HCF grant managers were able to identify foundations willing to support this evidence-based approach to increased learning and performance in school and advocate on our behalf. Two years later, we have evidence to show increased academic performance and behavior that is linked to this change in student eating habits. During this transition to whole foods at school, we faced many challenges and throughout HCF provided different types of support, including networking with other programs with similar objectives and significant experience and expertise that they were willing to share to ensure our success and manage and overcome the challenges that we faced. Their initial support has allowed us to build a program that has received several awards, included financial support from a variety of sources. This is just but one of several examples of how HCF has influenced and facilitated my organizations growth and development to ensure quality service delivery to our students and families in order to contribute to a healthy, well-prepared work force for our community.



Richard W. Gushman, II

President, DGM Group, Inc.
Hawai'i Community Foundation Board of Governors
Oio Fund

The Hawai'i Community Foundation is unique in the state because it is both an aggregator of philanthropic and governmental capital combined with a very unique, broad and detailed understanding of the workings of the nonprofit community statewide. This allows them to most efficiently channel community giving matched with community needs in the most efficient and imaginative applications possible. The Foundation has the extraordinary ability to match the passion of the heart of the community with its needs and provides not only funding, but leadership development and operational help through the entire range of size and activities of the nonprofit delivery system across all the islands.

The Hawai'i Community Foundation provides me with an opportunity to understand what is going on around the state, and they have been very helpful with me instructing some of my own philanthropy. I found them to be extremely sophisticated in understanding the nuances of trust and grant options, which were very helpful in my giving decisions as well as in the implementation of my gifts.



Bill Hastings

Attorney
Leadership Council Member, Hawai'i Island

HCF is a wonderful "community chest" that is well-run and provides substantial benefits through the funds it manages to many nonprofit organizations throughout the state and to many students through the scholarship funds it manages.

HCF and its sub-fund, the West Hawai'i Fund, are great vehicle for clients who wish to make a gift to their community but are not comfortable leaving their gift to a specific charitable organization. It often represents a very practical and economical alternative to a family foundation that otherwise might be considered.

Anonymous

Staff Member, Hawai'i Community Foundation

The Hawai'i Community Foundation is a charitable organization that provides opportunities for the people of Hawai'i. For the past two years, I participated in committees that provided grants to prospective and current college students and you get a "feel good" feeling to think that you played at least a small role in helping these students, many of whom have limited financial resources. The Foundation is a wonderful organization and I feel honored and fortunate to be a part of it.

Anonymous

Staff Member, Hawai'i Community Foundation

HCF's stakeholders and roles are varied. For nonprofits we are a gateway to potential support from various funds, and our grants provide not only necessary support for services, but an acknowledgement of their value to the community as well. For donors, HCF is a reputable and knowledgeable advisor who helps people who want to make a difference shape their vision for giving and accomplish their philanthropic goals. While many people in the community may be unaware of HCF, or uncertain about what we do, their lives may be impacted through our work.

I like to help people and work with others who want to make a difference. At HCF, I am able to support donors in their giving, and participate in funding organizations and programs that sustain and enrich peoples' lives. This community has been generous to my family and me; I am grateful for the chance to reciprocate to some extent through my work.

Anonymous

Program Officer, Hawai'i Community Foundation

I consider HCF to be THE "clearinghouse" of scholarships and grant opportunities in Hawai'i. Their main purpose is to help individuals, families, and communities help themselves by inspiring the spirit of giving.

I have admired HCF for many years because of the great works they do in the communities. I personally know of several individuals who have benefited from their tremendous range of scholarship opportunities. "Capacity Building" has become a buzz phrase in the business community, and HCF recognizes the need for nonprofit organizations to enhance services that will benefit communities, as well as allow organizations to adhere to their respective missions.



