



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Hawai'i Community Foundation Deploys \$265,000 to Support Kaua'i and Ni'ihau
Disaster Response Following Hurricane Lowell**

HAWAI'I — The Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF) has deployed an additional \$265,000 through its [Stronger Hawai'i Initiative](#) to support disaster response efforts on Kaua'i and Ni'ihau following Hurricane Lowell.

"Our hearts are with the families, farmers, businesses, and communities on Kaua'i and Ni'ihau who are currently dealing with the impacts of Hurricane Lowell," said Terry George, HCF CEO and President. "The frequency and severity of these storms are taking a toll across our island communities, which is why we are so grateful for the continued support of our Stronger Hawai'i Initiative. Before, during and long after disasters strike, these flexible funds allow us to quickly mobilize resources to communities that need them most."

Prior to the arrival of Hurricane Lowell, HCF awarded \$22,000 in grants to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable families and households on Kaua'i and Ni'ihau. The funds enabled Hawai'i Foodbank – Kaua'i, Kāko'o Lāhui, and Project Vision Hawai'i to deliver proactive preparedness outreach and rapidly procure and distribute essential food, supplies, and other life-sustaining resources ahead of the storm.

The additional funding announced today will aid disaster response efforts across Kaua'i County by supporting the following local nonprofits:

- **Aloha United Way** (\$20,000) to connect Kaua'i residents with critical information, resources, and support through the 211 Hawai'i helpline in partnership with Kaua'i United Way.
- **Hawai'i Foodbank Kaua'i** (\$100,000) to strengthen food distribution efforts for communities across Kaua'i, ensuring access to essential resources during ongoing power and communications disruptions.

- **Kāko‘o Lāhui** (\$10,000) to establish a community-led hub in Wainiha providing essential supplies and basic needs for rural and isolated households, especially those with kūpuna.
- **Kaua‘i Economic Development Board** (\$40,000) to coordinate the procurement and distribution of emergency resources and supplies across community organizations, including commercial ice, for communities across Kaua‘i impacted by Hurricane Lowell.
- **Kaua‘i Independent Food Bank** (\$25,000) to coordinate food distribution and emergency resources, including water and meals-ready-to-eat (MREs), for communities across Kaua‘i.
- **Mālama Kaua‘i** (\$50,000) to help farmers and ranchers across Kaua‘i recover by providing emergency resources and addressing losses to agricultural infrastructure, equipment, crops, and livestock.
- **Salvation Army Hanapepe Corp.** (\$10,000) to provide emergency meals and essential resources for residents near the Hanapēpē location.
- **Salvation Army Lihue Corps.** (\$10,000) to provide emergency meals and essential resources for residents near the Līhu‘e location.

“Disasters do not end when the storm passes,” said George. “The people of Kaua‘i and Ni‘ihau are already demonstrating the resilience and care for one another that define these communities. By investing in trusted local organizations, we stand alongside those on the front lines, helping ensure residents have access to the assistance they need.”

The Stronger Hawai‘i Initiative supports disaster and emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and resilience throughout the state. Designed for flexibility, the initiative allows HCF and its partners to mobilize resources quickly and respond to areas of greatest need as a crisis unfolds, while also supporting long-term recovery and community resilience. For more information, visit www.hawaiicomunityfoundation.org/strengthening/stronger-hawaii.

Click [HERE](#) to view images from Stronger Hawai‘i Initiative efforts courtesy of local response partners. Please credit the organizations listed.

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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, trusted expertise, and the generous support of donors, HCF is working to address the root causes of the 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. HCF focuses its 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, HCF distributed more than \$116 million in grants statewide last year, including scholarships assisting more than 1,400 Hawai'i students. For more information about HCF, please visit hawaiicommunityfoundation.org and follow its social media channels on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube.