

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

Type of Grant Request:



Operating



Capital

Legal Name of Requesting Organization or Individual: Dba:
Keiki O Ka `Āina Preschools, Inc.

Keiki O Ka `Āina Family Learning Centers

Amount of State Funds Requested: \$161,603.00

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

Please see attached document for Description.

Amount of Other Funds Available:

State: \$

Federal: \$ 5,372,296.00

County: \$

Private/Other: \$

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

\$ 7,258,408.00

Unrestricted Assets:

\$ 7,499,870.08

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:

3097 Kalihi Street

City:

Honolulu

State:

HI

Zip:

96819

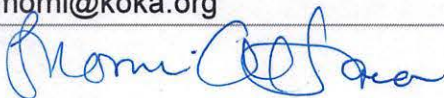
Contact Person for Matters Involving this Application

Name:
Momi Akana

Title:
CEO

Email:
momi@koka.org

Phone:
(808) 843-2502



Momi Akana, CEO

January 17, 2025

Authorized Signature

Name and Title

Date Signed


BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

Keiki O Ka 'Āina Preschools, Inc., dba Keiki O Ka 'Āina Family Learning Centers (KOKA) has been in operation and serving our community since 1996. In alignment with our mission to educate children, strengthen families, enrich communities, and perpetuate culture, we humbly submit this Grant In Aid requesting the State Legislature to support KOKA's restoration of our farmlands and wetlands and increase the productivity of our local farms as we educate our keiki and surrounding ohana on how to malama (take care of) the land. We are requesting funds to purchase heavy equipment in lieu of renting such equipment weekly, which will lead to massive cost savings in the long run. We sincerely need this equipment for us to clear the huge overgrowth of invasive species and other unwanted debris from our four farms. We can then begin to restore our land, such as our Waiawa Farm, back to being a semblance of the old Hawaiian fish ponds, and the other farms, which can then have sustainable native trees, vegetables, citrus fruits, and other native plants. All the while, we are utilizing this time to educate and provide knowledge to our keiki, their ohana, and the community. The heavy equipment is very much needed at this time as we have just acquired our fourth farm in the Waikane Valley and will need to clear out the debris and invasive species to build our fourth farm and learning center. Since 1996, the educators and staff at KOKA have been supporting Hawai'i's nā haumana (students), their 'ohana (family), and members of our community by teaching them about science through Native Hawaiian means of farming and agriculture. It is our greatest desire to help Hawaii fight food scarcity and insecurity, by planting food that is strictly for local consumption and not export.

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

 Mommi Akana, CEO JAN 16 2025

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE PRINT NAME AND TITLE DATE



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: KEIKI 'O KA 'AINA PRESCHOOL, INC.*

DBA/Trade Name: Keiki O Ka Aina Family Learning Centers

Issue Date: 01/17/2025

Status: **Compliant**

Hawaii Tax#: 10558068

New Hawaii Tax#:

FEIN/SSN#: XX-XXX7534

UI#: XXXXXX2963

DCCA FILE#: 104845

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

**DECLARATION STATEMENT OF
APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS PURSUANT TO
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES**

The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies the following:

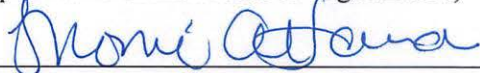
- 1) The applicant meets and will comply with all of the following standards for the award of grants pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is licensed or accredited, in accordance with federal, state, or county statutes, rules, or ordinances, to conduct the activities or provide 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, Hawaii 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, Hawaii 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, Hawaii 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.

Keiki O Ka `Āina Preschools, Inc.

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)



(Signature)

Momi Akana

(Typed Name)

January 17, 2025

(Date)

Chief Executive Officer

(Title)



APPLICATION FOR GRANTS OPERATIONS

I. Certification – Please attach immediately after cover page

1. Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate

Please see attached a Certificate of Vendor Compliance for Keiki O Ka 'Āina Preschools, Inc., dba Keiki O Ka 'Āina Family Learning Centers (KOKA).

2. Declaration Statement

Please see the attached Declaration Statement.

3. Public Purpose

Keiki O Ka 'Āina Preschools, Inc., dba Keiki O Ka 'Āina Family Learning Centers has been in operation and serving our community since 1996. Our mission is to educate children, strengthen families, enrich communities, and perpetuate culture. Since 1996, the educators and staff at KOKA have been supporting Hawai'i's nā haumana (students), their 'ohana (family), and members of our community who most need our kōkua (help). We pride ourselves on having research-based, age-appropriate curricula taught by experienced and trained staff who understand the deep meaning of our keiki and adults learning through mo'olelo (storytelling, passing on knowledge, and oral history), 'ike (teaching knowledge, to know), and using dual-language learning tools whenever possible. KOKA develops and delivers educational and support services by utilizing traditional Hawaiian culture, knowledge, and language. KOKA will use this grant for a public purpose to continue providing culture-based education and services to our keiki and our communities.

We are one of only five entities in Hawaii accredited by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC). KOKA has been awarded a 10-year accreditation for our Indigenous program delivery and outcomes. To maintain this accreditation, we must comply with strict standards.

Should this grant application be approved by the Hawai'i Legislature, KOKA certifies that the funds awarded shall be used for a public purpose pursuant to Section 42F-102 to further

cultural-based education for Hawai'i's keiki, their parents and guardians, as well as our greater community, including visitors and tourists, through utilizing and teaching of Native Hawaiian cultural practices.

