Maui Strong Funding Opportunity

Interim & Long-term Housing Application

Online Application Opens: October 14, 2024

Online Application Deadline: November 5, 2024

OVERVIEW

The Maui Strong Fund is providing financial resources to support the immediate and long-term recovery needs for the people and places affected by the devastating Maui wildfires. In response to the need and urgency for wildfire survivor housing, HCF seeks innovative, cost-effective, and scalable solutions to address the immediate and long-term housing needs of displaced individuals and families. Our goal is to partner with qualified organizations or entities that can deliver temporary and/or permanent housing solutions for wildfire survivors.

Maui Strong Fund grants will align with coordinated, collaborative, and data-informed needs that are responsive and appropriate for the recovery efforts.

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to solicit proposals from qualified organizations capable of designing, developing, and implementing disaster housing solutions to meet the needs of wildfire survivors. HCF seeks a variety of housing types, including temporary housing, and long-term permanent housing that can be rapidly deployed, meet County of Maui building code, incorporate wildfire mitigation strategies and adaptable to various environmental conditions. The housing solutions must address the following needs:

- Transitional housing options that bridge the gap between emergency and permanent housing;
- Long-term, resilient housing that can withstand future disasters;
- Energy-efficient and environmentally sustainable designs;
- Consideration for accessibility, cultural appropriateness, and family-oriented spaces.

Respondents should provide detailed proposals that address <u>one or more</u> of the following areas:

- Temporary Housing: Proposals should focus on transitional housing solutions that can serve displaced families for several months or years. These should be easy to assemble, relocatable, and capable of adapting to different climates.
- Permanent Housing: Proposals should provide innovative and cost-effective permanent housing solutions that can be built quickly but are durable and resilient to future disasters. The solutions must comply with local building codes and incorporate disaster-resistant features.

- Housing Resources: Proposals should provide solutions that support the return of households to their property through resources and support services that provide cost-saving benefits and improve the likelihood of rebuild.
- Logistics and Deployment: A strategy for the transportation, delivery, and on-site construction of housing units, with considerations for difficult terrain or access to affected areas.
- Cost and Sustainability: Proposals should provide a clear breakdown of costs, including materials, labor, and logistics, as well as a plan for minimizing environmental impact and ensuring sustainability in the long term.
- Community Engagement: Proposals should detail how they will engage with local communities, government agencies, and other stakeholders to ensure that housing solutions meet the cultural, social, and economic needs of the affected population.

ELIGIBILITY & REQUIREMENTS
- 501(c)(3) public charities in good standing are eligible to apply.
- Non-501(c)(3) organizations must have an existing 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization to serve as fiscal sponsor, and submitted projects must be charitable in nature.
- Individuals are not eligible to apply.
- Applicants must not have any outstanding HCF grant reports. Applicants with outstanding grant reports will be administratively denied.
- Grants may not be used for the following:
    - Endowments
    - Major capital endowments, including major capital campaigns
    - Activities that promote religious beliefs

GRANT AWARD
- Applicants that can demonstrate alignment with the program criteria and scope of work can apply for grant funds up to $5,000,000.00.
- The maximum cumulative distribution of awards for this funding opportunity is $10,000,000.00.
- Some proposed programs may be deferred to other funding opportunities should they align with recovery efforts better suited for a future timeline of implementation.

EVALUATION CRITERIA
- Application must support recovery needs for the people and places affected by the Maui wildfires.
- Application addresses a critical need or will fulfill an urgent demand for the Maui community.
- Application articulates clear and measurable impact and outcomes.
- Applicant can describe the organization's recent experience or past performance with managing grant funds.

- Applicant can demonstrate a partnership, collaboration, or network approach to supporting the Maui community.
- Applicant has sought and/or secured other sources of funding, including government and private funds.
- Applicants will be evaluated on the proposed solution's technical soundness and ability to meet the project's objectives.
- Applicants will be evaluated on the proposed solution to meet the defined housing need of the community.
- Applicants must show the ability to deliver a high-quality solution within a reasonable and competitive budget.
- Applicants will be evaluated on the creativity and uniqueness of the proposed solution in addressing housing challenges.
- Applicants will be evaluated on their experience, expertise, and ability to execute the project successfully.
- Applicants will be evaluated on the environmental and economic sustainability of the proposed housing solutions.
- Applicants will be evaluated on the extent to which the proposal incorporates community involvement and local knowledge.
- Additional consideration will be given to proposals with leveraged resources or other sources of funding.

APPLICATION PROCESS
Online Application
In January 2022, the Hawaiʻi Community Foundation transitioned to a new online application platform for grant seeking organizations. New users may register for a Grants Portal account here: https://hawaiicf.smartsimple.com/s_Login.jsp. Registered users may log in to their account to submit an application. For technical assistance with the online application process, please submit a support ticket at http://hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/ticket.

INSTRUCTIONS
- Only complete applications will be accepted.
- The online application has fillable boxes with character limits. The character counts in MS Word may not match the character counts in the application. If you cut and paste your work into the application, please be sure your text fits the space provided.

