



The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation

# Overview of Grants in Hawai'i

The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation strives to fight poverty and build strong, vibrant communities where everyone can thrive.

To those ends, the Foundation provides grants to nonprofits in the United States and Israel that help people achieve economic stability and well-being.

The Foundation has a long-standing commitment to Hawai'i, where it grants about \$15 million annually to nonprofits and networks that strengthen communities to lead and shape their futures, creating opportunity and fostering their well-being. Weinberg's grantmaking throughout the state prioritizes funding collaborative approaches that increase the supply of **affordable housing**; improve access to **nutritious, locally produced food** and **high-quality health care**; and connect people across the islands with **paths to careers**. The Foundation also supports initiatives aimed at bringing more resources to rural communities to address poverty; advancing promising models for community-led development and stewardship of land; strengthening the state's Jewish nonprofit sector; and supporting Maui's ongoing recovery from the August 2023 wildfires.

These efforts — all grounded in the importance of 'āina (land), Indigenous culture and practices, and community-driven change — aim to ensure residents from keiki (children) to kūpuna (older adults) are able to live, work, and grow on the islands they call home for generations to come.

# Key Strategies



## HOUSING

*Supporting housing that remains affordable for generations, enables people to stay in their communities, and protects and preserves land and culture*

### Select Grantees and Initiatives

#### HOPE SERVICES HAWAII

This nonprofit offers pathways to affordable housing with supportive services — including case management that fosters resilience and independence — on Hawai'i Island. The Foundation supports HOPE's expansion into housing and community development, including innovative models of intergenerational housing, providing permanent homes for older adults and families.

#### PU'UHONUA O WAI'ANAE

This development in rural O'ahu — the first of its kind in the state — is designed and led by people without housing. When completed, it will provide housing that remains permanently affordable and connect people with health care, food, educational and employment opportunities, and a sense of purpose and belonging within a supportive community.

#### BUILDING DEVELOPER CAPACITY

The Foundation seeks to strengthen the field of nonprofit developers in Hawai'i, providing grants to emerging community-led organizations for predevelopment activities — such as acquiring land, retaining architects and engineers, or conducting environmental studies — and to build their development teams and capacity. The Foundation also supports nonprofit loan funds that increase these developers' access to capital for projects.



## HEALTH

*Investing in health care and community food systems that recognize connection with 'āina and culture as essential to well-being*

### Select Grantees and Initiatives

#### HAWAII GOOD FOOD ALLIANCE

This network of individuals and organizations produces, gathers, and distributes food and shares in the practice of mālama 'āina (care for the land) to rebuild thriving community food systems. The Foundation has supported the network's efforts to increase access to healthy food and to strengthen local economies through partnerships with farmers and food hubs that connect producers with community markets. The network also includes health centers that integrate cultural food and nutrition services into health care systems to promote preventive care in rural communities.

#### HUI MĀLAMA I KE ALA 'ŪLILI

This nonprofit, located in East Hāmākua on Hawai'i Island, strives to restore community well-being and opportunity by transforming hundreds of acres of land depleted by sugarcane production into thriving forests of 'ulu (breadfruit), taro, and other native plants. HuiMAU's programs distribute fresh produce to the community and provide hands-on learning opportunities and mentorship for youth that foster aloha 'āina (love of the land).

#### WAIANAE COAST COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CENTER

The state's first and largest federally qualified health center, this nonprofit serves as the lead organization in a network of federally qualified health centers on O'ahu, Molokai, Maui, and Hawai'i Island. The Foundation supports this network's efforts to promote health care access, quality, and cost-effectiveness and integrate cultural practices to better serve rural communities. 'Elepaio Social Services, Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center's nonprofit subsidiary, coordinates with community partners to provide culturally relevant nutrition education and food as part of a holistic approach to health. Since 2020, 'Elepaio has distributed more than 10 million pounds of food to families in west O'ahu.







## EDUCATION AND JOBS

*Creating paths to quality education, jobs, and careers that contribute to the health and well-being of 'āina and people*

### Select Grantees and Initiatives

#### HAWAI'I OPPORTUNITY YOUTH LEARNING NETWORK

Together with the Kosasa Foundation, the Foundation developed this three-year collaborative effort involving community-based organizations serving 5,500 young people. The initiative aims to strengthen connections among youth-serving organizations; create clear pathways to educational and employment opportunities for youth who are not in school or working; and build support systems that cultivate young people's sense of belonging and agency to chart their own course.

#### HAWAI'I WORKFORCE FUNDERS COLLABORATIVE

Together with the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation, Hawai'i Community Foundation, and HMSA, the Foundation launched this partnership of philanthropic organizations committed to ensuring all residents, including those in rural areas, have access to high-quality jobs that strengthen communities and families. This collaborative effort provides comprehensive, reliable data to inform decision-making and funds new approaches that support youth and adults to stay and thrive in Hawai'i.

#### VIBRANT HAWAI'I

By connecting schools, nonprofits, and employers on Hawai'i Island, Vibrant Hawai'i creates coordinated, community-based opportunities for paid work experiences, hands-on learning, and life and career skill building — strengthening individual and community resilience while promoting economic mobility and civic engagement. The Foundation supported the nonprofit's work to establish a coalition led and designed by youth that enables them to develop leadership skills and contribute to their communities.

## Special Initiatives

#### SUPPORTING MAUI WILDFIRE RECOVERY

Weinberg is a founding member of the Maui Recovery Funders Collaborative, which aims to leverage, coordinate, and streamline funding for disaster recovery, rebuilding, and community well-being on the island after the devastating wildfires in August 2023. This group also strives to reduce the burden on nonprofits seeking grants by providing a common, simplified process for accessing a range of philanthropic resources.

#### STRENGTHENING THE JEWISH NONPROFIT SECTOR AND COMMUNITY

The Foundation builds relationships, capacity, and collaboration among Jewish nonprofits and leaders across the state to help make every community safer and healthier. Efforts include the expansion of direct services across the islands through Jewish Community Services of Hawai'i.

#### BOLSTERING COMMUNITY-LED DEVELOPMENT

In October 2024, the Foundation provided its first-ever land grant in Hawai'i, transferring nearly 250 acres in Mākaha on the western coast of O'ahu. The land, stewarded by MA'O Organic Farms, neighbors MA'O's existing 281-acre farm in Wai'anae. Guided by aloha 'āina and a vision for fostering youth leadership and community resilience, MA'O will cultivate the land for agriculture, build affordable workforce housing, and expand its successful college and career programs — all to further grow the health and well-being of future leaders in Wai'anae.



*View of the land in Mākaha stewarded by MA'O Organic Farms.*





## Explore the Foundation's grants in Hawai'i:

[www.hjweinberg.org/hawaii-grants20-24](http://www.hjweinberg.org/hawaii-grants20-24)