Marlene Hochuli

Philanthropic Services Administrative Assistant, Hawai'i Island, Hawai'i Community Foundation

The Foundation is the steward of the garden of philanthropy. Donors deposit seeds into the garden, observes its growth, and watches it blossom. When ripe, the fruits are picked, distributed and enjoyed by many. The Foundation nurtures and feeds the philanthropic passions of its "depositors" and assists in directing and matching them to the needs of the community. This process inspires many to begin to plant their own seeds and develop their own garden. Eventually, an entire garden network is developed in support of the common good.

My experience here at the Foundation has exposed me to the depth of good work being done in our island communities by other nonprofit organizations, as well as individuals. My work at the foundation has raised the level of my awareness in the field of philanthropy and given me hope that I can participate in making a greater difference in my own community. Through my work I have developed a network of resources that I've shared with my faith community and that in turn has assisted in expanding the services offered at our Community Food Pantry. The greater awareness of the needs of my church and community have given way to the birth of new ministries and movement at my parish.



Lea Hong

Hawaiian Islands Program Director, The Trust for Public Land
Ho'okele Award Recipient

Hawai'i Community Foundation embodies the 'olelo no'eau "'A'ohe hana nui ke alu 'ia/No task is too big when done together by all." The Foundation brings needed resources to the community—whether it be capacity building, leadership training, scholarships, and operational and capital support.

HCF is The Trust for Public Land Hawai'i's partner, friend, supporter, cheerleader, mentor, and constructive critic. Hawai'i Community Foundation pushes us to do more and better for our community.



U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye

The Hawai'i Community Foundation serves as a beacon of hope for many in our community. With the loss (hopefully temporarily) of federal 'earmarked' funds, the role of philanthropy becomes all the more important to come to the aid those in need, and to blaze a path forward for better tomorrows.

Lola Irvin

Program Director, Tobacco Settlement Project, Healthy Hawai'i Initiative, Hawai'i State Department of Health

The Hawai'i Community Foundation is for many community-based organizations, a means of receiving resources to fund mission objectives to serve their constituent groups. For funders, the Foundation provides a way to dispassionately get the resources to organizations that will meet the objectives of the funding. The Foundation bridges the talents and gifts of visionaries who care about the people of Hawai'i.

The Hawai'i Community Foundation is a group of dedicated stewards. They are reliable, smart, have a great sense of humor, and huge hearts to serve.



Lawrence M. Johnson

Past Chairman of the Board of Directors & CEO, Bank of Hawai'i
Hawai'i Community Foundation Board of Governors

The Hawai'i Community Foundation is a trustworthy nonprofit organization formed almost 100 years ago to assist families, businesses, and individuals in managing their charitable interests. It is looked upon by our community as the most sophisticated and knowledgeable resource for charitable giving in Hawai'i.



Arleen Kamei

Human Resource Manager, Hawai'i Community Foundation

We connect people, their passion for giving, and make it come to life in benefiting the community's needs of Hawai'i.

HCF has given me the opportunity in hiring and working with a very dedicated group of people that want to make a difference and contribute in their own way in making Hawai'i's community a better place for everyone.



Robbie Ann Kane

Director of Programs, Omidyar Initiatives, Hawai'i Community Foundation

The Foundation is a leader, a collaborator, a convenor, a supporter, an advocate, a sponsor, a conduit, a tool, a funder, a partner... In other words, we have many roles in our community, and in all of those roles we strive to make things better for the people of Hawai'i. But we are not the star of the show. More important are the people who care about Hawai'i and entrust us to help them make a difference. We have the good fortune of being able to fulfill a much-needed role—as we say to “connect people who care with causes that matter.” We have the good fortune of being able to partner with so many wonderful individuals and organizations who are all interested in one thing—being “pono” and doing it with true “aloha.” We bring value to the community, but the community brings value to us as well. It is truly a case of “aloha aku, aloha mai.”

