



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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### **KA PEWA PODCAST FEATURES SEN. BRIAN SCHATZ ON HOUSING AND HAWAI'I'S FUTURE**

**HONOLULU, HI** — The Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF) announced its latest episode of the Ka Pewa podcast, featuring U.S. Senator Brian Schatz in conversation with host Kanoa Leahey. The podcast series is dedicated to exploring Hawai'i's most pressing issues through candid, community-driven conversations, and this discussion centers on one of Hawai'i's most urgent challenges: housing.

In the episode, Senator Schatz emphasizes the need to rethink outdated policies that limit growth and affordability. He highlights the importance of increasing density in Hawai'i's urban cores to "keep the country country" and reaffirms his commitment to "fight like hell" to protect local families' ability to live and thrive in Hawai'i, alongside the state's transition to clean energy.

Since its launch, Ka Pewa has featured a series of conversations with leaders, practitioners, and community voices who are engaging solution-oriented conversations to help their community move forward.

Ka Pewa takes its name from the traditional Hawaiian butterfly patch used to repair broken pieces, a symbol of restoring strength and function through care and community. The podcast aspires to serve a similar purpose by bringing people together to mend divides and strengthen Hawai'i's future.

"We created the Ka Pewa podcast to serve as a safe and open space for the difficult conversations that matter most to the people of Hawai'i," said Keanu Lau Hee, senior director of the HCF Maui Recover Effort. "Starting on Maui with housing, a challenge that touches every family, we hope to bring these conversations to each island, bridging gaps and building common ground around issues that can feel daunting but are essential to our future."

Listeners can tune into Ka Pewa on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, YouTube, and other major platforms.

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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-108-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 their people. HCF works in communities across Hawai'i, with offices and staff located statewide. In 2024, 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 \$172 million in grants to the community from funds at HCF, contracts, and private foundations statewide, including scholarships assisting more than 1,100 Hawai'i students. For more information about HCF, please visit [Hawaiicommunityfoundation.org](https://hawaiicommunityfoundation.org) and follow our social media channels on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube.