

## 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

GALE BRACEROS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PRINT NAME AND TITLE

1/19/24

DATE

**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:  
Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc.

Amount of State Funds Requested: \$ 300,000.00

Brief Description of Request (Please attach word document to back of page if extra space is needed):  
The Weed and Seed Hawai'i Project uses a comprehensive approach to reducing and preventing crime and improving residents' overall quality of life. The funds will be used to cover costs for staffing, trainings, and activities in designated communities with a history of high levels of crime, drug use, violece, and severe economic deterioration. What sets our Project apart from others is our partnership with law enforcement and the U.S. Attorney's Office. We will target low to moderate income residents with an emphasis on reaching out to the most vulnerable populations - senior citizens, houseless, special needs populations, English Second Language families and the youth.

Amount of Other Funds Available:

State: \$ 300,000 (not yet released)

Federal: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

County: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Private/Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount of State Grants Received in the Past 5 Fiscal Years: \$ 394,900.00

Unrestricted Assets: \$ 72,486.79

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:

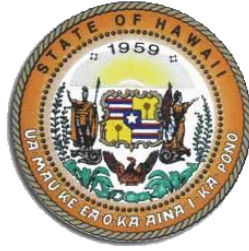
91-884 Ft Weaver Rd Suite A

City: Ewa Beach State: HI Zip: 96706

Contact Person for Matters Involving this Application	
Name: <u>Gale Braceros</u>	Title: <u>Executive Director</u>
Email: <u>galeb@weedandseedhi.org</u>	Phone: <u>808-232-6437</u>

Federal Tax ID#: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	State Tax ID# <u>[REDACTED]</u>
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                      Gale Braceros, Executive Director                      1/19/24  
Authorized Signature                      Name and Title                      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:** WEED & SEED HAWAII, INC.

**Issue Date:** 01/14/2024

**Status:** **Compliant**

Hawaii Tax#: [REDACTED]  
 New Hawaii Tax#: [REDACTED]  
 FEIN/SSN#: XX-XXX0982  
 UI#: XXXXXX5735  
 DCCA FILE#: 240563

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	Compliant
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 REVISIED STATUTES**

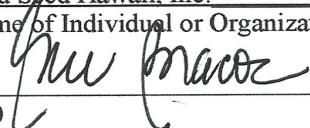
The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies the following:

- 1) The applicant meets and will comply with all of the following standards for the award of grants pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii'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, Hawaii'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, Hawaii'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, Hawaii'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.

Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.  
(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)



(Signature) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) 1/19/24

Gale Braceros \_\_\_\_\_ Executive Director  
(Typed Name) (Title)

## Application for Grants

*If any item is not applicable to the request, the applicant should enter "not applicable".*

### **I. Certification – Please attach immediately after cover page**

#### **1. Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate (If the Applicant is an Organization)**

If the applicant is an organization, the applicant shall submit one (1) copy of a Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate from the Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services that is dated no earlier than December 1, 2023.

See Application Page 3.

#### **2. Declaration Statement**

The applicant shall submit a declaration statement affirming its compliance with [Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes](#).

See Application Page 4.

#### **3. Public Purpose**

In the article, "How Can We Be Smarter About Fighting Crime" Nick Herbert states, "The solution must lie in programs that are locally delivered, free from central micro-management, and specifically targeted." The Weed and Seed Hawaii Project is such a project.

This grant will be used for a public purpose pursuant to [Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes](#).

### **II. Background and Summary**

#### **1. A brief description of the applicant's background**

Weed and Seed Hawai'i has its roots in a program that was initially established by the U.S. Department of Justice in 1991. It is a community-based multi-agency approach to addressing violent crime, gang activity, drug use, and drug trafficking in communities that were hardest hit by violence and eroding social and economic stability.

In 2011, Operation Weed and Seed was adopted to serve as an outreach program under the United States Attorney, District of Hawai'i, and was aptly renamed Weed and Seed Hawai'i. In 2017, Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. became the not-for-profit organization responsible for securing funding for Weed and Seed Hawai'i.

