

FY2025

'ONIPA'A ANAHOLA

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PROJECT



Community Service



Hazard Mitigation



Cultural Practices



Fire Prevention

Prepared for :
Grant in Aid Assistance

Prepared by
Jeremie Makepa



**THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
APPLICATION FOR GRANTS
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES**

Type of Grant Request:

Operating Capital

Legal Name of Requesting Organization or Individual: Db:

AINA ALLIANCE

Amount of State Funds Requested: \$ 300,000

Brief Description of Request (Please attach word document to back of page if extra space is needed):

This request focuses coastal hazard mitigation activities we have conducted over the last 3 years into a concentrated effort toward culturally and environmentally sensitive areas to rehabilitate the area and educate participants about historical land management practices using Native Hawaiian traditional and ecological knowledge. These activities will be conducted on 20 acres of oceanfront property in Anahola uniquely isolated from western urbanization to clearly show the effects of climate change and intervention activities to improve adverse effects of human and environmental impact.

Amount of Other Funds Available:

State: \$ 300000
Federal: \$ 0
County: \$ 0
Private/Other: \$ 0

Total amount of State Grants Received in the Past 5 Fiscal Years:

\$ 381,100
Unrestricted Assets:
\$ 44636.90

New Service (Presently Does Not Exist): Existing Service (Presently in Operation):

Type of Business Entity:

501(C)(3) Non Profit Corporation
 Other Non Profit
 Other

Mailing Address:

4-1526 Kuhio Hwy
City: Kapaa State: HI Zip: 96746

Contact Person for Matters Involving this Application

Name:
Jeremie Makepa

Title:
Board President

Email:
aina.alliance.808@gmail.com

Phone:
808-482-0257

Federal Tax ID#:

██████████

State Tax ID#

██████████



Authorized Signature

Jeremie Makepa, Board President

Name and Title

January 19, 2024

Date Signed



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF VENDOR COMPLIANCE

This document presents the compliance status of the vendor identified below on the issue date with respect to certificates required from the Hawaii Department of Taxation (DOTAX), the Internal Revenue Service, the Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR), and the Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA).

Vendor Name: **AINA ALLIANCE**

Issue Date: **01/05/2024**

Status: **Compliant**

Hawaii Tax#:

New Hawaii Tax#:

FEIN/SSN#: XX-XXX0566

UI#: No record

DCCA FILE#: 320634

Status of Compliance for this Vendor on issue date:

Form	Department(s)	Status
A-6	Hawaii Department of Taxation	Compliant
8821	Internal Revenue Service	Compliant
COGS	Hawaii Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs	Exempt
LIR27	Hawaii Department of Labor & Industrial Relations	Compliant

Status Legend:

Status	Description
Exempt	The entity is exempt from this requirement
Compliant	The entity is compliant with this requirement or the entity is in agreement with agency and actively working towards compliance
Pending	A status determination has not yet been made
Submitted	The entity has applied for the certificate but it is awaiting approval
Not Compliant	The entity is not in compliance with the requirement and should contact the issuing agency for more information

JEREMIE MAKEPA
PRESIDENT,
‘ĀINA ALLIANCE



DEVIN MEDEIROS
SECRETARY,
‘ĀINA ALLIANCE

GARY CUMMINGS, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
‘ĀINA ALLIANCE

SANDRA CUMMINGS
TREASURER,
‘ĀINA ALLIANCE

P. O. BOX 30858
ANAHOLA, HAWAII 96703

Declaration Statement of Compliance with Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the ‘Āina Alliance Nonprofit Board, I hereby declare our full compliance with the standards set forth in Section 42F-103 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes. As an organization deeply committed to upholding the highest standards of integrity and responsibility, we affirm the following:

- **Licensing and Accreditation:** The ‘Āina Alliance is fully licensed and accredited, in accordance with federal, state, and county statutes, rules, or ordinances, to conduct the activities and provide the services for which a grant is awarded.
- **Non-Discrimination Compliance:** We adhere to all applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination against any person based on race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability.
- **Proper Use of Funds:** We agree not to use state funds for entertainment or lobbying activities and commit to the responsible and transparent utilization of all granted resources.
- **Access to Records:** We will allow full access to our records, reports, files, and other related documents and information to the state agency, legislative committees, their staff, and the auditor for monitoring, measuring effectiveness, and ensuring proper expenditure of the grant.
- **Organizational Status:** The ‘Āina Alliance is incorporated under the laws of the State of Hawaii and spends at least ninety percent of its operating budget within the State. We are registered with the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and possess a valid certificate of vendor compliance, confirming our good standing with pertinent federal and state departments.
- **Governance and Policies:** Our bylaws and policies meticulously describe the manner in which the activities or services for which a grant is awarded shall be conducted or provided.
- **Nonprofit Status:** The ‘Āina Alliance has been designated a nonprofit organization by the Internal Revenue Service. Our governing board members have no material conflict of interest and serve without compensation.
- **Land Acquisition and Disposition:** The grant will not be used for land acquisition, and therefore not applicable with subsection (d) of Section 42F-103.

This declaration is made with the full knowledge and understanding of the responsibilities and obligations it entails. We are committed to fulfilling the mission of the ‘Āina Alliance and to doing so in a manner that aligns with the legal and ethical standards as set forth by the State of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

 , 1/14/2021
Jeremie Makepa
BOARD PRESIDENT,
‘ĀINA ALLIANCE

**DECLARATION STATEMENT OF
APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS PURSUANT TO
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAI'I REVISED STATUTES**

The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies the following:

- 1) The applicant meets and will comply with all of the following standards for the award of grants pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawai'i Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is licensed or accredited, in accordance with federal, state, or county statutes, rules, or ordinances, to conduct the activities or provide the services for which a grant is awarded;
 - b) Complies with all applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability;
 - c) Agrees not to use state funds for entertainment or lobbying activities; and
 - d) Allows the state agency to which funds for the grant were appropriated for expenditure, legislative committees and their staff, and the auditor full access to their records, reports, files, and other related documents and information for purposes of monitoring, measuring the effectiveness, and ensuring the proper expenditure of the grant.
- 2) If the applicant is an organization, the applicant meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawai'i Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is incorporated under the laws of the State; and
 - b) Has bylaws or policies that describe the manner in which the activities or services for which a grant is awarded shall be conducted or provided; and
- 3) If the applicant is a non-profit organization, it meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawai'i Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is determined and designated to be a non-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service; and
 - b) Has a governing board whose members have no material conflict of interest and serve without compensation.
- 4) The use of grant-in-aid funding complies with all provisions of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii (for example, pursuant to Article X, section 1, of the Constitution, the State cannot provide "... public funds ... for the support or benefit of any sectarian or nonsectarian private educational institution...").

Pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, for grants used for the acquisition of land, when the organization discontinues the activities or services on the land acquired for which the grant was awarded and disposes of the land in fee simple or by lease, the organization shall negotiate with the expending agency for a lump sum or installment repayment to the State of the amount of the grant used for the acquisition of the land.

Further, the undersigned authorized representative certifies that this statement is true and correct to the best of the applicant's knowledge.

Āina Alliance

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)



(Signature)

1/17/2024

(Date)

Jeremie Makepa

(Typed Name)

Board President

(Title)

Public Purpose Document for 'Āina Alliance

Introduction:

The 'Onipa'a Anahola Community Resilience Project, managed by 'Āina Alliance, a Native Hawaiian Nonprofit operating out of Anahola, Kaua'i, is a significant initiative aimed at enhancing the resilience of the Anahola landscape and its community against the detrimental effects of climate change. The overall project spans 432 acres of coastal land, focusing on mitigating fire risks, controlling shoreline erosion, and promoting sustainable land management. Our approach, which merges Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) with contemporary environmental strategies, is designed to address unique challenges along the shoreline while ensuring community safety and environmental sustainability. For this grant request, we will concentrate our efforts on a particularly sensitive area encompassing the Bay of Anapalau. Historically this area has Native Hawaiian cultural remnants of heiau, village activity, 'iwi kupuna (bones of our ancestors) and was traditionally used as a trading port for canoes. In the recent past, flash floods have washed out areas along the stream. However, this stream no longer flows into the ocean due to decisions by the Department of Hawaiian Homelands to decommission upland reservoirs. These factors make it an ideal candidate to encourage public participation in activities to mitigate natural and human factors adversely affecting our coastal environments. This isolated 30 acre parcel offers a unique opportunity to research and compare Traditional land management techniques and measure improvements to the landscape.

Name of Requesting Organization: 'Āina Alliance.

Public Purpose for the Grant:

The grant is sought to bolster community resilience, particularly in the Anahola Community, against fire hazards and shoreline erosion, crucial for the safety and environmental integrity of this high-risk and economically disadvantaged area. Activities proposed in this grant offer public participation events that increase awareness of climate hazards, educate participants in historical, cultural and environmentally sensitive subjects, encourage both active mitigation and political participation to make the changes needed on the ground and within governmental policies to prevent adverse effects of climate change and human impacts. Although this grant is primarily beneficial to residents of Anahola, its 30 acre site provides ample room for all Kaua'i residents and visitors to participate and learn from its activities.

The project aligns with the public purpose by enhancing community safety and protecting the environment through the application of both TEK and modern fire prevention and erosion control techniques.

Services Supported by the Grant:

- Cultivation of fire-resilient and native plants in collaboration with local farms.
- Clearing and management of invasive species to reduce fire fuel loads
- Landscaping and environmental restoration projects to create fire-resistant zones.
- Mitigation of human impacts such as illegal dumping, marine debris, and adverse activities towards the environment.
- Development and implementation of community workshops as part of educational programs on climate impacts, fire prevention and sustainable land stewardship.

Target Group:

The primary target group for this project is the residents of Anahola, which has the highest population of Native Hawaiians on Kaua'i. Many of which are low-income and homeless groups within these communities who are disproportionately affected by climate change, fire hazards and land mismanagement. Secondly, this 30 acre site provides ample room for all Kaua'i residents and visitors to participate and learn from its activities. By inviting all public to participate we will build strong relationships with the businesses, organizations, and government agencies needed to expand climate resilience to other areas.

Cost of the Grant and Budget:

The total amount being sought for this 1 year initiative is \$300,000. This budget will cover the costs associated with plant procurement, invasive species removal, program development, landscaping, and administrative expenses necessary to successfully implement and sustain the project

Alignment with Section 42F-103 Standards:

‘Āina Alliance is an accredited organization, licensed to conduct the activities outlined in the grant, including environmental resilience, historical & cultural research, and community education.

- We adhere to all non-discrimination policies as per federal and state laws.
- The grant funds will not be used for entertainment or lobbying activities.
- We agree to provide full access to our records and documentation for monitoring and evaluation purposes as required by the state.

The ‘Onipa‘a Anahola Community Resilience Project represents a significant stride towards integrating Hawaii's rich cultural heritage with contemporary environmental challenges. By integrating TEK with modern day technology and focusing on environmental resilience, historical and cultural research, and community education.

This project serves a vital public purpose, aligning with the State of Hawaii's broader goals for a sustainable and culturally vibrant future. The 'Āina Alliance is fully committed to this vision and the responsible use of grant funds to achieve meaningful, lasting impacts for the people of Hawai'i.

II. Background and Summary

Project Title: ‘Onipa‘a Anahola Community Resilience

Organization Information:

Organization Name: ‘ĀINA ALLIANCE

Chief Name: Jeremie Makepa

Chief Title: Board President

Address: 4-1526 Kuhio Hwy, Kapaa, HI 96746

Headquarters: Anahola, Kaua‘i

Incorporation Year: 2021

Mission Statement: "To convert land liabilities into community assets." In partnership with DHHL, we manage 432 acres of coastal area to address criminal activities, emergency issues, and land degradation. Through community-based stewardship, we transform this area into a vibrant hub for education, cultural practices, agriculture, and marine conservation.

Background and Summary:

The Aina Alliance, founded in 2021, is a dynamic non-profit organization with a clear vision: transforming underutilized and problem-ridden lands into thriving community assets. Our mission is brought to life through strategic partnerships, like the one with the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and a deep commitment to Aloha ‘Āina. We focus on creating spaces that foster educational programs, cultural practices, and environmental stewardship. With the goal of enhancing community resilience focused on the environment and mitigating risks, especially in high-risk, low-income areas like the Anahola Hawaiian Homestead Community (AHHC). Our approach merges Traditional Ecological Knowledge with contemporary strategies to address various climate challenges while seeking nature-based solutions including improved agricultural practices, land restoration, and conservation.

