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Public Purpose 1/19/24

The Hawaii Science and Technology Museum, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit serving the people of Hawaii, specifies the grant will be used for a public purpose pursuant to Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes

Christian Wood

Executive Director

Applicant Background: The Hawaii Science and Technology Museum, a notable 501c3 nonprofit organization, has established itself as a pivotal educational institution on Hawaii Island. Specializing in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education and workforce development programs, HSTM has an impressive outreach, engaging approximately 20,000 individuals annually across Hawaii Island.

Goals and Objectives: HSTM seeks \$50,000 in capital funds to enhance its research and development laboratory. This investment is aimed at fostering the growth of STEM industry jobs on Hawaii Island, with a particular emphasis on aerospace and biotechnology sectors. The objective is to leverage these funds to stimulate job creation and promote advanced industry development within the local community.

Public Purpose and Need: The request serves a dual public purpose. Firstly, it supports the continuation and expansion of HSTM's educational and workforce development programs. Secondly, it focuses on the creation of STEM industry jobs. This initiative is crucial for the ongoing development and sustenance of the local economy and educational landscape.

Target Population: The primary beneficiaries of this initiative are high school and college-aged adults residing on Hawaii Island. The focus is to retain local talent by providing them with viable career opportunities in STEM fields. This approach is aimed at building a sustainable community where families can thrive, and local talent can flourish in STEM careers.

Geographic Coverage: The geographical focus of this initiative is Hawaii Island, with special attention given to rural and underserved areas. The objective is to ensure that the benefits of this program are distributed equitably across the island, thereby maximizing its impact on the community as a whole.

In summary, this request by HSTM represents a strategic investment in Hawaii Island's future, targeting educational enhancement, job creation, and community sustainability through a focused expansion in STEM-related fields.

Scope of Work, Tasks, and Responsibilities:

Development of R&D Lab: Expanding the research and development laboratory with necessary equipment aimed at aerospace and biotechnology applications. This includes procurement and installation of equipment, training staff, and setting up safety protocols.

Program Development and Delivery: Designing and implementing educational programs and workshops that align with STEM workforce development, particularly in aerospace and biotechnology.

Outreach and Engagement: Conducting outreach programs to attract high school and college-aged individuals, focusing on underserved and rural communities on Hawaii Island.

Partnership Building: Establishing partnerships with local industries, educational institutions, and community organizations to enhance program reach and effectiveness.

Projected Annual Timeline:

Q1-Q2: Finalizing equipment procurement, completing laboratory setup, and staff training.

Q3: Launching new educational programs and workshops, beginning intensive outreach efforts.

Q4: Evaluating initial program impact, adjusting curriculum and outreach strategies as needed.

Ongoing: Continuous monitoring, evaluation, and refinement of programs and outreach efforts.

Quality Assurance and Evaluation Plans:

Monitoring: Regular monitoring of program implementation, including participant feedback, staff reports, and equipment usage.

Evaluation: Conducting bi-annual evaluations to assess educational impact, workforce development outcomes, and community engagement. This will involve surveys, interviews, and data analysis.

Improvement: Utilizing evaluation outcomes to refine programs, adjust strategies, and improve overall effectiveness. This includes updating equipment and training methodologies based on technological advancements and industry needs.

Measures of Effectiveness:

Participant Engagement: Number of participants in educational programs and workshops, with a focus on target demographics.

Job Creation: Number of participants securing STEM jobs or creating locally owned and operated startups, particularly in aerospace and biotechnology sectors.

Community Impact: Assessments of local community development and sustainability, including feedback from community leaders and partners.

Educational Outcomes: Improvement in STEM skills and knowledge among participants, measured through pre- and post-program assessments.

Budget:

2. The applicant shall provide its anticipated quarterly funding requests for the fiscal year 2025: QTR1 \$25,000 QTR2 \$15,000 QTR3 \$10,000 QTR4 \$0

- 1. The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are seeking for fiscal year 2025: Private Donation \$300,000 (secured), Hawaii Community Foundation \$100,000
- 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 project, if applicable.

N/A

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 2025 for program funding.

N/A

6. The applicant shall provide the balance of its unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2023.

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Necessary Skills and Experience

Hawaii Science and Technology Museum (HSTM) possesses a robust set of skills, abilities, knowledge, and experience pertinent to the request, as evidenced by its track record and accomplishments:

Experience in Aerospace Projects:

HSTM has demonstrated significant expertise in aerospace technology through its successful collaboration with Mahina Aerospace. This partnership led to the design, construction, testing, and launching of a CubeSat, showcasing HSTM's capacity in complex aerospace projects.

The involvement of Mahina Aerospace, a locally and indigenous female-owned aerospace company, in this project again, highlights HSTM's commitment to inclusive and collaborative community-based projects in the field of aerospace technology.

Biotechnology Training Programs:

HSTM has successfully conducted training programs for 20 individuals in the Hawaii Island community, focusing on biotech lab techniques. This initiative underscores HSTM's capability in biotechnology education and workforce development.

The continuation of these training programs indicates a sustained commitment to enhancing biotech skills within the community, aligning with the goals of creating a skilled workforce in this sector.