Today, Weed and Seed Hawai'i continues to serve as the outreach program under the United States Attorney, District of Hawai'i and our partner is the Honolulu Police Department. We also work with other Federal, State and City law enforcement partners. ***We are not a City or State Government program.***

## **2. The goals and objectives related to the request**

The mission of Weed and Seed Hawai'i is to bring people and resources together to reduce crime in our communities through law enforcement, community engagement, social and economic revitalization, neighborhood beautification, and an investment in the future of our youth. A comprehensive approach is used to reduce and prevent crime and improve residents' overall quality of life. As a result, law-abiding citizens can live, work, and raise their families in a safer and more prosperous environment.

The Weed and Seed Hawai'i Project has three objectives:

(1) develop a comprehensive, multi-agency strategy to control and prevent violent crime, drug trafficking, and drug-related crime in target neighborhoods; (2) coordinate and integrate existing and new initiatives to concentrate resources and maximize their impact on reducing and preventing violent crime, drug trafficking, and gang activity; and (3) mobilize community residents in the target areas to assist law enforcement in identifying and removing violent offenders and drug traffickers from the community and to assist other human service agencies in identifying and responding to service needs of the target area.

The "weeding" and "seeding" components work hand in hand in reducing crime in targeted areas. While we rely on our partner the Honolulu Police Department to "weed" and enforce the laws, we focus on "seeding" by implementing prevention strategies and programs aimed at educating the greater public and reducing criminal elements.

## **3. The public purpose and need to be served**

In 2006, the State of Hawai'i Department of Attorney General conducted a study that revealed the most significant markers associated with juvenile delinquency and at-risk behavior are those associated with one's educational environment. In other words, the most significant predictors of crime are academic failure, low school achievement and alienation from school which often leads to truancy and juvenile delinquency, followed by juvenile crime and adult criminality.

Failing to graduate from high school has significant consequences as the lack of a high school diploma is directly correlated to incidents of crime, the severity of offenses, the probability of arrest, the probability of conviction, the probability of incarceration, the average length of incarceration and the expected loss of earnings.

It is important to note that most adult criminals began their criminal careers as juveniles. Preventing delinquency prevents the onset of adult criminal careers and thus, reduces the burden of crime on its victims and on society (Greenwood, 2008).

Crime causes economic and social costs for those victimized and the communities they live and work in. Authorities spend millions of dollars each year on the prevention of crime and the detection, prosecution and punishment of criminals. In 2021, the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) spent over \$312 million fighting crime on O’ahu despite struggling to fill its vacancies.

The Weed and Seed Hawai’i Project will work in designated geographical areas with a history of high levels of crime, drug use, violence and severe economic deterioration. The Weed and Seed Hawai’i Project is unique in that despite being a not-for-profit, not a government entity, our partnership with HPD and other law enforcement entities puts us in a place of really being able to affect change.

Preventing crime is a shared responsibility and we recognize that HPD cannot do it alone. The *Presidents Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Policing* emphasized that “personal interactions between police officers and community members build mutual trust, which is essential to addressing neighborhood problems and reducing crime.” (2015)

Crime prevention requires the efforts of law enforcement agencies, service providers, institutions (such as schools), families, and individuals to address the root cause of delinquency and crime.

Because of our strong relationships and longevity in the communities we serve, the Weed and Seed Hawai’i Project has enjoyed much success. Although HPD continues to “weed” by enforcing the laws, their relationship with the community has changed for the better as well. They are now called upon by community stakeholders to address community issues with them. Weed and Seed Hawai’i Project will continue to lead the effort in “seeding” in these respective communities.

#### **4. Describe the target population to be served**

The communities targeted by this Project are the 3 “graduated” Weed and Seed Hawai’i sites in the City & County Honolulu:

- 1) Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan
- 2) Waipahu
- 3) Ewa-Ewa Beach

On O’ahu, these are the only communities that earned the Weed and Seed designation after successfully demonstrating to the Federal government that they could and were willing to work together for the benefit of the community. These 3 Weed and Seed Hawai’i sites benefit from “brand name recognition,” known both to criminals, residents, partnering social service agencies and potential funders. These 3 sites have established fiscal and in-kind support within the communities they serve as well as across the State.

