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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OHA BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVES \$6 MILLION FOR COMMUNITY GRANTS

HONOLULU – The OHA Board of Trustees today approved \$6 million in grants to 24 programs that will provide critical services to Native Hawaiians in the key areas of housing, income, health, education and culture.

“We are proud to announce the selection of these organizations to receive funding from OHA’s Community Grants Program,” said OHA Chair Colette Y. Machado. “These community partners were chosen through a robust vetting process because they have demonstrated their ability to make a difference in the lives of individual Native Hawaiians and the communities that need kōkua the most.”

OHA’s Community Grants Program is the agency’s major grants program. Community Grants Program awards are approved every two years, and the program offers larger, multi-year grant awards that require a minimum of 20 percent matching funds. Today’s grant awards will be disbursed for fiscal years 2020 and 2021.

The Fiscal Biennium 2020-2021 OHA Community Grants awardees are:

Housing - \$1,000,000

1. **Hawaiian Community Assets, \$515,886**

The purpose of this project is to establish the Hawai'i Affordable Housing Fund, which will serve Native Hawaiians with financial counseling, individual development accounts, and loans to rent or own homes, and provide Native Hawaiian communities/nonprofits with technical assistance and loans to build or preserve 1,500 units of affordable housing by 2026.

2. **Homestead Community Development Corporation, \$484,114**

The purpose of the Native Hawaiian Housing Stability Project is to support the delivery of the HCDC Financial Literacy Program and Micro Enterprise Assistance Program on Kaua'i to assist Native Hawaiians to achieve homeownership or rental housing on Kaua'i, through knowledge and training necessary for housing stability.

Income - \$1,000,000

3. **Institute for Native Pacific Education and Culture, \$699,855**
The purpose of this project is to provide vocational development training and support to Native Hawaiian families in West O‘ahu through a small incubator and post-secondary supports for teacher preparation to strengthen the economic self-sufficiency of families and the economic base of the community.
4. **Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement, \$300,145**
The Native Hawaiian Trades Academy is a middle-skill career institute for Native Hawaiians with low to moderate income. This program would provide successful participants with starting wages that are more than the single adult Household Survival Budget and that can exceed the statewide median family income of \$79,187 within five years.

Health (Substance Abuse) - \$500,000

5. **Salvation Army-Family Treatment Services, \$278,212**
The project aims to improve the health of Native Hawaiian women recovering from substance use disorders by integrating cultural practices into the treatment curriculum and by providing substance abuse treatment, education, relapse prevention, and skills to live a healthy lifestyle in response to cessation of tobacco, methamphetamine and other drugs.
6. **ALU LIKE, Inc., \$102,554**
The purpose of this project is to reduce the rate of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drug use among Native Hawaiians through prevention services that include education, outreach and advocacy to youth ages 9 through 20 and their families on Moloka‘i to proactively prevent substance use.
7. **Mālama Nā Mākua A Keiki, Inc., \$119,234**
The purpose of this project is to support Maui’s Native Hawaiian community by providing a combination of comprehensive women-specific substance abuse treatment services with activities that strengthen mother-child bonding and increase attentive parenting practices to improve and strengthen the entire family’s well-being.

Health (Kūpuna Care) - \$500,000

8. **Ma Ka Hana Ka ‘Ike, \$202,000**
The purpose of this project is to provide youth-led services, including home modifications, produce and poi deliveries, and meaningful engagement in community-based activities to Hāna’s kūpuna and their caregivers to meet their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs, while ultimately elevating their health, well-being and longevity.

9. **I Ola Lāhui, Inc.**, \$298,000

I Ola Lāhui in collaboration with Lunalilo Home will provide behavioral health and cultural nutrition supports to Native Hawaiian kūpuna and caregivers in Honolulu and Waimānalo to improve their health conditions and well-being, enhance day-to-day living, and increase opportunities for cultural and physical activities and social interaction.

Education - \$1,000,000

10. **Educational Services Hawai‘i Foundation**, \$160,868

This project utilizes culture-based pedagogy to provide comprehensive differentiated instruction along with a variety of educationally-enriching activities, designed to increase the number of Native Hawaiian students in foster, kith and kinship care, to meet and exceed reading and math standards to achieve yearly grade promotion and graduation.

11. **Ka‘ala Farms, Inc.**, \$526,568

The purpose of this project is to provide culturally-relevant learning experiences for Nānākuli Intermediate and High School students to increase academic and social growth. Students will engage in authentic projects that are connected to their community and to their own lives, and support their kuleana of community stewardship.

12. **Moloka‘i Community Service Council**, \$108,824

Ho‘omana Hou School’s purpose is to graduate students who can think critically, who actively support their community, and who are academically, environmentally, ethically and culturally competent. The school’s philosophy is that students learn best from hands-on instruction that is place-based and grounded in culture.