Operation of a Research and Development Laboratory:

HSTM currently operates a specialized research and development laboratory. This facility is equipped for 21st-century fabrication techniques, electronics, and programming applications, providing a strong foundation for the proposed expansion.

The lab's focus on cutting-edge technology and its successful operation demonstrate HSTM's ability to manage and sustain sophisticated STEM facilities.

Verifiable Experience of Related Projects (Most Recent Three Years):

CubeSat Project with Mahina Aerospace:

Year: 2020-2021

Scope: Design, construction, testing, and launching of a small satellite.

Outcome: Successful launch and operation, demonstrating capabilities in aerospace project management and execution.

Biotech Lab Techniques Training:

Years: 2023-2024

Scope: Training programs for community members in biotechnology lab techniques.

Outcome: Successfully trained 20 individuals, with ongoing programs scheduled.

Research and Development Lab Operations:

Years: 2020-2024

Scope: Management and operation of a lab focusing on modern fabrication techniques, electronics, and programming.

Outcome: Establishment of a fully functional lab, contributing to local STEM education and workforce development.

This history of successful projects and initiatives clearly demonstrates that HSTM possesses the necessary skills, experience, and knowledge to effectively undertake and manage the proposed project. The partnership with Mahina Aerospace further reinforces HSTM's capability to collaborate with industry leaders and integrate indigenous and local perspectives into its programs.

Current Facilities Description:

HSTM currently operates out of a 2000 square foot laboratory space that is specifically designed to accommodate a diverse range of activities, including fine electronics, biotechnology, and heavy fabrication. This space includes:

Fine Electronics Area: Equipped with tools and machinery for precision electronic work including diagnostic equipment.

Biotechnology Section: Features a safe working environment with biosafety cabinets, incubators, and essential lab equipment suitable for molecular biology and biochemical research.

Fabrication Zone: Contains robust equipment such as a drill press, 3D printers, welding apparatus, and other heavy-duty tools required for larger-scale fabrications.

Demonstration of Adequacy:

The lab's design and equipment have been instrumental in HSTM's successful operation since 2020. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the lab's versatility allowed for rapid pivoting to meet community needs, including the development and fabrication of essential items. The lab's layout facilitates a seamless

workflow between different project stages, from conceptualization in the electronics area to prototyping in the fabrication zone.

Proposed Staffing Pattern and Service Capacity:

HSTM plans to deploy a multidisciplinary team to meet the demands of the project. Our staffing pattern is designed to optimize service capacity, ensuring efficient allocation of resources and expertise. The team will include project managers, engineers (in the fields of electronics, computer programming, and fabrication), as well as administrative and support staff. This structure allows HSTM to handle projects of varying sizes and complexity, including specialized tasks such as CubeSat design, fabrication, testing, and launch.

Staff Qualifications and Experience:

Project Management: Our project managers have extensive experience in overseeing complex projects, demonstrated by thousands of hours managing diverse projects and ensure projects are completed on time, within budget, and to high-quality standards.

Fabrication and Electronics Engineers: The engineering team from Mahina Aerospace brings a wealth of experience in fabrication and electronics, crucial for hands-on tasks. Their expertise has been instrumental in past projects, particularly in specialized areas like CubeSat development.

Computer Programmers: Skilled in multiple programming languages and systems, our computer programmers have been pivotal in software development for various applications, contributing to both the design and implementation phases of projects.

Support Staff: Includes experienced administrative personnel, technicians, and logistics coordinators, ensuring smooth operation and support of the project teams.

Training: Continuous professional development is a cornerstone of our strategy. HSTM invests in regular training programs to keep our team up-to-date with the latest technologies and methodologies in their

respective fields. This includes both in-house training sessions and external professional development opportunities.

Administrative Direction: Our administrative team employs proven strategies in resource management, risk assessment, and strategic planning. This ensures that the project aligns with organizational objectives while adapting to changing conditions and challenges.

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, <u>not employee name</u>.

Executive Director: \$60,000 Operations Manager \$20,000 Workforce Development Coordinator \$7000

Litigation

The applicant shall disclose any pending litigation to which they are a party, including the disclosure of any outstanding judgement. If applicable, please explain.

N/A

2. Licensure or Accreditation

The applicant shall specify any special qualifications, including but not limited to licensure or accreditation that the applicant possesses relevant to this request.

N/A

3. Private Educational Institutions

The applicant shall specify whether the grant will be used to support or benefit a sectarian or non-sectarian private educational institution. Please see <u>Article X, Section</u> 1, of the <u>State Constitution</u> for the relevance of this question.

N/A

Future Sustainability Plan

The applicant shall provide a plan for sustaining after fiscal year 2024-25 the activity funded by the grant if the grant of this application is:

- (a) Received by the applicant for fiscal year 2024-25, but
- (b) Not received by the applicant thereafter.

HSTM has an experienced and successful grant writing team that annually brings in approximately \$300,000 through delivery of effective programs in the community and retaining good relationships with grant making organizations and private donors. We feel confident that we can continue this project without any further State funding.