The Weed and Seed Hawai’i Project will serve low to moderate income residents in the targeted communities with emphasis on reaching out to the most vulnerable populations

including but not limited to, the ***homeless, special needs population, senior citizens, English Second Language families*** and ***youth***.

## **5. Describe the geographic coverage**

The Weed and Seed Hawai'i Project will take place in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach communities, which are part of 8 State Senate districts, 10 State House districts, 6 City Council districts, and 4 out of 8 Honolulu Police Department districts. Each Weed and Seed Hawai'i site works closely with a team of Community Policing officers from Districts 1, 3, 5 and 8. These police districts also report the highest number of incidences according to the Honolulu Police Department Annual Reports from 2016-2022.

These communities were designated Weed and Seed Hawai'i sites based on high crime and unemployment rates as well as community blight and public housing. The first two communities have 8 public housing areas: Kamehameha Homes, Mayor Wrights, Kaahumanu Housing, Kuhio Park Terrace, Kalihi Valley Homes, Lanakila Housing, Waipahu I and Waipahu II. Although Ewa-Ewa Beach does not have public housing, it contains a lot of low-income housing units. In addition, 12-25.7% of the students who attend high schools in these areas drop out and nearly half of all students across all areas receive free/reduced lunches.

## **III. Service Summary and Outcomes**

### **1. Describe the scope of work, tasks and responsibilities**

Prevention-focused partnerships are an effective tool in preventing crime and addressing the public's fear. Weed and Seed Hawai'i will provide opportunities for engagement through Community Policing (CP), Prevention-Intervention-Treatment (PIT) and Neighborhood Restoration (NR) activities.

Through CP activities, stakeholders proactively collaborate to address and respond to pressing issues. Law enforcement works hand-in-hand with the community to encourage participation and help to prevent crime. Providing education reduces fear of crime and engages the community in the problem solving. An empowered community can sustain efforts for a safer community.

Providing opportunities for healthy recreational activities help in the positive consumption of individuals' energy and in effect, can help deter them from engaging in crime. Having positive adult role models also help youth reach their potential. Through PIT programs and activities, not only will youth be strengthened but other stakeholders as well.

Social and economic factors, such as income, education, employment, community safety, and social supports can play a significant role in how well and how long we live.



Through NR efforts, we will focus on improving the economic and social conditions of the community through skill-building, career education, coalition building and clean up projects.

It is important to note that we may not offer the same programs or activities across all 3 sites. The Weed and Seed Hawai'i Project is community driven and therefore, listens to what the community says it wants and needs then works with the community to address those needs. Programs and activities need to remain fluid to adapt to the community.

For example, while Waipahu and Kalihi have been fortunate to provide during-school programs, other locations like Chinatown and Ewa Beach are stronger in afterschool programming. Likewise, locations like Chinatown and Ewa Beach have strong Citizen Patrol and Neighborhood Security Watch groups while Waipahu and Kalihi conduct more safety presentations throughout their respective sites.

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

The following ***Community Policing*** activities will be conducted in person if safe and virtually when deemed necessary. The numbers represented below are the **cumulative** duplicated totals for **all sites** during the Project period.

Citizen Patrol/NSW

Citizen Patrol/NSW activities held at various locations with dates and times based on the availability of the members and HPD. Citizen Patrol/NSW members serve as “the eyes and ears of the community” often sharing information with HPD about areas or issues of concern in their respective communities. The training teaches the members to take notes and report any concerns directly to HPD rather than trying to address the issue on their own. These activities help to engage the community in the problem solving process.

Shall provide 100 Citizen Patrol/NSW activities. 500 duplicated participants shall participate in the citizen patrol/NSW activities and at the end of the program 75% of unduplicated participants surveyed shall report that they feel like they are contributing to making their community safer.

Sign Waving

Sign Waving activities held at various locations with dates and times based on the availability of HPD. Schools, businesses, residents, etc. partner to conduct sign waving events. Sign waving helps to bring awareness to the broader community around safe driving, pedestrian safety, and other topics such as Domestic Violence, Youth Underage Drinking or Being Drug Free. These activities encourage community participation and help to prevent crime.