13. **Boys & Girls Clubs of Maui, Inc.**, \$203,740

The purpose of this project, Power Hour – Papa Hana Ha‘awina, is to provide homework assistance to all members of Boys & Girls Clubs of Maui, including Native Hawaiian members who attend Hawaiian language immersion schools, to improve their grades in school and in standardized testing.

Culture - \$1,000,000

14. **Waimānalo Health Center**, \$141,936

The Waimānalo Health Center is proposing to expand its cultural healing program to increase the number of patients and community members who practice lomilomi (traditional massage) and lā‘au lapa‘au (traditional medicine) by providing individualized instruction through its primary care setting and cultural healing classes to the community.

15. **Ulu A‘e Learning Center**, \$291,982

The Ulu A‘e Project is an afterschool/intersession program that will provide cultural, place-based learning to at least 361 Native Hawaiian keiki in schools within ‘Ewa. In these sessions, learners receive lessons in cultural practices, such as hana hei (string figures), oli, hula, ulana lauhala (weaving), kuku kapa (kapa making), kālai ohe (bamboo

carving), kanu (planting), ku‘i kalo (poi pounding), kui lei (lei making), mo‘olelo (traditional stories), kākā‘ōlelo (oration), haku mele (poetry), pa‘ani makahiki (makahiki games) and more.

16. Hui Mālama O Ke Kai Foundation, \$78,340

The Papahana Kālai Papa Me Pōhaku Ku‘i ‘Ai project is a workshop series that teaches participants to carve their own board and stone for pounding poi. Through the series at least 50 Native Hawaiians will create their own board and stone, connect with their culture, learn traditional skills, and strengthen the bonds between ‘ohana and community.

17. KUPA Friends of Ho‘okena Beach Park, \$99,920

The purpose of this project is to perpetuate Hawaiian cultural practice of ‘ōpelu (mackerel scad) fishing as handed down to fishers in Ho‘okena and South Kona. The project will build on current OHA support to revitalize seasonal closures, train a new generation of ‘ōpelu fishers and increase demand for traditionally-harvested ‘ōpelu so these cultural practices continue.

18. Hui Mālama Ola Nā ‘Ōiwi, \$307,822

The purpose of Hui Mālama Ola Nā ‘Ōiwi is to uplift the health of the Hawaiian nation. Hui Mālama’s indigenous knowledge programming aims to create a deeper understanding and practice of cultural methods by Native Hawaiians for their health and wellness via ho‘oponopono, lā‘au lapa‘au, lomilomi, and healthy hāpai (pregnancy).

19. Pu‘uhonua Society, \$80,000

The purpose of the Keanahala: A Place for Hala project is to perpetuate the Native Hawaiian practice of ulana lauhala (weaving) and help bring Hawaiian lauhala mats back to the home. Keanahala honors the process from ‘āina to moena (bedding), including harvesting, proper preparation of the leaves, weaving, and repairing moena. The project brings community together to weave, share stories and heal.

Land - \$1,000,000

20. Hui Mālama i ke Ala ‘Ūlili, \$120,480

The purpose of the Ho‘onohopapa Koholālele Project is to engage Native Hawaiian stewards of the ahupua‘a of Koholālele in ‘āina restoration, Native Hawaiian research, and cultural regeneration to cultivate abundance, renew ancestral responsibilities, and empower ‘ohana with the capacity to live and thrive in Hāmākua for generations.

21. Kāko‘o ‘Ōiwi, \$358,320

The purpose of this project is to restore and effectively manage ecologically- and geographically-linked kīpuka within He‘eia uli, increasing the capacity and resilience of ecological and food-producing systems in our ahupua‘a for the benefit of Hawaiians and other community members on O‘ahu.

22. The Kohala Center, Inc, \$260,000

This project will re-establish native forest and stabilize two riparian restoration corridors in the ahupua‘a of Kawaihae. Our watershed restoration efforts with DHHL’s Kailapa

Community will increase access to fresh water, provide habitat for native flora and fauna species and build Native Hawaiian stewardship capacity as aloha ‘āina practitioners.

23. Edith Kanaka‘ole Foundation, \$180,200

The purpose of this project is to mālama the waters of Keaukaha surrounding the only remaining loko i‘a kuapā (fishpond) on the east side of Hawai‘i Island through community engagement, education, research, social media and community events. This is a collaboration between Haleolono fishpond and Kaiaulu Hanakahi to mālama its coastal areas and to revive and sustain the local ecosystem.

24. Ahupua‘a O Moloka‘i, \$81,000

The purpose of this project is to provide direct support and education to Native Hawaiians of Moloka‘i to grow significant native crops (of both land and sea) to further economic sustainability, while requiring ahupua‘a stewardship through restoration efforts and service learning.

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About the Office of Hawaiian Affairs

Established by the state Constitutional Convention in 1978, OHA is a semi-autonomous state agency mandated to better the conditions of Native Hawaiians. Guided by a board of nine publically elected trustees, OHA fulfills its mandate through advocacy, research, community engagement, land management and the funding of community programs. Learn more at www.oha.org.

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