Goals and Objectives- Introduction:

The ‘Onipa‘a Anahola Community Resilience Project (‘Onipa‘a means to be steadfast in the face of adversity) is an initiative aimed at preparing the Anahola community for the impacts of climate change on the shoreline and watershed. The project focuses on enhancing fire resilience, mitigating shoreline erosion risks, and addressing human impacts such as illegal dumping and nuisance fires, which are prevalent in economically challenged areas like Anahola. Through the pursuit of the GIA Grant, we aim to mitigate hazards that compromise community safety and environmental sustainability. Our methodology integrates Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) with modern strategies to tackle the unique challenges along the shoreline.

Overall Goal:

The overall GOAL is to enhance the resilience of the Anahola landscape and community to the effects of climate change, focusing on bolstering fire resilience, mitigating shoreline erosion, and managing vegetation, access, and waterways.

Overall Objective:

The overall OBJECTIVE is to implement a comprehensive approach that combines historical and cultural research, fire mitigation, community engagement, education, and invasive species management to address and mitigate the risks posed by climate change on 30 acres of coastline near Anapalau Bay that extends from the ocean mauka to Kūhio Highway. This OBJECTIVE is supported by four (4) major activities which include:

- **Historical and Cultural Research:** Conduct respectful research to identify and preserve sensitive areas, documenting past practices and land uses. The gathered data will be organized into educational materials to accurately inform the community about the historical usage of the land.
- **Prepare for Impacts of Climate Change:** Proactively identify areas at increased risk of erosion and engage professional services to plan and implement erosion control features. This approach will combine natural TEK methods with modern techniques for effective shoreline protection.
- **Community Engagement and Education:** Develop educational outposts in partnership with local programs to share cultural and historical knowledge, while also covering modern topics like marine biology and agriculture. These activities aim to foster a deep connection to the land, encouraging sustainable land management and shoreline preservation.
- **Invasive Species Management:** Collaborate with local farms to replace invasive species with fire-resilient or native plants, reducing fire fuel loads and further enhancing fire mitigation efforts.

Overall Outcome:

‘Onipa‘a Anahola Community Resilience Project (OAC) seeks to establish a sustainable and resilient coastal environment in AHHC Through these integrated efforts, the project aims to safeguard the community from the adverse effects of climate change, enhance environmental stewardship, and foster a deeper connection and responsibility toward the land among the community members, particularly in areas inhabited by Native Hawaiians.

Public Purpose and Need:

The 'Onipa'a Anahola Community Resilience Project, led by the 'Āina Alliance, is dedicated to enhancing the resilience of the Anahola community in the face of climate change. This project, embodying the meaning of 'Onipa'a – steadfastness in adversity – focuses on mitigating the risks associated with climate change, including fire hazards and shoreline erosion. The public purpose of this grant is two-fold: to protect the Anahola residents from environmental hazards and to strengthen community bonds through the revival and application of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) alongside modern environmental practices. By addressing issues like illegal dumping, nuisance fires, and erosion, the project contributes to a safer, more sustainable environment for the community.

Target Group:

The project aims to educate and provide interactive experiences for earth conscious individuals interested in actively improving coastal environments from the adverse effects of the Climate Crisis. The project primarily benefits the residents of the Anahola community, with a special focus on Native Hawaiians as we assess improvements in landscape environments by incorporating traditional land management practices. It also extends its benefits to low-income and homeless individuals within the community who are disproportionately affected by environmental hazards and land mismanagement with climate change acting as a risk multiplier.

Geographic Scope:

In partnership with the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL), the 'Āina Alliance has stewardship control of 432 acres of coastal land in Anahola, stretching from the ocean to Kūhio Highway, in the Kamalomalo'o and Anahola Ahupua'a. This project will focus on 30 acres around Anapalau Bay to keep the research and activities within this project isolated from signs of modern urbanization. This area is particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts, including increased erosion, fire risks, and political decisions on water distribution.

This area is an ideal candidate for climate change impact because it contains 4 of the 5 zones within Ahupua'a (watershed). The zones in an Ahupua'a are: 1. The upland/inland forest zone (wao nahele) 2. The agricultural zone (wao kanaka) 3. The coastal zone (kaha kai) which included the strand area, fringing reefs, seagrass beds, lagoons, fish ponds. 4. Estuaries, (muliwai) as part of the kahawai or freshwater ecosystems and streams. 5. The ocean (kai). Participants will be transported into a unique experience to interact with a secluded area of oceanfront property that has been isolated from western urbanization but easily accessible with a short five minute off-road ride from a modern highway.

III. Service Summary and Outcomes

Scope of Work, Tasks, and Responsibilities:

Introduction

The ‘Onipa‘a Anahola Community Resilience Project, spearheaded by the ‘Āina Alliance, represents a comprehensive effort to impart practical skills and knowledge to participants preparing them for the escalating challenges of climate change. This project embodies a proactive approach to environmental stewardship, cultural preservation, and community engagement. The following section details scope of work, encompassing a series of interconnected tasks and responsibilities. Each element of this project has been planned to not only address the immediate needs of the Anahola community but also to lay the groundwork for long-term sustainability and resilience. Through a blend of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) and modern environmental practices, this project creates a balance between preserving the rich cultural heritage of Hawai‘i and adapting to the dynamic challenges posed by a changing climate.

1. Historical and Cultural Research

Tasks:

- Conduct field research to identify culturally significant sites.
- Document historical land use and practices.
- Develop educational materials based on findings.

Responsibilities:

- Collaborate with historians, cultural experts, and elders.
- Ensure accuracy and cultural sensitivity in documentation.
- Disseminate research findings to the community and stakeholders.

2. Preparation for Climate Change Impacts

Tasks:

- Conduct assessments to identify erosion-prone areas.
- Design and implement erosion control measures.
- Monitor environmental changes and adjust strategies as needed.