I. Background and Summary

1. A brief description of the applicant's background

KOKA is a Native Hawaiian, Christian, non-profit organization established in 1996. For over 28 years, KOKA has been focused on its vision to perpetuate our culture by ensuring educational development and cultural sustainability of Native Hawaiian practices by passing on the cultural traditions and teachings of the Native Hawaiian lifestyle to our nā keiki (the children), our community, and beyond our shores. Our keiki and the people who make up our communities are at the center of everything we do. We live, practice, and teach Native Hawaiian culture on a daily basis. Our commitment to perpetuating 'olelo Hawai'i (the Hawaiian language) causes us to be mindful of and to utilize dual language in many of our everyday practices in order to teach and help our students, staff, and visitors learn and make it a habit to use 'olelo Hawai'i. We are intent on teaching people who attract positive energy, so that we can help them heal and solidify the family unit, which then leads to family members being able to grow and practice aloha.

KOKA has served the community at over 50 different sites statewide. Our Board of Directors are heavily involved in the Native Hawaiian community and have vast experience in a variety of industries including education, business, finance, social services and the prison systems. For 28 years, KOKA has been a continuous provider of educational programs through funding from the federal and state grants, as well as through support from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and The Kamehameha Schools. We offer dual language preschool curricula, support families and children affected by incarceration, was awarded a State contract to create one of the first resource centers in the country for inmates at Waiawa Correctional Facility, offer classes and programs to help build positive relationships, create adult mentorship programs and employment training, 'āina-based educational programs, a comprehensive array of Hawaiian cultural programs, and implement and provides home visiting services under a state contract to families in Hawai'i. KOKA has served over 100,000 children and parents in our education classes, and 20,000 people through our Hawaiian cultural workshops. Momi Akana is the Founder and CEO of KOKA and is assigned with the primary responsibility for implementing the vision, mission, and goals, as well as ensuring the healthy well-being and growth of the organization and its programs.

KOKA's mission is to educate children, strengthen families, enrich communities, and perpetuate culture, we fulfill this mission by communicating the vital importance of education, advocating for literacy, supporting parents as their keiki's first and best teacher, and empowering families to take leadership roles in their

communities. All of this is done within the context of utilizing 'olelo Hawai'i, perpetuating Native Hawaiian traditions and culture, and carrying on our legacy through Native Hawaiian values.

Our vision is to prepare Hawai'i's keiki to begin school with the right attitude and skills necessary for great success. We provide families with the support systems and resources needed to become self-confident, self-determined, and self-sustaining. We envision a Hawai'i where our programs flourish while setting high standards for family-based education in the state. Strong communities are developed by building strong families. Reducing and eliminating barriers to literacy for families is one of our key components. Families are invited to participate in new and established programs in ways that create an atmosphere and environment where real learning and awareness can take place.

We do business by:

- Incorporating research-based, age-appropriate curriculum;
- Fostering and encouraging parent/keiki participation, as parents are a keiki's first teacher;
- Offering emotional wellness programs for parents and/or guardians;
- Supporting Hawaiian culture and values within our communities;
- Providing employment opportunities and careers, training and a paid apprenticeship program, as well as continuous education and staff development for current staff;
- Hosting Native Hawaiian enrichment, as well as cultural activities and programs to provide awareness and knowledge of the Hawaiian way of life;
- Researching and developing curriculum in dual-language; Hawaiian and English.

Today, with over 100 full-time staff, KOKA is operating 19 programs throughout the islands, with multiple support services, thriving in early childhood education with its infant and toddler and preschool programs, hosting Hawaiian cultural classes and workshops at our various facilities and four farms, and being a gathering place and hub for our community.

2. The goals and objectives related to the request

KOKA respectfully requests the support of the Hawai'i Legislature through this Grant in Aid to assist with reaching three specific goals and objectives that have immediate needs in this coming year:

- (1) To be able to purchase much needed heavy equipment, instead of having to spend on expensive rental of such equipment, to be used to excavate, extract, and clear invasive species of plants and vegetation on all four of our farms and to restore and maintain our farms; especially at our Waiawa Farm

where wetlands and fish ponds are in dire need of restoration from huge overgrowth of invasive species and also at our newly acquired Waikane Farm where we start the process of clearing the way for a learning center and ability to teach keiki and community about farming, agriculture, and utilization of the Hawaiian culture to rebuild food sustainability and techniques that is much needed in our Windward Community;

- (2) To continue to work diligently with the Department of Agriculture and Department of Natural Resources to continue to eradicate the coconut rhinoceros beetle that is prevalent at our Waiawa Farm, which is ground zero for this invasive species; and
- (3) To support, maintain, and educate keiki, our community, and people around the world who welcome long-standing Hawaiian cultural and educational programs and workshops that build valuable awareness and respect for Native Hawaiian practices to not just local families, but to those who can view and learn about our practices online, worldwide, and for those who will come to visit our farms to learn and to grow.

KOKA Farms is currently thriving as we have learning centers at three of our farms. The learning takes place both inside a classroom and in our outdoor classrooms at the farms. In late 2024, we acquired a fourth farm that is located in the beautiful Waikane Valley!