I have only been with the Foundation for a few months. I knew of the Foundation, but really cannot say that I knew the Foundation. I still don't know everything that we do, all of the programs that we create and support, all of the impact we have had in our state. All I know is that it is immense and that the Foundation has a role in a whole lot more than anyone really understands. I can only say that I have never felt quite as fulfilled in a job as I have here. How fortunate am I to be able to work with the people of the Foundation—people who truly care about our community and our children's future? How fortunate am I to work with people like Pierre and Pam Omidyar and their team—people truly engaged in the community and in the world—trying to make a difference for all of us? How fortunate am I to work with the community organizations and individuals who are in the trenches, working day in and day out to move mountains to impact even just one life? Where would I be without the Foundation—where would any of us be without the Foundation? And where would the Foundation be without our board—past and present, without our donors, without our clients, without our partners in the community? Mahalo nui loa to the Foundation and to all of our many partners for all that you do and all that you mean to Hawai'i.



Stephanie Kawamura

Graduate Student, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
Scholarship Recipient

HCF is a generous organization who strives to give back to the community in every way possible. If they don't have enough funds to assist a group or individual in need, they will go the distance to find someone that will. They are selfless and exemplary givers of community service and are the perfect role model to our entire state.

HCF is not only the perfect model of community service, but they are one of the most helpful organizations I have worked with by far. HCF is an organization that I definitely look up to and hope to be able to give back to them in the future.



Lester Kaneta

President, Kaneta Foundation

The Hawai'i Community Foundation is philanthropy with aloha. They aggregate the vision and mission of hundreds of foundations and put our goals into action while monitoring results.

I couldn't do what I do without HCF. HCF is the front door to our foundation as they assist in the creation and maintenance of our website. They provide back office support in preparing and reviewing applications for grants and scholarships. They also assist in communicating with successful applicants when awarding grants and scholarships. The Scholarships Team has been an invaluable resource to our foundation, providing over \$1.5 million in scholarships over the last five years.



William Kenoi

Mayor, Hawai'i County

The Hawai'i Community Foundation is a valued and greatly appreciated asset to our communities. It is an integral organization with a proud history of honorably serving our children and families.



Joy Miura Koerte

Partner, Fujita & Miura Public Relations, Inc. Leadership Council Member, Kaua'i

Hawai'i Community Foundation brings resources to people in need and people in need to resources. It bolsters Hawai'i's nonprofit industry, which directly benefits the islands' people. Significantly, the Foundation is a positive force in our community that perpetuates two key components of Hawai'i's culture: 'ohana-style living (treating each other as family, sticking together, and taking care of our own) and reciprocity (mutually giving and receiving).

To me, HCF represents advancing our community. Through scholarships, grants, nonprofit organization capacity building, leadership training, and more, HCF ensures a brighter future for Hawai'i.



Paul Kosasa

President & CEO, ABC Stores
Chair, Hawai'i Community Foundation Board of Governors
ABC Stores Jumpstart Scholarship Fund
Kosasa Family Fund

The Foundation helps families and donors navigate through the complexities of giving. Another benefit of the Foundation is that they have the ability to collaborate and leverage every dollar that goes out to the community so the benefits become amplified. They are experienced with hundreds of nonprofits—whether it's preserving the environment, cultural preservation or health care issues, they cover the gamut. If you define success as being able to support those in need and to support people's giving missions, the Hawai'i Community Foundation is very successful.



Anton C. Krucky

President & CEO, Tissue Genesis
Past Board of Governors
Krucky 'Ohana Fund

Hawai'i Community Foundation is a central organization that through it, financial resources support philanthropic efforts in the community. Some are directed from the organization based on strategic goals, others are directed by legacy gifts, and some are directed with support from the Foundation by individual donors. It is a think tank of community needs and how to leverage activities to make the most difference.



Keith Kuboyama

Clinical Director, Family Programs Hawai'i
HELP Fellow

From my point of view, HCF has provided a wide range of support to various communities. It has assumed a leadership role in our community by taking on the important social issues and serving as a catalyst of bring various “voices” together (from within communities) to seek solutions. As a result of this reputation, HCF has become a vital “link” between the donors in the community and the solution-based “do-ers,” to promote change. It also provides community organizations with skills to become self-sufficient, from teaching how to write grants, to building organizational capacity. During its 95 years of existence, it has become THE foundation of change and support.