Responsibilities:

- Work with certified professionals and stakeholders.
- Oversee the installation and maintenance of erosion control structures.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of implemented measures.

3. Community Engagement and Education

Tasks:

- Set up educational outposts and information centers.
- Organize community workshops and seminars.
- Facilitate participatory learning experiences.

Responsibilities:

- Coordinate with local educational institutions and environmental groups for program development.
- Manage logistics for community events and workshops.
- Engage with community members to encourage active participation and feedback.

4. Invasive Species Management

Tasks:

- Identify and map areas affected by invasive species.
- Develop and implement a plan for the removal of invasive species.
- Collaborate with local farms to introduce fire-resilient native plants.

Responsibilities:

- Lead field operations for invasive species removal.
- Partner with agricultural experts and local farmers for native plant cultivation.
- Monitor ecological impacts and success of native plant reintroductions.

5. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting

Tasks:

Establish monitoring systems for project activities and environmental indicators.
Evaluate the effectiveness of strategies and interventions.
Prepare regular reports for stakeholders and funding agencies.

Responsibilities:

Collect and analyze data from various project components.
Conduct periodic reviews and adjust project plans as necessary.
Ensure transparency and accountability in reporting to stakeholders.

Projected Annual Timeline, Results, and Outcomes:

With approval of funding, this project is scheduled to commence immediately upon execution of contract with an anticipated grant period starting on July 1, 2025, and concluding on June 30, 2026. This one-year project is dedicated to empowering the

Anahola Hawaiian Homelands Community to face the growing challenges of climate change. It represents a harmonious blend of proactive environmental stewardship, cultural preservation, and community engagement. The following timeline provides a detailed overview of the project's scope of work, breaking down the tasks and responsibilities into specific phases over the course of the year. This structured approach ensures that each element of the project aligns with the overarching goal of enhancing community resilience, integrating Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) with modern environmental strategies to create a sustainable balance. The timeline is crafted to facilitate clear milestones and outcomes, paving the way for impactful change and laying a foundation for long-term sustainability and resilience within the Anahola community. Through this initiative, the 'Āina Alliance aims to not only address immediate environmental and cultural needs but also to establish a model for future community-led resilience efforts in Hawai'i.

July - September 2025: Project Initiation and Historical Research

- **Tasks:** Launch the project, conduct field research, identify culturally significant sites.
- **Outcomes:** Establishment of project foundation, initial identification and documentation of key cultural areas.

October - December 2025: Erosion Control Planning and Community Engagement

- **Tasks:** Perform landscape assessments, initiate community workshops and educational sessions.
- **Outcomes:** Identified areas for erosion control, engaged community through educational initiatives.

January - March 2026: Invasive Species Management and Erosion Control Implementation

- **Tasks:** Start invasive species removal, implement initial erosion control measures.
- **Outcomes:** Reduced invasive species, begun erosion control efforts to protect landscapes.

April - June 2026: Educational Outreach Expansion and Project Evaluation

- **Tasks:** Expand educational outreach, begin the first phase of project evaluation, and prepare for the culminating community event.
- **Outcomes:** Increased community awareness and involvement, initial assessment of project impacts and effectiveness.

End of June 2026: Comprehensive Project Review and Community Culminating Event

Tasks:

- Conduct an in-depth review of the project, evaluating effectiveness and identifying future improvement areas.
- Prepare and submit a comprehensive report to the funder.
- Host a Culminating Event to share achievements with the community and discuss long-term sustainability.

Outcomes:

- A thorough analysis of the project's impact, with insights for future initiatives.
- Successful delivery of a detailed project report to the funder.
- Strengthened community engagement and support through the Culminating Event, fostering a sense of ownership and commitment to ongoing resilience efforts.

Throughout the year-long span of this project, each phase is planned to build upon the last, ensuring a cohesive and comprehensive approach to enhancing the resilience of the Anahola community. From the initial steps of historical research to the concluding community event, every task is aligned with the overarching goal of integrating TEK with modern strategies to address environmental challenges. As the project concludes on June 30, 2026, the 'Āina Alliance will not only have laid the groundwork for immediate environmental and cultural benefits but also set the stage for continued community-driven stewardship and resilience in the face of climate change.

Quality Assurance and Evaluation Plans:

The 'Onipa'a Anahola Community Resilience Project, driven by the 'Āina Alliance, prioritizes the highest standards of quality and efficacy in all its endeavors. This Quality Assurance and Evaluation Plan outlines the systematic approach we will employ to ensure that every aspect of the project meets these standards. The plan is designed to monitor the project's progress, assess its impact, and guide continuous improvement. It reflects our commitment to transparency, accountability, and excellence, ensuring that the project not only achieves its objectives but does so in a way that is beneficial and sustainable for the Anahola community.

Quality Assurance Plan

- **Monitoring and Documentation:** Implement a robust system for continuous monitoring of project activities. Maintain detailed records of all operations, including fieldwork, community engagement sessions, and educational programs.
- **Regular Quality Checks:** Conduct periodic quality assessments of all project components, from research methodologies to the effectiveness of erosion control measures and community education programs.
- **Stakeholder Feedback:** Establish feedback mechanisms, including surveys and community forums, to gather insights and suggestions from participants and stakeholders. This feedback will be crucial for ongoing project refinement.
- **Compliance and Standards Adherence:** Ensure that all project activities comply with relevant environmental, cultural, and legal standards. This includes obtaining necessary permits and respecting cultural sensitivities in all undertakings.
- **Staff Training and Development:** Provide ongoing training and development opportunities for staff and volunteers to ensure they are equipped with the latest knowledge and skills necessary for effective project implementation.
- **Resource Management:** Monitor and manage resources efficiently, ensuring that materials, finances, and human resources are utilized effectively to maximize project impact.

Evaluation Plan

- **Measurable Outcomes and Metrics:** Define clear, quantifiable outcomes for each project component. Establish metrics such as the number of invasive species removed, the extent of erosion control measures implemented, and participant numbers in educational programs.
- **Data Collection and Analysis:** Collect data systematically to assess progress against these metrics. Analyze this data to evaluate the success of different project elements and identify areas for improvement.
- **Periodic Reviews and Adjustments:** Conduct regular reviews of project progress. Use findings from these reviews and stakeholder feedback to make necessary adjustments to project strategies and activities.
- **Reporting and Transparency:** Prepare comprehensive reports detailing progress, challenges, and achievements. Share these reports with stakeholders, including the

community, funding agencies, and partners, to maintain transparency and accountability.