ORGANIZATION PROFILE
A critical component of the grant application is the Organization Profile. Every applicant organization or fiscal sponsor organization must maintain updated financial documents in the Organization Profile. The documents can be uploaded at any time but must be current at the time a grant is submitted. If fiscal documents are not up to date, the application may be

administratively denied. Information needed to complete your organization's profile includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter (not required if previously applied to the Foundation or if applying through a fiscal sponsor)
- Number of full-time and part-time staff and regular volunteers
- Organization Mission
- Service Location(s)
- Types of services provided (including age, gender, and target populations served)
- Financial Statements
  - Annual Operating budget for current year
  - Income statement (or profit/loss statement) for the <u>most recently completed fiscal year</u>
  - Balance sheet for the <u>most recently completed fiscal year</u>
  - Audited financial statements are preferred but not required
  - Local units of national organizations must submit local unit financial information
- Board of Directors List

Non-501(c)(3) organizations must have an organization profile to submit an application. Please use placeholder documents indicating that you do not have the requested files and post them in lieu of any documents you may not have copies of.

APPLICATION
The application consists of 4 tabs. Information needed to complete your application includes, but is not limited to the following:

- **Program Overview**:
  - Provide general information and characteristics about the program or service you provide, including program title, duration, area of interest, and program location(s).
  - If you have a fiscal sponsor, you will be asked to identify your fiscal sponsor. Please note, your fiscal sponsor must first be registered in the Grants Portal prior to submitting your application.
- **Program Information**:
  - **Organization Description** *(Maximum 2,500 characters = ¾ page)*: Describe the mission of the organization/program. What is the organization's experience with disaster relief, housing, or related fields, including any past projects or case studies that demonstrate your expertise. What staff capabilities does the organization have to conduct the proposed work? What geographic area (Lahaina/Kīhei/Kula) will the organization serve? (ex. *# of people served; # of events held; types & amounts of resources provided; etc.)*
  - **Executive Summary** *(Maximum 2,500 characters = ¾ page)*: Provide a brief and concise summary of the applicant's goals with the proposed program or service. This executive summary may be used for different purposes, including external communications, to describe the program should a grant be awarded.

- o **Problem or Opportunity** *(Maximum 3,000 characters = ¾ page):* Describe the need or opportunity the organization will address and why this is critical. Describe the target audience and how that community has informed the need for this program. Are similar programs operating at other organizations? If so, how might this program differ? Please include appropriate data, evidence, or strategies that could strengthen these statements. Some recovery related reports and data resources are available at https://strongerhawaii.org/news-updates/research-and-data/
  - o **Program Activities & Timeline:** *(Maximum 3,500 characters = 1 page)* A detailed description of the proposed housing solution, including designs, materials, construction methods, and timeline for delivery, if applicable. Be sure to address each component of the scope of work that is relevant to your proposal. Provide a program timeline. Describe how the project aligns with the priority of the Maui Strong Fund. Please describe any partners or networks the organization is engaged with in these efforts.
  - o **Expected Results:** *(Maximum 3,500 characters = 1 page)* Detail a plan for how you will evaluate the success of the project, including metrics for measuring the impact on the affected population and the long-term sustainability of the solution. Measures should be specific and quantifiable.
  - o **Additional Grant Request:** Implementation Plan: Provide a detailed plan outlining how your organization will implement the proposed solution, including key milestones, delivery timelines, logistics, and risk management strategies. *(Maximum 2,500 characters = ¾ page*
  - o **Additional Grant Request:** Sustainability and Resilience: Explain how the proposed housing solution is sustainable and resilient to future disasters, including any energy-efficient or environmentally friendly components. *(Maximum 2,500 characters = ¾ page*
  - o **Additional Grant Request:** References: Contact information for at least three references who can speak to your organization's ability to deliver on the proposed project.
  - o **Areas of Disaster Approach** (check all that apply) – risk reduction and disaster readiness, rapid relief and response, recovery and stabilization, and rebuilding resilience.
  - o **Area of Focus** (check all that apply) – Housing, Health & Social Services, Economic, and Natural & Cultural Resources.
  - o **Population Served** (check all that apply) - Disabled Persons, Elders, Immigrants, Children/Youth, Animal Care, High-Risk and/or Underserved Populations.

- **Budget**: Provide a detailed, itemized budget outlining the costs associated with the design, development, and implementation of the proposed solution. Proposals should also include a clear explanation of any cost-saving measures or efficiencies. Budgets should be inclusive of income and expenses, indicating sources of income that are pending and secured.

- **Supporting Documents & Certification**: Upload any additional required documents as listed in the application guidelines.

FISCAL SPONSORS
- Resolution by fiscal sponsor's board of directors authorizing fiscal sponsorship
- Fiscal sponsor's agreement form
  Sample forms can be found at:
  http://www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/grants/fiscal-sponsor-materials
- Fiscal sponsor's IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter

DEADLINE

HCF staff will review applications through November and December through a tiered review process. Applicants who meet criteria for consideration of funding will be asked to present their proposals to a panel of HCF staff and subject matter experts. Decisions should be announced in December 2024.

CONTACT INFORMATION

All questions about this funding opportunity must be submitted in writing via email to the Maui Recovery Team at mauistrong@hcf-hawaii.org by October 21, 2024. Responses to all questions will be made available to all respondents by October 25, 2024.

For technical assistance with the online application process, please submit a support ticket at http://hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/ticket.