I was recently honored to participate in HCF’s HELP program. While HCF has a reputation of helping the community through its grants and expertise, few may realize the long-lasting impact the HELP program will have on building capacity in our local community organizations. The program brought selected leaders from various nonprofit agencies throughout the state together to develop, learn and grow into more effective and efficient leaders. HELP provided me with the tools, skills and knowledge to become better equipped to take on the challenges facing our organization. Not only did the program provide a greater perspective of trends and core competencies, it gave me a means to critically examine my leadership strengths and weakness (blind spots) that have become invaluable in my current work. And perhaps the greatest tool of the HELP program—it provided each participant with opportunities to create and develop valuable networks with peers from other organizations. Along with the personal coaching and resources, I truly believe HELP has allowed me to become a more effective and productive leader in my agency. I have certainly grown from the experience and will provide long-term benefit to the stability of our organization.



Kristina Lyons Lambert

President, Fred Baldwin Memorial Foundation

HCF brings partners together to work for a better Hawai'i. By bringing organizations, funders, and potential partner organizations together, all can work toward their philanthropic and social goals with greater knowledge and understanding of what is currently happening in our communities. That makes for stronger funding decisions and the potential to partner in ways that would not otherwise be possible. On the more technical side, we rely on HCF to be the experts so we don't have to be. They keep us current on best practices so that we can focus on giving.

I enjoy working with the HCF staff. Those I most interact with are dedicated and knowledgeable individuals. They have helped guide our foundation not only through business as usual, but also through transitions in how we look at our grant making and select our trustees. They also make the business of grant making easier for us by collecting proposals and preparing materials. Certainly we make better decisions because of our partnership with HCF. I think of HCF as a philanthropic clearinghouse—funders can go there to help match up with the best possible organizations to meet funding goals, while grant seekers can go there for information on how to obtain funding.



Uri Martos

Philanthropic Services Assistant, Hawai'i Community Foundation, Kaua'i Office

What makes the Foundation so important is not just that it supports so many vital organizations throughout the state, but that we are in a unique position to measure the impact that the grant money has and use this information to further our knowledge to where, when and how future grants can really make a difference.

For me, the Foundation is the epitome of what community means. The fact that we are made up of many donors from all across the state and even further coming together to help, preserve and cherish the people and islands we call home is so special. I am blessed to be a part of this organization and 'ohana.



Mike Mohr

Managing Director, Omidyar Family Enterprises Omidyar Funds & Initiatives

HCF is a talented team of people who understand the capabilities and challenges of nonprofit sector participants, allowing those with capital to invest with a higher degree of confidence that the impact of our giving will be maximized.

HCF is a valuable thought partner to formulate strategies and a valuable operating partner as they help turn those strategies into impactful results.



Wayne J. Rapozo

Attorney, Dechert LLP, London
Scholarship Recipient
Rapozo Family of Funds

For me, the Hawai'i Community Foundation has been a critical link to Hawai'i. I live in London and practice law in Europe, but I have a profound sense of pride in Hawai'i and need to remain part of life in Hawai'i. In memory of my grandparents and also to nurture a sense of goodwill in the next generation of the extended Rapozo family, I established several charitable funds managed by the Foundation.

As I am far away, I needed a philanthropic institution, an advisor and/or group of people who could provide me guidance and discipline in carrying out philanthropy in Hawai'i, and that would also allow me to help influence and participate in civic life there. Many of the community groups and leaders that I wished to support were grassroots-driven and had a sense of humility about themselves, but they were nonetheless motivated and determined. I needed the kama'aina touch and an appreciation that small groups and basic goals can and often do stand for large powerful messages.

Hawai'i Community Foundation provided me with the right balance of professionalism, a modern approach to philanthropy and a respect for, and acumen in working with tradition in Hawai'i. The Rapozo funds provide grants in education, land stewardship, economic self-sufficiency, and cultural celebration. HCF had an understanding of my general goals and, in many ways, was already pursuing similar goals as part of its own overall mission.