The Quality Assurance and Evaluation Plan for Project ‘Onipa‘a Anahola is an integral component of our commitment to delivering a project that not only meets but exceeds expectations. Through diligent monitoring, evaluation, and continuous improvement, we aim to ensure the project’s success in enhancing the resilience of the Anahola community against climate change impacts. This plan will guide us in making informed decisions, adapting strategies as necessary, and ultimately ensuring the project’s long-term effectiveness and relevance to the community’s needs.

Measures of Effectiveness:

Introduction:

The effectiveness of the ‘Onipa‘a Anahola Community Resilience Project will be assessed through measures directly tied to the project’s four key activities: Historical and Cultural Research, Preparation for Climate Change Impacts, Community Engagement and Education, and Invasive Species Management. These measures will provide the State agency with a comprehensive understanding of the project’s achievements in enhancing cultural heritage preservation, environmental resilience, and community engagement.

Measures of Effectiveness Aligned with Major Activities:

Historical and Cultural Research:

- Measure: The extent and depth of historical and cultural research conducted, including the number of significant sites identified and preserved.
- Effectiveness: Quality and quantity of educational materials developed from research findings, and their distribution and impact within the community.

Preparation for Climate Change Impacts:

- Measure: The number of areas identified as at-risk for erosion and the effectiveness of erosion control measures implemented.
- Effectiveness: Assessment of shoreline stability post-implementation and the integration of TEK with modern methods in these measures.

Community Engagement and Education:

- Measure: The number of educational outposts established and the level of participation in community programs.
- Effectiveness: Participant feedback on educational programs, quantifying increased community knowledge and engagement in environmental stewardship and cultural preservation.

Invasive Species Management:

- Measure: Area (in acres) cleared of invasive species and the number of fire-resilient plants introduced.
- Effectiveness: Evaluation of ecological improvements and reduction in fire risks post-implementation of invasive species management strategies.

The measures of effectiveness for this project provide a structured framework for assessing the project's impact on environmental health, cultural preservation, and community education. Regular monitoring and evaluation of these measures will ensure that the project's outcomes align with its objectives, ultimately contributing to a more resilient and culturally enriched Anahola community. These measures will be reported to the State agency, reflecting the project's progress and facilitating adjustments as necessary to meet the community's evolving needs.

IV. Financial

Budget Section for the 'Āina Alliance GIA Grant Request

Introduction

The proposed budget for the 'Onipa'a Anahola Community Resilience Project is designed to meticulously align with the project's overarching goals and objectives. This detailed justification explains the necessity and rationale behind each budget category, demonstrating how these allocations contribute to the effective implementation of the project. With a total budget of \$300,000.00, the funding will support activities ranging from personnel costs to supplies, travel, contracts, and indirect costs, all critical to achieving the project's aim of enhancing environmental and cultural resilience in the Anahola community.

Budget Explanation

Salaries: Total - \$60,840.00

Project Director: \$32,760.00 (18 hrs/week, \$35/hr, 936 hrs/year)

Justification: Essential for project oversight, management, and ensuring alignment with project goals.

Project Educational Outreach Assistant: \$28,080.00 (18 hrs/week, \$30/hr, 936 hrs/year)

Justification: Key for developing and implementing community educational programs, fostering community engagement and knowledge dissemination.

Fringe Benefits: \$9,600.00

Justification: Mandatory benefits ensure the well-being of staff and compliance with labor standards, representing 15.75% of the total personnel cost.

Travel: \$6,000.00

Justification: Covers travel costs to Honolulu for meeting grant requirements and engagements, ensuring project compliance and stakeholder collaboration.

Insurance: \$1460.00

Justification: Liability insurance for activities and participants while on property ensuring project compliance and stakeholder protection.

Lease of Rental Equipment: \$2,100.00

Justification: Portable toilet located at remote location with cleaning as needed based on \$175 per month over 12 months.

Supplies: Total - \$55,000.00

Project Supplies: \$50,000.00 for essential fieldwork tools and materials.

Justification: Necessary for personnel and participant safety, invasive species removal, soil rehabilitation, native vegetation planting maintenance, and fuel for small equipment such as chainsaws and weed eaters.

Office Supplies: \$5,000.00 for administrative and planning tasks.

Justification: Vital for efficient project administration and coordination.

Financial Services: \$5,000.00 for project financial management services.

Plant Procurement: \$15,000.00 for acquiring fire-resilient plants.

Landscape Specialists: \$100,000.00 for professional landscaping assessment and related tasks for mitigation, including firebreak implementation and heavy vegetation removal.

Long-Term Planning & Community Engagement: \$5,000.00 for sustainable project strategy development.

TEK Specialist: \$20,000.00 for professional services conducting natural and cultural history research.

Justification: These contracts are crucial for specialized services that support the project's diverse activities, from environmental management to cultural preservation.

Indirect Costs: Total - \$15000.00

Justification: Administrative fees at 5% of the overall grant, covering indirect expenses related to project management.

Total Budget Request: \$300,000.00

Conclusion:

The budget for the 'Onipa'a Anahola Community Resilience Project is strategically planned to ensure that each aspect of the project is adequately funded and aligned with our mission to enhance the resilience of Anahola's landscape and community. By judiciously allocating resources across personnel, supplies, travel, contracts, and indirect costs, we aim to achieve a holistic and impactful implementation of the project. This budget is a testament to our commitment to utilizing funds effectively and responsibly, ensuring that the project's objectives are met and the community of Anahola benefits sustainably.

Anticipated quarterly funding requests for the fiscal year 2025.

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total
\$150,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$300,000.00

Anticipated Quarterly Funding Requests for Fiscal Year 2025:

- Included above are the anticipated expenditures of this grant for 2025. The ‘Āina Alliance is consistently seeking funding opportunities to assist the community with disaster mitigation, climate change initiatives, environmental preservation, fire prevention and sustainability. Funding opportunities are variable and forecasting these out to FY2025 extends beyond the capacity we can provide. However, ‘Āina Alliance will provide a detailed breakdown of anticipated quarterly funding requests upon confirmation of the grant amount and approval from the board.