Shall provide 12 sign waving activities. 120 duplicated participants shall participate in the sign waving activities and at the end of the program 75% of

unduplicated participants surveyed shall report that they feel like they are contributing to making their community safer.

### Safety Presentations

Safety Presentations held at various locations and dates and times based on the need in the community. Presentations are conducted with senior citizens, schools, businesses, churches, non-profits, etc. on varying subjects such as Juvenile Laws, Vaping Education, Bullying Prevention, Senior Fraud Prevention, Pedestrian Safety, etc. Guest presenters may come from various non profits, FBI, Attorney General's Office, HPD, etc. who help to bring awareness and education in the hopes of preventing crime from happening. An empowered community will be able to sustain efforts of the safer community.

Shall provide 12 safety presentation activities. 120 duplicated participants shall participate in the safety presentation activities and at the end of the program 75% of unduplicated participants surveyed shall report that they learned something new and valuable that they could apply to their life.

The following ***Prevention, Intervention and Treatment*** activities will be conducted in person if safe and virtually when deemed necessary. The numbers represented below are the **cumulative** duplicated totals for **all sites** during the Project period.

### Sports/Fitness

Sports/Fitness activities offered to youth and adults at schools, parks, beaches and in partnership with other non profits in the community. Prevention and intervention activities promote wholesome behavior, good health, well-being, and personal success. Opportunities for healthy activities lead to avoidance of criminal activities. Positive adult role models lead to youth reaching their potential.

Shall provide 15 sports/fitness activities. 150 duplicated participants shall participate in the sports/fitness activities and at the end of the program 75% of unduplicated participants surveyed shall report that they learned the value of working together that they could apply to their life.

### Character Development/Leadership

Character Development/Leadership activities offered to youth and adults in partnership with schools, non profits, businesses, etc. Leader Lab is an example of this type of activity where select youth are given Leadership training. Oftentimes, youth who "graduate" from the summer culinary arts program are invited back to serve as a youth leader in the new class. An empowered community will be able to sustain efforts of the safer community.

Shall provide 15 character development/leadership activities. 150 unduplicated participants shall participate in the character development/leadership activities and at the end of the program 75% of the duplicated participants surveyed shall

report that they learned something new and valuable that they could apply to their life.

### Career Development/Skills

Career Development/Skills activities offered to youth and adults in partnership with schools, non profits, businesses, etc. Some examples may include instructional classes for students on skill sets specific to Culinary Arts or becoming Law Enforcement officer. This is good for the community as it improves economic and social conditions through education, job training, and skill building.

Shall provide 25 career development/skills activities. 500 duplicated participants shall participate in the career development/skills activities and at the end of the program 75% of the unduplicated participants surveyed shall report that they learned something new and valuable that they could apply to their life.

### Youth Mentorship/Life Skills/Community Service

Youth Mentorship/Lifeskills/Community Service conducted with schools, youth groups, etc. at schools, in the community, etc. Some examples may include Real and Powerful (RAP) Sessions conducted with schools where officers go into classrooms and work with the students throughout the school year discussing various topics or working with youth groups to conduct community service projects like putting together PPE for families, etc. Youth prevention activities are good for the community because positive relationships with adult role models can encourage wholesome behavior, well-being and personal success.

Shall provide 50 youth mentorship/lifeskills/community service activities. 500 duplicated participants shall participate in the youth mentorship/lifeskills/community service activities and at the end of the program 75% of the unduplicated participants surveyed shall report that they learned something new and valuable that they could apply to their life.

### Drug Free Events/Family Engagement

Drug Free Events/Family include Movie Nights, Bingo Nights, Fairs, 'Ohana Nights, etc. and take place at schools, parks, non profits, shopping centers, etc. Providing opportunities for families to spend time as a family in a safe, drug free environment is good for the community because it helps kids feel connected to their caregivers, families and communities. Kids who feel connected also feel safe, secure, supported and are ready to learn. Family engagement helps parents and other caregivers feel connected and tuned into their children and communities. When adults are tuned in and feel supported by schools and other agencies, they feel connected to their child and more prepared to support their child. Family engagement events are at no cost to allow families to participate in a safe, drug free event as a family. Movie nights: Officers do a safety message before the movie. Bingo Nights: an opportunity to win a food bags, etc. Fairs:

WSHI provides resources and conduct community survey to hear their concerns. 'Ohana Nights: An evening with resources and activities for all ages.