Restoration of Ahupua`a Waiawa Wetlands and Fish Ponds

“E Kuu Kaua I ka Loko Awa – O Waiawa (We Two Cast the Net in the Milkfish Pond of Waiawa)”¹

“Prior to the introduction of western values, concepts of land use and ownership, and commercial activities in the 19th century, traditional Hawaiian life in Waiawa (literally “milkfish water”) was very much centered around the natural resources and wahi pana of Pu`uloa (Pearl Harbor), with its extensive shoreline and estuaries that were home to numerous fishponds and lo`i kalo (pondfield complexes).” By the 1930’s, much of the very large fishponds (about 75 acres) were reduced to just a few acres. Other fishponds had also nearly disappeared, whereas they were once major sources of food.²

The goals and objective related to this particular request is to be able to restore and sustain fishponds and the ‘āina within our farm that is linked to the Waiawa Ahupua`a. Having cost savings by not having to rent heavy equipment by the week, and to be able to purchase and maintain our own equipment that will be utilized to improve and maintain all four of the KOKA farms is a worthy endeavor. We will

¹ Excerpt from S. M. Kamakua’s “He mele no Kualii, Kulanipipili, Kulanioaka, Kunuiakea, & c., “Ka Nupepa Kuokoa, Mei 23, 1868.

² Kamehameha Schools, Waiawa Ahupua`a, Halau_o_Puuloa_Waiawa.

then be able to more efficiently plan our work schedule and not be dependent on the availability of rental equipment, and more importantly be able to save precious funds that would otherwise have gone to required rental of equipment and be able to use those funds towards direct services, programs, and the upkeep of the much needed equipment. We will be able to then efficiently and effectively clear invasive species from the land, and restore the natural resources, especially those around the natural springs on the properties. To share the Waiawa, Waimanalo, Kalihi, and now Waikane farms in their unique ahupua'a with the community will be our legacy for respecting those who came before us for years to come.

We teach na keiki and our extended communities about the ahupua'a (boundary markers along watersheds), our 'āina (land), and the wai (water) that is present at each of the farms. We teach about respecting the natural resources, how to grow native plants, food sust'ainability through growing our own plants, tending to our local fish ponds and native fish and fowl, and how to care for our 'āina and wai through naturally cleaning our ponds. We host a Summer Science class where one of the lessons that is covered is for the students to learn about the science behind the ingredients that go into making and utilizing genki balls to clean our ponds at the Waiawa site. The science is tied into technology where the students not only learn about the importance of the ingredients, but what those individual components do to the soil and the water once in the pond. They are given logo items that say, "I am a Scientist," that reminds each of them of who they already are; even at five years old!

Waiawa Farm and Learning Center, through KOKA, signed a long term lease for a 5.5 acre property in Waiawa Kai. The purpose and intent for the use of this land is to create classrooms and a learning center where nā keiki can achieve hands-on learning using science, technology, math, and engineering behind learning how to grow plants, and naturally care for the 'āina and wai, and we are beginning to achieve that. Today, Waiawa Farm has classrooms on its property with programs that are teaching keiki to be critical thinkers, problem-solvers, and science and technology users of the land and watershed. With the equipment provided through this Grant In Aid, we hope to create excitement and delve into other ways that our community will be welcome onto the farm and learn more about the original and restored fish ponds, native plants, and sust'ainability of the Waiawa ahupua'a. We eventually would like to create a program for agri-tourism and cultural-tourism where it is becoming an industry where interested visitors are now wanting and willing to pay tour fees to experience traditional Native Hawaiian culture, and the history behind what Native Hawaiian lifestyle once was, and how it is still thriving today, while still keeping it real and not-commercialized.

After clearing part of the land at Waiawa with expensive rental equipment, we found that there are two water features on this property. To our surprise, we also found that an alae ula (red nose duck) returned to this 'āina after we had cleared the original area of invasive species. What a symbol of hope for the future as the original inhabitants return home to the wetlands and ponds of Waiawa. We want

more native fowl to return home to these ponds, and to restore the native fish that once thrived in this area.

Kalihi Farm and Learning Center

Kalihi Farm and Learning Center – We teach our staff and others how to care for respect and care for our resources, the purpose and necessity of 'āina and wai, and how to grow and maintain kalo (taro), ulu (breadfruit), apple banana, butterfly pea flower, sweet potato, mountain apple, papaya, awapuhi (ginger root), a variety of Hawaiian olena (turmeric), aloe, and many, many other foods, herbs, trees, plants, and flowers. We recently added a hydroponics section to our farm that is thriving. We are very excited to once again be able to welcome bus loads of students from different schools to come to Kalihi Farm and Learning Center and to engage in various Hawaiian cultural and educational programs in person. The COVID pandemic took a toll on face-to-face learning, and we are so happy to welcome students back to our Kalihi Farm and Learning Center. Additionally, KOKA in the last few months, opened an early education learning center on this property to respond to the needs of the community for dual language, cultural based, early education.

Waimānalo Farm

Waimānalo Farm – Is known as Keiki O Ka 'Āina Farms, Inc., and at this location we are working on maximize agricultural food production on the premises by adding lettuce, kalo, ti plants, ulu (breadfruit), 'uala (sweet potato), olena (turmeric), awapuhi (ginger root), and various herbs and plants, in addition to the existing citrus trees. The meaning of Waimānalo is “potable water” due to the many ponds and water pockets in its ahupua'a. This makes for the perfect place to farm. In 2022, KOKA acquired a 35 year lease that runs until 2037, for 2.2 acres to engage in diversified agriculture in the Waiamālo ahupua'a. The dream is to create farmland where fruit trees and foliage will flourish enough so that we will be able to help sustain the farm by selling the harvest to our community. The heavy equipment is much needed at this farm to help with the upkeep of this precious resource.

