



HAWAI'I COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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HCF LAULIMA GRANTS PROVIDE MORE THAN \$1.2M TO 18 ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS ACROSS THE STATE TO STEWARD HAWAI'I'S NEARSHORE MARINE AREAS

The Laulima Grants support the Holomua Marine Initiative, focused on the effective management of nearshore marine areas in Hawai'i with strong community engagement

Honolulu, HAWAI'I — The Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF) announced more than \$1.2 million in grants to 18 organizations and programs providing meaningful contributions to the goal of the [Holomua Marine Initiative](#), which focuses on protecting and restoring nearshore marine areas in Hawai'i through community engagement and co-management. The grantees have programs in Kaua'i, Hawai'i Island, Moloka'i, Maui, O'ahu and statewide.

"For generations, Hawai'i's marine environments have been integral to the cultural, physical, and economic health of our islands and people," says Dana Okano, HCF's Director of Natural Environment. "We are proud to support the organizations working tirelessly to safeguard our marine ecosystems and foster community stewardship."

The HCF Laulima Grant program was designed to provide funding opportunities to a broad range of stakeholders and projects, with applicants implementing programs in at least one of the five focal areas:

- **Capacity:** Strengthen community and organization capacity to deliver programs that result in effective community co-management of nearshore marine areas.
- **Coordination:** Strengthen coordination and collaboration between diverse groups or agencies to effectively manage nearshore marine areas.
- **Data:** Improve data collection, analysis, management, and application to resource management, decision making, and community awareness and knowledge, including uplifting and integrating local and traditional knowledge.
- **Engagement:** Strengthen community engagement in effective management of nearshore marine areas, including through activities that highlight shared core values.
- **Governance:** Prioritize projects and programs that lead to shared policy goals, good governance, and effective management of nearshore areas.

Amy Hodges, executive director of the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, says, "Thanks to support from the HCF Laulima Grant, the Hui O Ka Wai Ola [program] can continue to make reliable water quality data

available to Maui’s residents and to leaders and decision-makers as they plan for the future of our island home.”

Leina’ala Thornton, project coordinator for the Edith Kanaka’ole Foundation, says, “The Edith Kanaka’ole Foundation is committed to the continued protection and care for our ocean resources. The restoration of Haleolono fishpond began in the 1990s, and today, it continues to bring together our community through our educational, cultural, and community efforts. We are pleased to welcome the support of the Holomua Marine Initiative Laulima Grant through the Hawai’i Community Foundation for this important cause.”

In 2016, the state launched the Sustainable Hawai’i Initiative, a multi-pronged effort to ensure a healthy environment and economy for Hawai’i’s people. As part of this effort, the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Aquatic Resources, introduced the Holomua Marine Initiative to effectively manage Hawai’i’s nearshore waters by partnering with communities to implement traditional management practices and knowledge with guidance from fishers, cultural and scientific experts, and community leaders.

The Hawai’i Community Foundation manages philanthropic donations that supports the Holomua Marine Initiative and the communities engaged in nearshore marine management efforts. HCF’s role is to develop and administer a pooled field of interest fund to support robust implementation of the Initiative, which includes providing grants and contracts to strengthen state, community, and nonprofit organizations capacity to engage in this critical work. To date, more than \$6M has been awarded since the inception of the pooled fund in 2020.

The following 18 organizations and programs awarded HCF Laulima Grants include:

Organization Name	Program	Program Location	Total Awarded
Hawaiian Islands Land Trust	Improving Nearshore Water Quality through wetland and fishpond restoration at Kapoho, Waihe’e	Maui	\$150,000
Hui Aloha Kīholo	Mālama Kīholo: Ensuring Perpetual Co-Stewardship Through Community Engagement and Sustainable Revenue Development	Hawai’i Island	\$149,896
Kuleana Coral Reefs	Building technical capacity for in-water reef restoration	O’ahu, Maui	\$125,000
Mālama Maunalua	Incorporating Community in Restoring Maunalua Bay	O’ahu	\$150,000
Maui Nui Marine Resource Council	Integrated Coastal Monitoring and Community Collaboration for Leeward Maui	Maui	\$45,600
Sustainable Coastlines Hawai’i	Kahuku Solutions Center and Coastal Care Project	O’ahu	\$50,000
Edith Kanaka’ole Foundation	Kaiea Project - Promoting traditional ways of observation and restoration to inform and address coastal management and sea-level rise.	Hawai’i Island	\$25,000