Shall provide 10 drug free events/family engagement activities. 400 duplicated participants shall participate in the drug free events/family engagement activities and at the end of the program 75% of the unduplicated participants surveyed shall report that they appreciated the resources provided that will help to strengthen their family.

The following ***Neighborhood Restoration*** activities will be conducted in person if safe and virtually when deemed necessary. The numbers represented below are the **cumulative** duplicated totals for **all sites** during the Project period.

#### Community CleanUps

Community CleanUps take place in parks, along the bike path, in the neighborhoods, on school campuses, and may include the collection/removal of carts, graffiti paint outs, etc. with various groups and residents in the community. A beautiful environment leads to more pride and less vandalism and destruction which in turn helps to improve economic and social conditions in a community.

Shall provide 10 community cleanup activities. 100 duplicated participants shall participate in the community cleanup activities and at the end of the program 75% of unduplicated participants shall report that they feel like they are contributing to making their community safer.

#### Family Support Services

Family Support Services come in the form of assistance with food, toiletries, PPE, COVID testing, vaccinations, school supplies, holiday gifts or connecting the family with other necessary resources. Families who are struggling will sometimes resort to committing crime to get what they need. Families identified as needing assistance are asked what kind of support they may need and help is provided to facilitate the process of them getting it the proper way while giving them opportunity to give back to the community. For example, families who receive food may be asked to volunteer to help others in need as well.

Shall provide 40 family support services activities. 500 duplicated participants will participate in the family support services activities and at the end of the program 75% of the unduplicated participants surveyed shall report that they appreciated the resources provided that will help to strengthen their family.

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

The Project is designed to produce these outcomes through the following process:

- The Project in its entirety will be accountable and responsible to each Site Steering Committee, made up of volunteer community members.
- The Project will be evaluated externally by an outside Evaluator.
- Participants will be asked to complete a post activity/event survey. This will give staff the opportunity to improve the programs.
- Community feedback surveys will be conducted once a year to ensure that the needs of the community are being addressed.

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 appropriation differs from the amount included in this application that the measure(s) of effectiveness will need to be updated and transmitted to the expending agency.**

Keeping in mind the outcomes detailed in Section II.2., the measures of effectiveness that will be reported include the following:

- Number of activities conducted.
- Number of post surveys conducted as well as summary.
- Number of community feedback surveys conducted as well as summary.

#### **IV. Financial**

##### **Budget**

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

See attached budget forms. Attachment VIII.C.

2. **The applicant shall provide its anticipated quarterly funding requests for the fiscal year 2025.**

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total Grant
\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$300,000

3. **The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are seeking for fiscal year 2025.**

- Hawaii Community Foundation (Ewa Beach Community Fund)
- SAMSHA STOP Act Grant
- Agency Fundraisers & Private Donations
- City & County of Honolulu

- 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.**

The applicant has not applied for or anticipate applying for 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 2025 for program funding.**

Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. secured the following government contracts, grants and grants-in-aid from 2022-2025:

- State of Hawai'i, Department of Health: 5/10/22-12/31/22
- State GIA 2023: 4/1/23-3/31/24
- State GIA 2024: not yet released
- City & County of Honolulu, Non Profit Emergency Fund: 2023

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

The applicants unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2023 is \$72,486.79.

It is important to note that government contracts are reimbursable and therefore, Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. has been upfronting the costs for payroll and other essentials through private donations and fundraising and receiving quarterly reimbursements.

## **V. Experience and Capability**

### **1. Necessary Skills and Experience**

This Project utilizes subject matter experts who have staffed Weed and Seed Hawai'i in multiple communities extending back to 2005.

