



**HAWAI'I COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**



**HOUSE  
MAUI**

**PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

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### **Hawai'i Community Foundation Welcomes Keoni Kuoha as Director of its House Maui Initiative**

**KAHULUI, MAUI** — The Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF), one of the state's leading philanthropic institutions, is pleased to announce that Keoni Kuoha has joined the organization as director of the House Maui Initiative. As director, he will continue the work of the House Maui Initiative to bring together non-profit organizations, funders, homebuilders, government and communities to create affordable housing solutions on Maui.

"Keoni's rich background in community engagement and resource management, grounded in Native Hawaiian culture, makes him a valuable addition to HCF and our vision to create an equitable, vibrant Hawai'i," said Micah Kāne, CEO and President for the Hawai'i Community Foundation. "His desire to inspire learning and develop systems that will enable our island communities to thrive are necessary to realize House Maui's mission, which is to create a sustainable housing market for local families on Maui."

Prior to his role at HCF, Kuoha served as the interim executive director of the Maui AIDS Foundation and executive director and co-founder of Papahana Kuaola, an 'āina-based education organization that serves learners on O'ahu and Moloka'i. He also held roles as Native Hawaiian program coordinator for Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, educator at Kamehameha Schools Maui and Hawaiian language and Hawaiian studies lecturer at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Honolulu Community College and Chaminade University.

Kuoha has dedicated nearly three decades to volunteer community service, currently serving on the Maui County Charter Commission and on the boards of directors of Hui No Ke Ola Pono and the World Indigenous Nations University, Hawai'i-Pasifika. Kuoha is an active member of the Prince Kūhiō Hawaiian Civic Club, where he focuses on community engagement and policy, and he has served as a crew member aboard Hōkūle'a, with the Polynesian Voyaging Society, since his senior year in high school. Most recently, he crewed several legs of the Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage.

Kuoha grew up on Hawaiian homestead lands in Waimānalo. He graduated from Kamehameha Schools, Kapālama Campus. He received a B.A. in government and international relations from the University of Notre Dame and a M.A. in Hawaiian studies from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. He is currently completing an Ed.D. in education leadership from the University of Southern California. Kuoha has studied hula, oli and other cultural practices under noted kumu hula Pueo Pata, John Ka'imikaua, and John Lake.

"In recent years, I have turned my focus to driving housing solutions because secure, attainable housing is foundational to the wellbeing of Hawai'i's people and places," said Kuoha. "Local residents want to remain in Hawai'i, flourish, and maintain bonds with family, friends, their communities, and 'āina—and we need affordable housing to make that happen."

### **About the House Maui Initiative**

The Hawai'i Community Foundation, through its House Maui Initiative, is bringing together a diverse group of stakeholders to create a sustainable housing market in Maui County with the ultimate goal of eliminating the cost burden of housing for Maui County families. House Maui is working to achieve its goals through three approaches: aligning new and existing financial resources toward securing affordable housing for local residents, empowering local residents with the knowledge and financial tools to realize their housing goals, and advocating alongside stakeholders for the policy changes needed to create affordable housing in Maui County. For more information about House Maui, please visit [www.housemaui.com](http://www.housemaui.com) and follow our social media channels on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).

### **About the Hawai'i Community Foundation**

The vision of the Hawai'i Community Foundation is to create an equitable and vibrant Hawai'i where all of our island communities thrive. With our 105-year history, trusted expertise, and generous support of donors, we are working to solve our state's most difficult challenges. In 2020, HCF stewarded more than 1,000 funds and distributed \$142.4 million in grants and contracts statewide, including \$9.2 million in scholarships. HCF Offices are located statewide, on O'ahu, Kaua'i, Maui, and Hawai'i Island. For more information about HCF, please visit [www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org](http://www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org) and follow our social media channels on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#).

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