In addition, there was an element of personal appreciation in my working with HCF. Some 25 years ago, I was an HCF scholarship student. With the support of my family, the endorsement of several HCF scholarship funds, my tennis racket and a big smile, I walked off the porch of my grandparents' house. It was a first step in a journey that took me far from home. I grew up in a very rural Kaua'i and in one of Hawai'i's last turn-of-the-century plantation villages. HCF gave a country boy like me the respect to which students rightfully deserve and they believed in me. To this day, the scholarship I was awarded by HCF years ago is one of the defining moments for me. My work with HCF today is just a logical extension of my work with HCF as student, now as a donor, fund advisor, and collaborative partner.



Lois E. Reiswig

President, West Maui Cultural Council
Leadership Council Member, Maui
Edith Wilhelmina Sherock Fund

Hawai'i Community Foundation is a nonprofit organization that is in the business of caring for people in Hawai'i. The reason the Foundation is as effective as it is, is because they have personnel located throughout the various islands that interact with organizations and can personally assess their needs. As a donor with a fund at HCF, you can be assured that the funds that are released go to groups that you personally hold in high regard. If living, a donor can be involved with the assessment or designate specifically where the funds should go. Beyond your lifetime, you can be assured that the funds will be distributed based on your guidelines and "legacy" interests.

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I'm humbled each time I interact with personnel that work for HCF. I tell everyone I know and come in contact with about HCF and the good work they do in our community. It takes all of us working together to make important things happen for those we care about. I hope to be involved with HCF for the duration of my life.



Deborah Rice

Senior Philanthropic Services Officer, Hawai'i Community Foundation, Maui County Office

Hawai'i Community Foundation plays many roles and adds value in a broad spectrum for the state and the communities on each island of Hawai'i. It is foremost an opportunity for people to find out information and knowledge, in a central staging ground, like no other organization in this state. Hawai'i Community Foundation is a global leader in strategic grantmaking and client services, bringing the community needs and knowledge to those who want to make a meaningful impact with their funding.



Reverend Jan C. Rudinof

Past Board of Governors
Leadership Council, Kaua'i, *Emeritus Member*

It continues to underline Hawai'i as a community, diverse yet dependent on each other for the well being of all. The Foundation has shown me that folk with different political and religious persuasion, as well as economic circumstances can come together to serve the community's needs.



Jennifer Sabas

Chief of Staff, Hawai'i Operations, The Office of U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye
Hawai'i Community Foundation Board of Governors
Ray Yoshida Fine Arts Scholarship Fund

Hawai'i Community Foundation is a leader in the establishment of enduring social infrastructure. It empowers people to do good. I will never forget the faces of Big Islanders when public transportation became available to move children after school to safe places with fun, wholesome activities and away from drugs. This Hawai'i Community Foundation-Department of Justice initiative was the origin of Hawai'i Island County's Hele-On public bus system, which continues to expand today.



Greg Sakamoto, M.D.

Dermatologist
Scholarship Ambassador
Scholarship Recipient

The Hawai'i Community Foundation is a charitable organization interested in helping the people of Hawai'i achieve their dreams by providing assistance to those in need. It manages the contributions from various donors and carefully selects deserving recipients, bringing them one step closer to their dreams.

Being a former recipient of scholarships from HCF, I am aware of how the Foundation is making a significant impact in the community to those in need. It has certainly helped me achieve my dreams of becoming an M.D.



Myles S. Shibata

Vice President, Philanthropic Services, Hawai'i Community Foundation
Past Board of Governors

Our efforts are focused around philanthropic advising and consulting, community leadership, statewide strategic grantmaking, and leveraging the accumulated knowledge of our professional staff—all directed towards making a difference in the community. We strive to exceed expectations by working with our donors to combine heart, intellect and funding to make our communities a better place to live, work and play.