Waikane Farm

We have recently acquired another farm that is located in the Waikane Valley and respectfully request the Hawai'i Legislature's kokua with this much needed heavy equipment Grant In Aid to begin to clear the way for our new farm from invasive species and to build the newest Learning Center on the Windward side.

Although the equipment will be used for all four farms, our Waiawa Farm and our Waikane Farm have the most immediate needs. We would like to utilize the heavy equipment to clear away massive invasive species overgrowth and restore the fish

ponds to what it once was and help build our newest learning center on the Windward side of the island.

3. The public purpose and need to be served

Restoration of Ahupua'a Waiawa Wetlands and Fish Ponds

In addition to what was discussed above, the public purpose and need to be served with restoring our wetlands and farms is to be able to continue to provide critical cultural education and learning opportunities for our most vulnerable population, our children. KOKA's aim is to educate our keiki on our precious natural resources and how Native Hawaiian culture impacts the "how and why" we do things a certain way. It is a way of life, not just doing tasks. We do this through engaging our haumana (students), along with their ohana with practicing 'āina-based education at our farms and learning centers.

At KOKA farms, we are able to serve our keiki, their parents, and our community through engaging in various art forms and activities that are taught on the farms. With teaching from the farms, we are able to engage in culture-based STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) lessons with keiki, so as to allow them to be ready and engaged as they progress in life.

Sustain Long-Standing Hawaiian Cultural Programs and Workshops

Another important public purpose is to perpetuate the Hawaiian culture and values that our keiki, their parents, and the community can rely on for future generations. Our experienced staff practitioners are well-trained and well-versed with skills that allow us the abilities to pass on knowledge through traditional moolelo (oral history, story telling).

KOKA has a deep understanding of cultural lineage and experiences relevant to hana no'eau (art forms). Thus, allowing KOKA to be able to offer a different perspective and way of learning.

The public purpose to be served through this Grant In Aid is meaningful, long-lasting, and a legacy for generations to come.

4. Describe the target population to be served

The primary target populations to be served are keiki, their parents and guardians, and the community at large who we intend to pass on our legacy and knowledge of Hawaiian culture and values as it relates to this request.

Another important target population for the services and cultural education classes that KOKA offers are those who are from the neighbor islands, the continent, and people all around the world who would like to visit our farms and gain a deeper

knowledge and meaning of farming and taking care of the 'āina through the lense of Native Hawaiian practitioners and teachers. With this equipment, we will be able to ready our various farms to welcome new and old friends to learn about Native Hawaiian values and processes in working our 'āina (land).

5. Describe the geographic coverage

The geographic coverage is the island of O'ahu, where we have three farm learning centers, and a new one that we are building in Waikane.

II. Service Summary and Outcomes

The Service Summary shall include a detailed discussion of the applicant's approach to the request. The applicant shall clearly and concisely specify the results, outcomes, and measures of effectiveness from this request. The applicant shall:

1. Describe the scope of work, tasks and responsibilities;

The Waiawa Farm and Learning Center requires a lot of work, including clearing out the overgrowth of invasive species on the part of the parcel of land where the ponds exist. Then, we begin the journey of cleaning out and assessing the natural spring water availability and how best to utilize that natural resource to feed the pond and its future inhabitants. The natural spring water that feeds the ponds is the key to ensuring that the fish can thrive and populate.

Later, the intent is to restore and bring in native fish, such as mullet and milkfish, and restore these species back into the ponds where they once thrived years ago. Additionally, we will be able to complete much-needed landscaping and redevelopment of the rest of the farm in Waiawa to make ready for additional fruit trees and other plants that can provide food and medicinal herbs to continue utilizing traditional cultural ways of helping to heal.

The Waikane Farm and Learning Center is a dream that has come true after many years of hard work to acquire this property. The work and tasks are immense as we are starting from little to no development on this property. The overgrowth of invasive species and much of the land will need to be cleared out in order to be able to bring in land surveyors, architects, and consultants to build the learning center and develop the outlay of the farmland. The responsibilities land on our Manager who oversees the farms and the staff who work on each of the farms. We have the staff, we need help with the equipment to allow us to clear and then build.

2. Provide a projected annual timeline for accomplishing the results or outcomes of the service;

The projected annual timeline for accomplishing the service's results or outcomes is to request to purchase the equipment as soon as we confirm that we can have a Grant In Aid to purchase it. We are working with a local vendor who will help us expedite the equipment's shipping. As soon as the equipment is available, our Manager, who oversees the farm, will have already scheduled the use of the equipment for each farm for a specific time in each of the months following the acquisition of the equipment.

Additionally, to ensure that we take good care of the equipment, our manager will also schedule regular servicing of the equipment as required by the manufacturer.