This Project is governed by the Weed and Seed Hawai'i Board of Directors which is comprised of individuals who live or work in one of the respective sites. The Board of Directors meet at least once a month to discuss fiscal and management issues across the Project. The Board of Directors has 12 members and meets on average 5 hours per month for monthly board and project-related meetings and activities. It is estimated that 720 hours of Board support will be provided over the length of the Project at a rate of \$22.16 per hour resulting in a total Project in-kind contribution of \$15,955.20.

Each site is governed by a Steering Committee which consists of Weed and Seed Hawaii staff, individuals who live or work in the site and at least 1 HPD Community Policing Officer. No other service provider has this type of law enforcement involvement.

Each Steering Committee is comprised of a minimum of 8 active members and is charged with designing the program for that site. The Steering Committees meet every other month to discuss issues in their community and make decisions and coordinate activities with Project partners. Each member participates on average 5 hours per month in monthly board and project related meetings and activities. It is estimated that 1,440 hours of advisory support will be provided over the length of the Project at a rate of \$22.16 per hour resulting in a total Project in-kind contribution of \$31,910.

Recognizing the necessity of community support and investment, each Steering Committee continually identifies resources and partnerships, identifies, and assesses potential participants, and promotes, organizes, and manages its ongoing activities. Partners in the Project include, but are not limited to:

US Attorney's Office, District of Hawai'i  
Federal Bureau of Investigations  
State of Hawai'i Attorney General's Office, Community & Crime Prevention Branch  
State of Hawai'i Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
City & County of Honolulu, Honolulu Police Department (District 1, 3, 5, 8)  
City & County of Honolulu, Department of Housing & Homelessness  
City & County of Honolulu, Department of Environmental Services  
City & County of Honolulu, Department of Parks and Recreation  
& 100+ businesses, schools, service clubs, banks, associations, not-for-profits, churches, etc.

## **2. Facilities**

Each site has provisions for community meeting and activity space along with office/desk space for administrative duties of the Weed and Seed Hawaii staff. The Executive Director has an office at the Ewa Beach Boys & Girls Club, Hale Pono Clubhouse in Ewa Beach. The Program Director has office spaces at Waipahu Elementary School and Bank of Hawai'i. Staff have access to other locations for meetings, programs, and storage space.

In addition, each Weed and Seed Hawaii staff member has available portable computing and telecommunications capability.