Other Sources of Funding seeking for Fiscal Year 2025:

OHA ‘Āina: \$50,000.00 to support monthly workdays for community clean up and Native Hawaiian cultural workshops. Part of a two year \$100,000 grant started in 2023. Currently approved but awaiting funding for FY2025.

DHHL: Anticipated annual grant opportunity for DHHL beneficiary serving organizations. Funding amounts may vary based annually.

Community Wildfire Defense Grant: Highly competitive Federal grant to implement fire prevention initiatives in accordance with current Community Wildfire Protection Plans. Funding varies.

Hawaii Community Foundation: The ‘Āina Alliance is consistently seeking funding opportunities to assist the community with disaster mitigation, climate change initiatives, environmental preservation, fire prevention and sustainability. HCF has limited opportunities in the Natural Environment category we anticipate applying for.

State and Federal Tax Credits (Previous Three Years and Anticipated):

The ‘Āina Alliance did not receive any state and federal tax credits in the past three years and is not a project that is pursuing any funding for capital projects. We also do not anticipate applying for tax credits or capital projects.

Government Contracts, Grants, and Grants-in-Aid (Previous Three Years and Anticipated for FY 2025):

A detailed list of all government contracts, grants, and grants-in-aid received in the past three years and those expected for fiscal year 2025 is included at the end of this section. We have not included this proposal on the list.

Balance of Unrestricted Current Assets as of December 31, 2023:

The 'Āina Alliance has provided a profit and loss statement and balance sheet at the end of this section. Current balance less grant allocated funds included in the balance sheet amounts to a cash total of \$44,636.90 for our unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2023.


Supporting Budget Forms:

- a. Budget request by source of funds (included)
- b. Personnel salaries and wages (included)
- c. Equipment and motor vehicles (Not Applicable)
- d. Capital project details (Not Applicable)
- e. Government contracts, grants, and grants in aid (included)
- f. Other: Financial Statements

BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Applicant: _____ 'Āina Alliance

BUDGET CATEGORIES	Total State Funds Requested (a)	Total Federal Funds Requested (b)	Total County Funds Requested (c)	Total Private/Other Funds Requested (d)
A. PERSONNEL COST				
1. Salaries	60,840	0	0	0
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments				
3. Fringe Benefits	9,600	0	0	0
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	70,440			
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Airfare, Inter-Island	5,000	0	0	0
2. Insurance	1,460	0	0	0
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment	2,100	0	0	0
4. Lease/Rental of Space	0	0	0	0
5. Staff Training	0	0	0	0
6. Supplies	55,000	0	0	0
7. Telecommunication	0	0	0	0
8. Utilities	0	0	0	0
9. Financial Services	5,000	0	0	0
10. Plant Procurement	15,000	0	0	0
11. Landscape specialists	100,000	0	0	0
12. Long-Term Planning & Engagement	5,000	0	0	0
13. TEK Specialists	20,000	0	0	0
14. Marketing Services	6,000	0	0	0
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20. Indirect Costs	15,000	0	0	0
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	229,560			
C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES	0	0	0	0
D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES	0	0	0	0
E. CAPITAL	0	0	0	0
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	300,000			
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	300,000	Jeremie Makepa	808-482-0257	
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested	0	Name (Please type or print)	Phone	
(c) Total County Funds Requested	0		1/17/2024	
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested	0	Signature of Authorized Official	Date	
TOTAL BUDGET	300,000	Jeremie Makepa Board President		
		Name and Title (Please type or print)		

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - PERSONNEL SALARIES AND WAGES

Period: July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Part time positions created to efficiently manage project operations and community engagement. Considering this is a one year project, securing a capable candidate for full-time 40 hour work would be difficult. Instead we split the duties into two part time positions that are open to highly qualified individuals with current full-time positions elsewhere.

Project Director: \$32,760.00 (18 hrs/week, \$35/hr, 936 hrs/year)

Justification : Essential for project oversight, management, and ensuring alignment with project goals.

Project Educational Outreach Assistant: \$28,080.00 (18 hrs/week, \$30/hr, 936 hrs/year)

Justification : Key for developing and implementing community educational programs, fostering community engagement and knowledge dissemination.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID

Applicant: 'Āina Alliance

Contracts Total: 381,100

	CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)	CONTRACT VALUE
1	Offgrid Ecovillage Plan	12/22-11/23	OED	Kauai County	50,000
2	Makai Management	8/23 - 7/25	DHHL	State of Hawaii	331,100
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Aina Alliance
Statement of Activity
 January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Direct Public Support	
Individ, Business Contributions	1,623.42
Total Direct Public Support	1,623.42
Grants	
Grant COK	202,700.00
Grants - Other	225,000.00
Total Grants	427,700.00
Total Income	429,323.42
Expense	
Business Expenses	
Business Registration Fees	57.00
Total Business Expenses	57.00
Contract Services	
Accounting Fees	2,118.52
Outside Contract Services	20,649.20
Total Contract Services	22,767.72
Facilities and Equipment	
Equip Rental and Maintenance	84,944.56
Equipment Purchased	166,429.26
Property Maintenance	12,571.24
Total Facilities and Equipment	263,945.06
Miscellaneous	2,407.36
Operations	
Diesel	424.24
Supplies	4,763.95
Telephone, Telecommunications	5,025.60
Total Operations	10,213.79
Other Types of Expenses	
Insurance - Liability, D and O	1,501.00
Total Other Types of Expenses	1,501.00
Travel and Meetings	208.12
Total Expense	301,100.05
Net Ordinary Income	128,223.37
Net Income	128,223.37

Aina Alliance
Balance Sheet
As of January 1, 2024

	<u>Jan 1, 24</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Checking	172,486.90
Total Checking/Savings	<u>172,486.90</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>172,486.90</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>172,486.90</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Unrestricted Net Assets	172,486.90
Total Equity	<u>172,486.90</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>172,486.90</u>

V. Experience and Capability

Necessary Skills and Experience

Introduction

The 'Āina Alliance, with its established track record over the past three years, demonstrates a robust combination of skills, knowledge, and experience crucial for the successful implementation of the Anahola Resilient Landscapes Project. This section highlights our organization's proficiency in environmental management, Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), and community engagement, underlining our preparedness and suitability for this grant. Our hands-on experience, coupled with the efficient use of dedicated facilities on Hawaiian Homelands, showcases our capability to address the challenges and fulfill the requirements of this vital project.