Table: Project timeline, activities and milestones alignment

Project Activity	Months											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Outcomes: 12-Month Period												
Purchase of Equipment (Wait for Equipment to be delivered)	x	x	x									
Apply for Permits		x	x	x	x	x	x					
Clear 2 ½ acres for use			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Build Storage for Equipment (Sprung Building)		x	x	x	x	x						
Build the Halau for Gathering and Cultural Practice								x	x	x	x	x
Plant 350 'ulu Trees, 20 Avocado trees, 40 Coconut trees, 20 banana trees				x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Plant lo'i and other food plants							x	x	x	x	x	x

3. Describe its quality assurance and evaluation plans for the request. Specify how the applicant plans to monitor, evaluate, and improve their results; and

The quality assurance and evaluation plan for this request is to ensure that our manager and farm staff have a calendar to regularly service and upkeep the equipment based on the manufacturer's recommendations. By upkeeping necessary service and parts, we will be able to improve the longevity of the equipment's use.

4. List the measure(s) of effectiveness that will be reported to the State agency through which grant funds are appropriated (the expending agency). The measure(s) will provide a standard and objective way for the State to assess the program's achievement or accomplishment. Please note that if the level of measure(s) of effectiveness will need to be updated and transmitted to the expending agency.

The effectiveness of this project will be reflected and reported as follows:

List of Deliverables

Documentation to be submitted with
monthly status reports

(1) The amount of land/area we were able to clear within each quarter of the fiscal year.	A report that details the square footage that is cleared.
(2) We will report on a quarterly basis the amount of new food plants we are able to plant because of our new equipment.	A list of all the plants and trees that are planted for that month.
(3) We will report on any classes or workshops that we provide at the new Waikane Site and the Waiawa Sites because of the space we are creating for food production and teaching. Specifically, what we have done through educating keiki, their parents/guardians, and the general community at each of the farms. We will report on the number of people who have been served by the programs at the farms, and more importantly the anecdotal stories that we get back from program participants.	A list of classes and workshops along with the number of participants and attendance sheets.
(4) How many new farm workers are able to trained at each site because of the opportunities made possible by this funding making it possible to expand our farm sites.	A list of Farm workers at each site, and what kind of training they were provided.

III. Financial

Budget

1. The applicant shall submit a budget utilizing the enclosed budget forms as applicable, to detail the cost of the request.

These documents are attached.

2. The applicant shall provide its anticipated quarterly funding requests for the fiscal year 2026.

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total Grant
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\$161,602.56	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$161,602.56
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3. The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are seeking for fiscal year 2026.

We currently do not have any other sources of funding that we plan to seek for FY2026.

4. The applicant shall provide a listing of all state and federal tax credits it has been granted within the prior three years. Additionally, the applicant shall provide a listing of all state and federal tax credits they have applied for or anticipate applying for pertaining to any capital projects, if applicable.

Keiki O Ka 'Āina has neither applied for nor received any State or Federal Tax Credits.

5. The applicant shall provide a listing of all federal, state, and county government contracts, grants, and grants in aid it has been granted within the prior three years and will be receiving for fiscal year 2026 for program funding.

	Federal				
	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	
Holomua	\$ 1,992,291.00	\$ -	\$ 409,099.67	\$ 2,454,598.00	
STEM	\$ 848,869.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Waiawa Kai	\$ 821,671.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
SEL	\$ 753,882.00	\$ 872,117.00	\$ -	\$ -	
FAST	\$ 2,294,693.00	\$ 2,433,069.00	\$ -	\$ -	
WFD	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 99,555.67	\$ 597,334.00	
HHVN	\$ 895,994.00	\$ 769,297.00	\$ 811,924.00	\$ 497,745.00	
HHVN-ARPA	\$ 363,972.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
HELP	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	
HPP	\$ -	\$ 385,000.00	\$ 385,000.00	\$ 385,000.00	
DHS	\$ 114,835.00	\$ 359,192.00	\$ -	\$ -	
EOEL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
DOJ	\$ -	\$ 231,645.00	\$ 231,645.00	\$ 231,645.00	
WCCC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Waiawa Prison	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Library	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,141.00	\$ 72,641.00	
GIA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Mentoring	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 133,333.00	\$ 133,333.00	
Total	\$ 9,086,207.00	\$ 6,050,320.00	\$ 3,145,698.34	\$ 5,372,296.00	

State					City and County	
2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026		2024-2025	2025-2026
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
\$ 1,590,362.00	\$ 1,590,362.00	\$ 1,590,362.00	\$ 1,010,575.00		\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
\$ 300,000.00	\$ 240,000.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ 220,749.00	\$ 220,749.00	\$ 220,749.00		\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ 274,500.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
\$ 1,890,362.00	\$ 2,325,611.00	\$ 1,811,111.00	\$ 1,231,324.00		\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00

6. The applicant shall provide a balance of its unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2024.

KOKA has \$7,499,870.08 in unrestricted current assets.

BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: Keiki O Ka 'Āina Preschools dba Keiki O Ka 'Āina Family Learning Centers

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				
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments				
3. Fringe Benefits				
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST				
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
2. Insurance				
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment	161,603			
4. Lease/Rental of Space				
5. Staff Training				
6. Supplies				
7. Telecommunication				
8. Utilities				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	161,603			
C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES				
D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES				
E. CAPITAL				
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	161,603			
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	161,603	Kara Chandra 808-843-2502		
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested		Name (Please type or print) Phone		
(c) Total County Funds Requested		<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> </div> <div> CEO </div> </div>		
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested		<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>Signature of Authorized Official</div> <div>1/17/25</div> </div>		
TOTAL BUDGET	161,603	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> Mommi Akana, CEO Name and Title (Please type or print) </div> <div></div> </div>		

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - PERSONNEL SALARIES AND WAGES

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Keiki O Ka 'Āina Preschools, Inc. dba Keiki O Ka'Āina Family Learning Centers

POSITION TITLE	FULL TIME EQUIVALENT	ANNUAL SALARY A	% OF TIME ALLOCATED TO GRANT REQUEST B	TOTAL STATE FUNDS REQUESTED (A x B)
Momi Akana CEO and Project Manager (in-kind)	1	\$150,000.00	10.00%	\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
TOTAL:				0.00
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:				

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Keiki O Ka 'Āina Preschools, Inc. dba Keiki O Ka'Āina Family Learning Centers

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
2025 Kubota U35-4R1 Excavator	1.00		\$ 63,874.32	
2025 Kubota SVL75-3 Track Loader	1		\$ 80,628.24	
2025 PJ Trailer EV20	1		\$ 17,100.44	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:	3		\$ 161,603.00	

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:				

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Keiki O Ka 'Āina Preschools, Inc. dba Keiki O Ka 'Āina Family Learning Centers

FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED						
TOTAL PROJECT COST	ALL SOURCES OF FUNDS RECEIVED IN PRIOR YEARS		STATE FUNDS REQUESTED	OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS REQUESTED	FUNDING REQUIRED IN SUCCEEDING YEARS	
	FY:2023-2024	FY:2024-2025	FY:2025-2026	FY:2025-2026	FY:2026-2027	FY:2027-2028
PLANS						
LAND ACQUISITION						
DESIGN						
CONSTRUCTION						
EQUIPMENT	0	0	161603		0	0
TOTAL:			161,603		0	0
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:						

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID

Applicant: Keiki O Ka 'Āina Preschools dba Keiki O Ka 'Āina Family Learning Centers

Contracts Total: -

	CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)	CONTRACT VALUE
1	Not applicable				
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					
21					
22					
23					
24					
25					
26					
27					
28					
29					
30					

IV. Experience and Capability

- 1. Necessary Skills and Experience: The applicant shall demonstrate that it has the necessary skills, abilities, knowledge of, and experience relating to the request. State your experience and appropriateness for providing the service proposed in this application. The applicant shall also provide a listing of verifiable experience of related projects or contracts for the most recent three years that are pertinent to the request.**

In 2005, Keiki O Ka Aina built our first Preschool on a Department of Education campus in Palolo Valley. Over the years we have been able to acquire for agricultural properties either by purchase or lease where we now grow a variety of food products. All of our farm sites started with a need to clear, grade, excavate, remove trash and other toxic substances to be able to create a safe environment to grow food. This also included buildings to help support those efforts such as the classroom space, workshop space, sheds, storage, nursery, space, and wash stations for our agricultural products. As a result, we have been able to produce over 1000 pounds of various food items monthly. We currently have nine full-time staff who oversee our various Farm Sites and not only are they responsible for growing, planting and harvesting, but they also help with our cultural workshops and teaching the importance of sustainable agriculture to students all over Oahu. We have been providing these services for eight years and have expanded slowly to the point where we now have four Farm. In addition, we have built multiple new structures on those sites. All of them have needed planning, permitting, design and construction oversight. Most recently, we installed a new portable classroom at our Kalihi site. That was finished in the summer of 2024 and is available for new parent participation preschool services for the 2024-2025 school year. We are also currently building a new covered wash station for the Kalihi Campus to help with washing our produce. KOKA has a long history of being able to run construction projects and we are working on expanding our current agricultural sites. Kamehameha schools has trusted us with 6 acres of farmland over the past eight years, and we have successfully produced food and have used that land for community education as well. We do summer science camps, teach people how to grow their own food, and the site is used for cultural education as well. We have the staff, knowledge and desire to expand our operations to help our community and this funding and equipment will ensure our future success as we grow our farms.

- 2. Facilities: The applicant shall describe its facilities and demonstrate their adequacy in relation to the request. If facilities are not presently available, describe the plans to secure them.**

KOKA will address the identified education and food insecurity needs through at the following locations: 1) 3-acre Waiawa Kai Farm in the Ewa district; 2) 3-acre agriculture Cultural Center in Honolulu; 3) 2 ½ acre agriculture lot in Waikane Valley; and 4) 2-acre Waimanalo Farm, all serving high populations of NH families.