Josh Stanbro

Program Director, Environment & Sustainability Hawai'i Community Foundation

In my past life running the Trust for Public Land-Hawai'i office, Hawai'i Community Foundation was a key funder and invaluable source of information and support. Now that I'm on the other side of the fence, I've found the Foundation to be a thriving, innovative nonprofit in its own right. While it is a traditional grantmaking foundation, it's also a hub of ideas and creativity that incubates talented people and new approaches.



Larry J. Stupski

Chair, Stupski Foundation
Past Board of Governors
Stupski Family Fund

Hawai'i Community Foundation is the meeting place to form hui to tackle some of Hawai'i's most difficult issues. The staff has been instrumental in bringing opportunities forth to shape our Hawai'i philanthropy.



Tiffany Suh

Student, Art Institute of Chicago
Scholarship Recipient

Hawai'i Community Foundation advocates the younger generation to continue their education by providing financial support. It's a community that values education and that is golden asset for Hawai'i.

Hawai'i Community Foundation's unconditional love and support is something I will never forget, especially because they encourage what I love to do. The Foundation not only alleviated the financial burdens, but also made all the exceptional learning experiences in Chicago possible this past year, and I can't thank them enough. I'm not only receiving from the donors of Hawai'i Community Foundation, but also learning from them how to give with a big and steady heart.



Kimberly Vierra

Director of Communications, Hawai'i Baptist Academy
Former Staff Member

The Foundation is an established resource and a voice for philanthropy in Hawai'i—sharing the incredible stories of people who give, and inspiring others to do the same.

I appreciate the Foundation's leadership during times of crisis, and its ability to respond to urgent community needs. As the U.S. recently observed the 10th anniversary of Sept. 11th, I remember how the Foundation was able to help our community in the aftermath of that fateful day, and through the recession that resulted. It was able to quickly convene a group of representatives from local nonprofit organizations and identify the gaps in programs and services in the sector. Thanks to the Foundation, and its generous donors, it was then able to invest \$1 million statewide to keep many families afloat. It is reassuring to know that HCF provides the resources and the hope that we all need during hard times.



Jeffrey N. Watanabe

Attorney
Past Board of Governors

HCF facilitates and stimulates the efficient and meaningful redistribution of wealth, often made possible by the community to which those contributions are made.

Hawai'i Community Foundation represents one, but not the only way, individuals and families can give back to their communities. As a professional, I have, when possible and appropriate, channeled funds to the Foundation, particularly when there is a transfer or redistribution of wealth involved.



Karen K. White

Family Court Probation Officer (Retired)
Legacy Society Member
Scholarship Department Volunteer
Ho'omaka Hou Fund

Hawai'i Community Foundation is an organization upon which the Hawai'i nonprofit community can and does depend. As originator of the scholarship, Ho'omaka Hou — A New Beginning, I am most grateful to the Foundation's scholarship staff for the support in setting up the scholarship, in preparing the applications, in monitoring the financial end and all other 'behind the scenes' work. We are most appreciative of all they do! Thank you, thank you to Hawai'i Community Foundation for all your services to the community!



Leslie Wilcox

President & CEO, PBS Hawai'i
Ho'okele Award Recipient
PONO Fellow

The Hawai'i Community Foundation reaches broadly and deeply throughout the state to understand community needs. It's known for directing its resources to arrive at better ways to anticipate and address concerns. HCF is a significant institution, which could cite justifiable reasons for moving slowly. Instead, in an uncertain economy and a fast-changing world, its outlook is to be agile and fleet of foot.

I used to think of the Hawai'i Community Foundation as a place where I went to find answers. It has amazing resources, and I did find answers. But the most valuable thing I've received from the Foundation is questions! HCF staff would hear me out on an issue that I wanted PBS Hawai'i to address. Sometimes, as they called upon their broad background in the nonprofit sector, their probing would take me in different, unexpected directions. That would send me back to the drawing board with the glimmer of a new approach. Our staff likes a challenge. We'd re-think and re-sculpt. When I returned to the Foundation offices, I had my own answers—and a proposed project that used more layers and refined targeting, to serve the community far better than originally envisioned. That's the way the Foundation works—it marshals new perspectives to do more with what it has.