



## HAWAI'I COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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**PRESS RELEASE**  
For Immediate release  
Feb 21, 2023

### **Jason E. Benn Appointed to the Hawai'i Community Foundation's Board of Governors**

**HONOLULU, HAWAI'I** — The Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF), one of the state's leading philanthropic institutions, has appointed Jason E. Benn to its Board of Governors effective January 1, 2023. Benn will serve on the board's External Engagement Committee, which is responsible for providing strategic direction for outreach and engagement efforts including marketing, communications, partnerships, and prospect and donor development.

Benn is senior vice president and chief information officer at Hawaiian Electric Co., responsible for the innovation and delivery of information and operations technology services that enable improved efficiencies, service quality, and renewable energy integration for the utility's customers. He brings nearly three decades of IT leadership and experience to the Board of Governors in the areas of strategic business transformation and IT planning, IT architecture and infrastructure design, and cybersecurity and IT compliance.

"In this ever-increasingly technology-driven world, Jason brings a wealth of knowledge and experience as one of the top IT professionals in the state of Hawai'i," says Micah A. Kane, HCF CEO and president. "We will rely on his insight and guidance as HCF builds the processes and efficiencies that will allow the organization to continue delivering meaningful impact to Hawai'i's communities for generations to come."

The HCF Board of Governors is made up of respected community leaders who represent the rich diversity and broad interests of Hawai'i. Their knowledge of and sensitivity to Hawai'i's issues and needs provide invaluable leadership to the Hawai'i Community Foundation. The board establishes policies, sets organization-wide priorities and program strategies, and ensures that the financial stewardship and operations of HCF are conducted with integrity and accountability. The work of current board members builds on that of [former Board of Governors](#) members who have served HCF with distinction over the organization's more than 105-year history.

"I believe in HCF's mission to build equity and sustainability," said Benn. "My grandparents came here to Hawai'i from China, and they were able to make a new life for themselves and their family. My grandfather served at Guadalcanal, and they later had a farm in Nānākuli before starting up a business in Chinatown selling roasted meats. I have four children, and I want to be able to see a Hawai'i where the next generation of kids can not only survive, but thrive. To make this happen, we have to think about sustainability on every level. Sustainable jobs, sustainable energy, sustainable housing, sustainable food. It all matters."

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### **About 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 more than 105-year history, trusted expertise, and generous support of donors, we are working to solve our state's most difficult challenges. In 2021, HCF stewarded more than 1,050 funds and distributed \$100 million in grants to the community from funds at HCF, contracts, and private foundations statewide, including \$7.1 million in scholarships. HCF offices and staff are located statewide. For more information about HCF, please visit [hawaiicommunityfoundation.org](http://hawaiicommunityfoundation.org) and follow our social media channels on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#).