- The Waiawa Kai property slopes through Kalo (taro) patches (lo'i) and fishponds to an estuarine environment adjacent to the Pearl Harbor National Wildlife Refuge. Due to the abundance of water from springs and streams, these two areas were devoted to agriculture throughout the 1800s. The site allows generous cultivation of crops, fish propagation, and recreational uses, including day camps.
 - A 60' new portable classroom has been built on this site which is fully air conditioned and has a covered deck. This enables community groups and field trips. To come and learn. In a comfortable and air-conditioned environment.
- The Honolulu property is located in Kalihi Valley, where we have been offering workshops for the past 18 years on cultural practices, including growing traditional foods. This year 350 families received instruction and 15 different food plants, seeds, pots and potting soil, soil amendments, organic fertilizer, and planting tools to help their efforts. Curriculum has been created for use in virtual classrooms, and staff has trained this year at the Department of Agriculture GO-Farm Program. NH agricultural practices have been taught as well.
 - A 60-foot-long traditional Hawaiian structure (hale) has been built on this property as well as a cleaning station for agricultural products. This allows space for gathering, workshops and teaching, as well as washing the food products. An additional classroom exists on the campus, which can be used for workshops as well. There is also a large two-story administrative building and a 40 x 60-foot tent.
- The newest property acquired on September 15, 2024, and has the potential for expansion in the future. With a river running through it, the promise of lo'i and agroforestry can easily be provided after clearing. KOKA has been preparing a nursery of 350 ulu trees and 100 2-year-old coconut trees for the past three years.
 - There are no structures on the property at this time, but we have acquired a large building known as a Sprung. Our goal will be to clear an area large enough to erect this portable tent building, which will be used for gathering, a nursery, storage, office space and workshops.
- The last property is a two-acre farm in Waimanalo in an area that was known as Honolulu's breadbasket. The Waimanalo farm is located right across the street from a Hawaiian homestead community that we will have a close relationship with. It is a working farm with 100 fruit trees and other food plants.
 - There currently is a building which is being used as both housing for farmers as well as a gathering space for meetings. Our goal will be to erect a tent large enough for workshops.

These sites are the perfect place for Waiawa Kai, Kalihi Valley, Waikane, and Waimanalo Farm Agriculture Projects. The space will also allow staff and families to gather for workshops and provide space for teaching for more extended periods in the sunny farm environment. All of these sites have been using rented equipment to clear and excavate and this has cost tens of thousands of dollars. As we continue to clear and create new spaces for growing and gathering, this equipment will make all the difference and prepare spaces for food production and preparation as well as teaching the community about the importance of growing their own food.

Our future goal will be to ask the State for stewardship of 100 acres surrounding the Waikane Valley Farm property. Like many other Hawaiian organizations, we hope to be able to grow food for the community as well as educate them on the importance of food security. In an environment as fragile as the Windward Side of the island, plagued by erosion and under the threat of tsunami and storms, it is vital to have food being produced in their community that is being grown for local consumption and not exportation.

V. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

- 1. Proposed Staffing, Staff Qualifications, Supervision, and Training: The applicant shall describe the proposed staffing pattern and proposed service capacity appropriate for the viability of the request. The applicant shall provide the qualifications and experience of personnel for the request and shall describe**



its ability to supervise, train, and provide administrative direction relative to the request.

For over 28 years, KOKA has successfully served the needs of NHs throughout Hawaii. The current CEO, Momi Akana, recipient of the 2015 Accounting and Finance Women's Association Business Woman of the Year Award, has been the leader since its inception. KOKA provides childhood and family strengthening in a native cultural setting. KOKA services include programs under the Federal NH Education Program, a dual language preschool, programs supporting families affected by incarceration, and a comprehensive array of Hawaiian cultural programs at our Kalei Cultural Training Center. We have a distinguished record of establishing trust within the NH community. For ten years, KOKA's Lāulima Giving Project collaborated with Local T.V. Station KHON to collect and distribute donated goods and funds to the "working poor." KOKA has hosted and coordinated large-scale conferences for providers statewide on parent/child interaction, reintegration for ex-offenders, and Native Hawaiian education. The project will achieve the project objectives within budget, as evidenced by the organization's past successes.

The agency completes an A-133 audit annually. In the past 24 years, we have managed more than 80 million dollars and have closed out all expired grants in good standing. KOKA has administered NHEA (U.S. DOE) grants for the past 25 years. We have also administered four Office of Hawaiian Affairs grants, three Administration for Native American (ANA) grants, a two-million-dollar state grant, a W.K. Kellogg Foundation –Family Engagement Initiative grant, four million-dollar Administration for Children and Families Native Hawaiian Childcare Block Grants and numerous smaller private foundation grants.

Project Director, Momi Akana - Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Keiki O Kā 'Āina Family Learning Centers. The mission of *Keiki O Ka 'Āina Family Learning Centers (KOKA-FLC)* is to educate children, strengthen families, enrich communities and perpetuate culture. It fulfills its mission by communicating the vital importance of education, advocating for literacy, supporting parents as their keiki's first and best teacher, and empowering families to undertake leadership roles in their communities. All of this is done within the context of Hawaiian language, traditions and values.

Qualification & Experience:

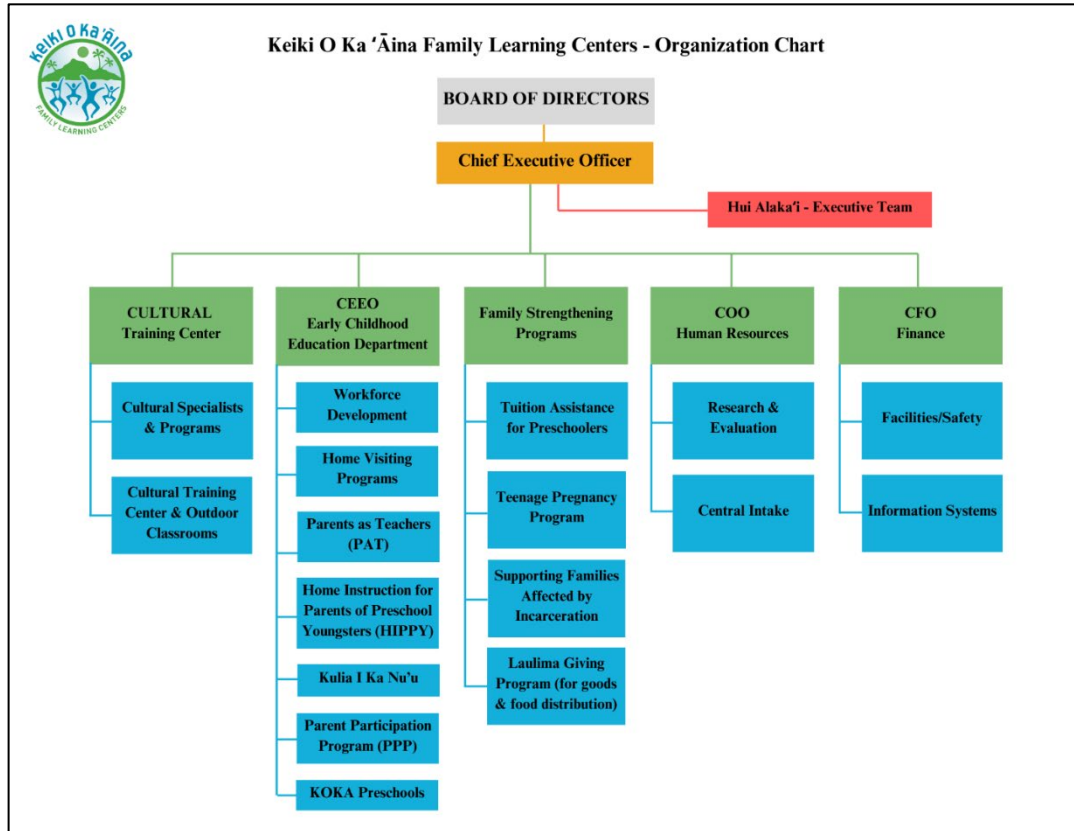
Momi received her Bachelor of Arts in International Business from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and her Masters in Educational Administration and Supervision from Troy State University.

- Administrator for over 30 successful Native Hawaiian Education Program Grants
- 3 Administration for Native Americans Grants
- 4 Office of Hawaiian Affairs Grants
- 4 Native Hawaiian and American Indian Child Care Block Grants
- 11 Hawaii State Department of Health Grants
- 2 State Grant in Aids
- Numerous Community Foundation and Private funding
- Oversees 19 different programs at 20 community sites and 3 farms

- 3 acres in Kalihi with a Cultural Learning Center
- 6 acres in Waiwa being developed into an Agricultural and Cultural Learning Center and 2 1/2 acres in Waikane Valley.
- 2.5 acres in Waimanalo being used as working farm and Cultural Learning Center
- Preschools and Infant Toddler Centers in Palolo, Ma'ili, and Kailua for over 100 children
- Statewide offices on all major islands
- 9 Parent Participation Preschool Locations on two islands
- Expanded Keiki O Ka 'Āina's programs from 30 participants to over 14,000 annually at 20 community sites on five islands with offices on four islands.
- Responsible for an annual operating budget of over \$14,000,000.00.
- Management and oversight of 110 current staff involving training, workflow, quality control, conflict resolution, and review processes.
- Opened two dual language Preschools and Infant Toddler Centers in collaboration with the Department of Education, Kamehameha Schools and Castle Adventist Health.

In addition, KOKA has nine farm staff who have been with us for several years. We have trained them and we continue to train them through our current Workforce Development Grant which has a focus on Agriculture and growing new farmers. Food production is an essential element to lives on an island and we at KOKA understand this and want to be part of a future solution to food scarcity.

- 2. Organization Chart: The applicant shall illustrate the position of each staff and line of responsibility/supervision. If the request is part of a large, multi-purpose organization, include an organization chart that illustrates the placement of this request.**



3. **Compensation:** The applicant shall provide an annual salary range paid by the applicant to the three highest paid officers, directors, or employees of the organization by position title, not employee name.

POSITION	SALARY
CEO	150,000
COO	100,000
CFO	100,000

VI. Other

1. Litigation

KOKA does not have any pending or ongoing litigation.

2. Licensure or Accreditation

KOKA is one of four entities in Hawaii that is accredited by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC). KOKA has been awarded with a 10-year accreditation for our indigenous program delivery and outcomes, with accreditation in six family learning centers program.

KOKA is licensed by the State of Hawaii, Department of Human Services to operate two preschools.

KOKA is licensed by the State of Hawaii, Department of Human Services to operate one infant-toddler center.

The State of Hawaii, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations approved/certified KOKA's Early Childhood Education Apprenticeship program.

KOKA is obtaining a National Association for the Education.

3. Private Education Institutions

Not applicable.

4. Future Sustainability Plan

Upon receiving a grant in aid from the State for this particular request, KOKA intends to sustain the equipment funded by budgeting upkeep and servicing of the equipment from its own entity's funds to ensure that it lasts a long, long time.

As for the cultural programs, we will continue to research and look for relevant grants in order to continue with the education and learning of the Hawaiian culture. We also charge a small fee to participate in some of our programs; however, our intent is to make our programs affordable to free, so that keiki, their ohana, and our community can benefit from knowledge and learning about the history of cultural importance of the Hawaiian way of life.