



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Hawai'i Community Foundation Deploys \$45,000 in Stronger Hawai'i Funding Ahead
of Potential Tropical Storm Nolo**

Additional \$500,000 Awarded to Catholic Charities for Direct Financial Assistance Support

HONOLULU — As the state prepares for potential impacts from Tropical Storm Nolo, the Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF) has deployed \$45,000 in funds through its [Stronger Hawai'i Initiative](#). The funding will help five organizations on Maui and Hawai'i Island conduct preparedness outreach, and procure and distribute emergency supplies, particularly to vulnerable communities.

In support of statewide recovery efforts, HCF also awarded \$500,000 to Catholic Charities to support direct financial assistance to those impacted by Hurricane Lowell.

"Our communities, particularly on Hawai'i Island, are still recovering from Tropical Cyclone Lala, so it is even more critical to support their preparedness and ongoing recovery to withstand further impacts," said Terry George, HCF CEO & President. "We are extremely grateful for our corporate and foundation partners and donors who have supported our Stronger Hawai'i Initiative, which allows HCF to continue to quickly mobilize philanthropic resources to trusted community partners on the ground before, during, and after these ongoing severe weather events."

Since launching the initiative in March, Stronger Hawai'i has received gifts from 3,313 individual donors and 118 corporate and foundation partners, including: 7-Eleven Hawai'i; Alaska Airlines and Hawaiian Airlines; American Savings Bank; Bank of Hawaii Foundation; Boyd Gaming; Central Pacific Bank Foundation; Chun Kerr LLP; The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina; First Hawaiian Bank; Foodland; Hawai'i Life; HawaiiUSA Federal Credit Union; Kaiser Permanente Fund at East Bay Community Foundation; Los Angeles Chargers; Mark Zuckerberg and Priscilla Chan; Salesforce; Walmart for Good; and Zippy's.

The local nonprofit organizations who received Stronger Hawai'i Initiative Phase 1 risk reduction and readiness funding in preparation for Tropical Storm Nolo include:

- **Hawai'i Animal Kuleana Alliance** (\$10,000) to provide food, water, emergency supplies, and animal assistance for rural households on Hawai'i Island.
- **HOPE Services** (\$10,000) to connect vulnerable and houseless residents on Hawai'i Island with emergency supplies, resources, and preparedness support.
- **Nā'ālehu Resilience Hub**, fiscally sponsored by Vibrant Hawai'i (\$10,000) to prepare Nā'ālehu residents through a community hub providing food, water, propane, and other essential resources.
- **Living Pono Project** (\$5,000) to support preparedness and response efforts on Maui through emergency communications equipment, generators, water pumps, and essential supplies for vulnerable communities.
- **Maui Rapid Response**, fiscally sponsored by Maui Grassroots Collective Inc. (\$10,000) to help houseless and vulnerable residents on Maui prepare through outreach, essential supplies, and connections to critical resources and services.

HCF continues to monitor Tropical Storm Nolo and will deploy additional funding upon further assessment and input from any impacted communities. Individuals and organizations interested in learning more or contributing to the Stronger Hawai'i Initiative can visit

www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/strongerhawaii.

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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 110-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 2025, HCF stewarded more than 1,175 funds, established by individuals, businesses, and organizations committed to building a better Hawai'i. Through these funds, along with contracts and private foundations, we've distributed over \$116

million in grants statewide so far this year, including scholarships assisting more than 1,400 Hawai'i students. For more information about HCF, please visit hawaiicommunityfoundation.org and follow our social media channels on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [YouTube](#).