Experience in Land and Environmental Management:

Since our inception, we have actively engaged in land management and fire mitigation in Anahola, coordinating successfully with local authorities, government agencies and community stakeholders to establish firebreak roads and remove hazardous materials, thereby enhancing the safety and resilience of the land.

TEK and Community Engagement:

Our team, deeply rooted in Hawaiian culture and ecological practices, has been at the forefront of community engagement. We have organized educational programs and stewardship activities that resonate with the community's values and contribute to sustainable environmental practices. Effective outreach to partner organizations with similar goals have helped us to successfully produce incredible outputs with minimal budgets.

Relevant Project Experience:

2021-2023: In partnership with the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, Kauai Fire Department and County of Kauai, we have implemented fire prevention strategies reduce fire risks in the Anahola community wildland urban interface, demonstrating our commitment to community safety and environmental sustainability.

2022-continuous: Successfully implemented series of community-led clean-up initiatives to remove abandoned vehicles from marine areas and reduce household waste in the wildland-urban interface areas of Anahola. This project involved the removal of tons of garbage, appliances, white goods and hazardous materials to reduce fuel loads, significantly mitigating fire risks in the area.

2023: Developed and launched an outreach program to invite education based organizations to experience place-based learning focused on environmental stewardship and cultural practices, which has been instrumental in raising awareness and fostering community involvement in sustainable land management.

The ‘Āina Alliance's extensive experience in environmental management, TEK, and community engagement, combined with our successful track record in relevant projects, positions us uniquely to deliver the ‘Onipa‘a Anahola Project effectively. Our approach, deeply rooted in community values and environmental stewardship, aligns perfectly with the goals of the project – to foster a safer, more resilient, and environmentally sustainable Anahola. We are fully committed to leveraging our expertise, community connections, and resources to achieve these objectives, thereby contributing to the broader vision of a resilient and culturally rich Hawaiian community.

Facilities:

The ‘Āina Alliance operates on a 432-acre stewardship agreement from the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, which includes a plethora of diverse natural learning environments that can range from marine biology to agricultural food security incorporating traditional cultural practices. These facilities are well-suited to support the wide range of tasks required for the ‘Onipa‘a Anahola Project, including:

- Educational Spaces: Our facilities provide ample space for hosting educational programs and workshops, both indoors and outdoors.
- Land Management and Fire Mitigation Activities: The extensive land area allows for the practical application of land management techniques, such as the cultivation of fire-resilient plants and the creation of firebreaks.
- Community Engagement and Collaboration: The site is equipped to convene community meetings, volunteer activities, and collaborative projects in a safe and conducive environment.

Should additional facilities be required, the ‘Āina Alliance has plans and the capacity to secure them, ensuring the uninterrupted progress of the project.

VI. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

Introduction:

The 'Āina Alliance is an all-volunteer organization that networks strategically as opportunities arise to achieve our goals. We currently have no paid staff. All operational decisions are made by the Board, and executed by contractors, partner organizations, or volunteers. To effectively manage this project we will need to hire our first two staff members to ensure consistency and accountability throughout the project.

Proposed Staffing, Staff Qualifications, Supervision and Training

Board Members, relevant Experience:

- Jeremie Makepa, Board President: Experience- Fire Captain with 20 years in the Kauai Fire Department previously in charge of the Fire Prevention Bureau and responsible for Fire and Life Safety initiatives on Kauai. Coordinates community risk reduction and educational programs for Kauai. Participates in State Fire Prevention council with the Hawaii Wildfire Mitigation Organization (HWMO)
- Frank Cummings, Board Vice-President: Experience, Heavy equipment operator, CDL truck driver, with over 50 years working in construction projects, land development, and transport.
- Devin Medeiros, Board Secretary: Experience, 16 Years Kauai Fire Department, Grant Program Director who has helped to secure and manage Fire Department grants for the last 12 years.
- Sandra Cummings, Board Treasurer: Experience, CPA Accountant who has assisted in the formation of several non- profit entities and currently operates private business as an independent accountant service consultant for clients.

(Proposed) Project Manager: Emmalani Makepa-Foley, BA Hawaiian Language, BA Hawaiian Studies, La'au Lapa'au practitioner and Kumu. Responsible for historical and cultural research integration into workshops and objective completion.

(Proposed) Educational Assistant: Chanel Wong, MEdT in Teaching, EdD candidate in educational leadership. Responsible for planning and organizing educational workshops and workdays as requested by Board and Project Manager.

(Professional resource) Indigenous Studies Liaison: Patricia Fifita, PHD, Assistant Professor of Indigenous Studies in the Department of Ethnic Studies at Oregon State University. See below.

Marine Studies and Indigenous Studies Programs, Oregon State University: We plan to work in partnership with Dr. Patricia Fifita a faculty member situated within Oregon

State University's Indigenous Studies and Marine Studies programs. These interdisciplinary programs are grounded in indigenous knowledge, methods and histories of the people and communities of the Americans and the Pacific Islands and aims to help prepare students to work collaboratively with Indigenous communities and engage in experiential and service-learning opportunities related to the land and ocean. As a liaison for the field studies component of the project, Dr. Fifita will serve as a professional consultant with institutional support from this program.

Organization Chart

Board will be responsible for organizing partners and resources to collaborate with this project led by Board President - Jeremie Makepa.

Board members will provide support services to the project within the scope of their position. The Vice President will fill the role of President if not available, and complete duties as necessary. Secretary will track outreach efforts and pursue partnerships beneficial to the project and review status reports as necessary. Treasurer will ensure accurate financial data and efficient use of funds.

Staff members will coordinate all activities relative to this project. The Project Manager will update the President with relevant reports and make requests for support resources. The Educational Assistant will coordinate outreach activities then assist and report to Project Manager as needed.