He'eia National Estuarine Research Reserve , University of Hawai'i – Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology	Revitalizing Kāne'ōhe Bay: A Community-Driven Approach to Updating the Master Plan	O'ahu	\$50,000
Ho'omalū Ke Kai	Kaua'i Coral of Opportunity Restoration and Rehabilitation Initiative – Expanding a coral nursery for coral reef restoration	Kaua'i	\$50,000
Kauhakō Ohana Association	Kauhakō/Ho'okena Ko'a Hānai – Shoreline survey, coral monitoring, reef restoration, and youth engagement.	Hawai'i Island	\$23,000
Ke Ao Hali'i	'ĀINA ALOHA – Native species restoration and monitoring based on traditional cultural practice.	Maui	\$100,000
Ka Honua Momona International	Mālama I Na Loko I'a O Moloka'i – Removal of invasive species to improve water circulation in fishpond and reef.	Moloka'i	\$50,000
Kīpahulu 'Ohana Inc.	Mālama I Ke Kai O Kīpahulu – Implementing the Kīpahulu CBSFA management plan.	Maui	\$50,000
Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea	Implementing the Four Marine Holomua Initiative Pillars at Pūpūkea	O'ahu	\$50,000
Na Mamo O Muolea	Welo Mau Ana No Na Hanauna Hou – Education, outreach, youth program, community stewarding	Maui	\$50,000
Pacific American Foundation (FS To HFACT & Lynker)	Building Capacity Within Hawaii's Fishing Communities To Engage In The Holomua Marine Initiative – Engaging fishers and fisher groups to strengthen collaboration and voice in nearshore marine management	Statewide	\$50,000
Reef Guardians Hawaii	Malama i ke Kai - Wanini Water Testing Program	Kaua'i	\$30,000
Resources Legacy Fund	Strengthening collaboration and partnerships to achieve policy goals for nearshore marine management	Statewide	\$50,000
Total			\$1,248,496

The following organizations provide funding support to the HCF Holomua Marine Initiative: Harold K. L. Castle Foundation, Marisla Foundation, Oak Foundation, Kōaniani Fund, Oceans 5 a sponsored project of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, the Aditi Fund, Jon and Kim Chen Bock, Flora Family Foundation, and two funding partners who prefer to remain anonymous.

To learn more about the Holomua Marine Initiative, please visit <https://www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/strengthening/holomua-marine-initiative>

For images of the grantee organizations, please visit this [Dropbox folder](#). All photos are provided courtesy of the respective grantee.

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About The Hawai'i Community Foundation

The vision of the Hawai'i Community Foundation is to create an equitable and vibrant Hawai'i in which all our Island communities thrive. With our more-than-107-year history, our trusted expertise, and the generous support of donors, we are working to address the root causes of our state's most difficult challenges, including expanding access to affordable housing, conserving freshwater resources, and ensuring the healthy development of Hawai'i's young children. We focus our efforts through the CHANGE Framework, which identifies six essential sectors affecting the overall well-being of these islands and its people. HCF works in communities across Hawai'i, with offices and staff located statewide. In 2023, HCF stewarded more than 1,160 funds, established by individuals, businesses, and organizations who share our passion for a better Hawai'i. We distributed over \$107 million in grants to the community from funds at HCF, contracts, and private foundations statewide, including scholarships assisting more than 1,000 Hawai'i students. For more information about HCF, please visit [hawaiicommunityfoundation.org](https://www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org) and follow our social media channels on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#).