Professional services and volunteer workforce will coordinate directly with the Project Manager. The Indigenous Studies Liaison will serve as a consultant for the Project Manager.

Participants in community work days or outreach events will coordinate with the Educational Assistant.

Board will monitor the effectiveness of this system and supplement assistance as needed for successful completion of all objectives.

Compensation

The 'Āina Alliance is an all-volunteer organization that networks strategically as opportunities arise to achieve our goals. We currently have no paid officers or staff. Two proposed staff positions are included in this proposal. These are:

1. Project Manager: \$32,760.00
2. Project Educational Outreach Assistant: \$28,080.00
3. No other paid staff.

VII. Other

Litigation:

The 'Āina Alliance currently has no pending litigation or outstanding judgments against it.

Licensure or Accreditation:

No special licensure or accreditation is required for the successful completion of this project. However, the 'Āina Alliance is prepared to collaborate with state and federal agencies, if necessary, for compliance with Section 106, Environmental Reviews or other relevant regulations.

Private Educational Institutions:

The grant funds for the 'Onipa'a Anahola Project will not be used to support or benefit any sectarian or non-sectarian private educational institutions, as per the stipulations of Article X, Section 1, of the State Constitution.

Future Sustainability Plan for the 'Āina Alliance Post Fiscal Year 2024-25

Introduction

The 'Onipa'a Anahola Project, led by the 'Āina Alliance, is not just a short-term initiative but a stepping stone towards lasting environmental and community resilience in Anahola. This section outlines our comprehensive sustainability plan, crafted to maintain the project's momentum and impact well beyond the initial grant period. The plan is anchored in financial diversification, community involvement, strategic planning, and the development of self-sustaining systems, ensuring the continuity and effectiveness of our initiatives in line with the project's overarching goals.

Diversified Funding Sources:

- **Grants and Donations:** Continuously seeking alternative grants and donations from various sources to support environmental preservation and community resilience.
- **Partnerships with Local Businesses:** Developing mutually beneficial partnerships with local businesses for sponsorships and contributions.
- **Crowdfunding and Community Fundraisers:** Engaging local residents through community-driven crowdfunding campaigns and fundraising events.

Community Involvement and Volunteer Programs:

- **Expand Volunteer Base:** Strengthening and enlarging our volunteer programs to foster community participation in ongoing projects, thus reducing labor costs.
- **Educational Outreach and Workshops:** Persisting in offering educational programs and workshops to generate nominal fees, aiding project operations and promoting environmental awareness.

Development of Self-Sustaining Systems:

- **Cultivation of Fire-Resilient Plants:** Establishing a self-replenishing cycle for cultivating and distributing fire-resilient plants, with sales contributing to project activities.
- **Long-Term Land Management Agreements:** Securing enduring agreements for sustainable land management, potentially generating income or in-kind support.

Continuous Evaluation and Adaptation:

- **Regular Project Assessments:** Implementing periodic evaluations to focus resources on the most cost-effective and impactful project components.
- **Adaptation of Strategies:** Maintaining flexibility to adapt to new funding opportunities, partnerships, or evolving community needs.

Building Financial Reserves:

- **Reserve Fund Creation:** Allocating a part of current grant funds and other income to establish a reserve fund, offering financial cushioning in lean periods.
- **Investment in Capacity Building:** Investing in staff and volunteer training to enhance operational efficiency and reduce future costs.

The Long-Term Sustainability Plan for the ‘Onipa‘a Anahola Project is a strategic blueprint designed to ensure the project’s enduring success and relevance. By diversifying funding sources, engaging the community, developing self-sustaining systems, continuously evaluating our approach, and building financial reserves, the ‘Āina Alliance is committed to creating a sustainable model of environmental stewardship and community resilience in Anahola. This plan not only underpins the current project but also lays a foundation for future initiatives, contributing to the broader goal of fostering a resilient and empowered community in harmony with its environment.

Application Submittal Checklist

The following items are required for submittal of the grant application. Please verify and check off that the items have been included in the application packet.

- 1) Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate (If the Applicant is an Organization)
- 2) Declaration Statement
- 3) Verify that grant shall be used for a public purpose
- 4) Background and Summary
- 5) Service Summary and Outcomes
- 6) Budget
 - a) Budget request by source of funds ([Link](#))
 - b) Personnel salaries and wages ([Link](#))
 - c) Equipment and motor vehicles ([Link](#))
 - d) Capital project details ([Link](#))
 - e) Government contracts, grants, and grants in aid ([Link](#))
- 7) Experience and Capability
- 8) Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing


AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

JEREMIE MAKEPA, BOARD PRESIDENT
PRINT NAME AND TITLE

1/14/2024
DATE



16 January 2024

Re: Support of Aina Alliance State Grant in aid application for FY 25

To Hawaii Grant in Aid Committee,

As executive co-directors at Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization, we are writing to convey our strong support for the Aina Alliance's Onipa'a Anahola Community Resilience Project, 2024 Grant-In-Aid application. Under the leadership of Board President and Fire Captain Jeremie Makepa, this crucial initiative will bolster community resilience against fire hazards in the Anahola.

We have seen the effectiveness of Aina Alliance's previous projects to establish fire breaks and reduce flammable fuels in the wildland urban interface. This phase of the project's approach, blending Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) with modern fire prevention techniques, is in perfect harmony with our shared values of environmental stewardship and community empowerment. It is designed to effectively address fire risks while safeguarding the community's environment and well-being.

We are particularly impressed with the project's comprehensive services, which include cultivating fire-resilient plants with local farms, invasive species removal, and the integration of educational outreach partners. These efforts are essential for creating fire-resistant zones and promoting overall environmental health.

We are confident that the Anahola Resilient Landscapes Project will significantly contribute to fire risk mitigation and community resilience in Anahola. Thus, we wholeheartedly endorse this project for the GIA Grant.

Ensuring that Aina Alliance has the resources needed to preserve Kaua'i shorelines and protect the community from fire is of great importance. Thank you for considering this important 2024 Grant-In-Aid proposal.

Please contact us with any questions.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrea Barretto".

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elizabeth Pickett".

Andrea (Nani) Barretto & Elizabeth Pickett, Executive Co-Directors

directors@hawaiiwildfire.org

(808) 885-0900