## VI. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

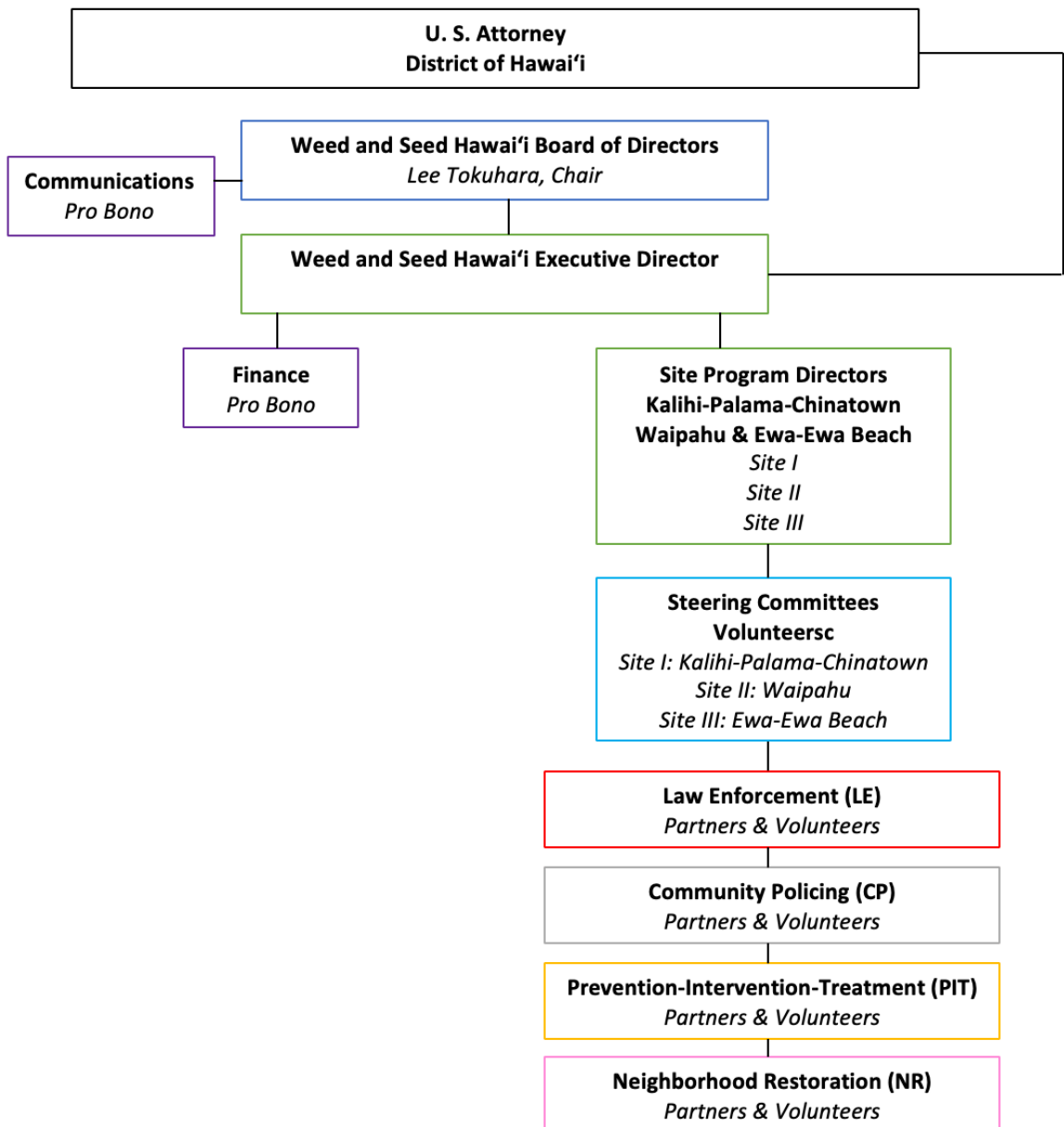
### 1. Proposed Staffing, Staff Qualifications, Supervision and Training

See attachments in Section VIII for descriptions of staff positions and resumes.

A liaison from the Weed and Seed Hawai'i Board of Directors provides support and supervision to the Executive Director. The Executive Director maintains daily communication and provides support and supervision for the Program Director.

### 2. Organization Chart

**WEED AND SEED HAWAI'I ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**





### **3. Compensation**

No Board of Directors officers or directors are compensated for their efforts. No Site Steering Committee members are compensated for their efforts. The annual salaries of the three highest paid employees are:

Program Directors (2) – \$50,000-75,000.00 annually (1 filled, 1 vacant).  
Executive Director (1) – \$90,000.00-105,000.00 annually (filled).

## **VII. Other**

### **1. Litigation**

There is no pending litigation for which Weed and Seed Hawai'i is a party to.

### **2. Licensure or Accreditation**

Project staff possess certifications in Grassroots Leadership Development, Strategic Thinking and Planning, Community Capacity Development Certifications (U.S. DOJ), Gang Violence Awareness Certifications and other areas related to this project.

### **3. Private Educational Institutions**

This grant will not be used to support or benefit a sectarian or non-sectarian private educational institution.

### **4. Future Sustainability Plan**

For this Project to be successful in the long-run, four objectives must be met:

- By working across communities and sharing resources, benefits of scale, shared knowledge and increased cooperation maximizes opportunity for sustainability.
- The Project needs to convince funders that the strategies offered in the project benefit a wider area than simply the communities the project works in. Funders need to understand that criminals often simply move around seeking the most vulnerable communities. Several funding opportunities have been identified and will be pursued. They include:
  - Hawaii Community Foundation (Ewa Beach Community Fund)
  - SAMSHA STOP Act Grant
  - Agency Fundraisers & Private Donations
  - City & County of Honolulu

- The dynamic nature of each steering committee with its ever-changing volunteer membership requires Project staff to provide the institutional memory and capacity needed to manage existing and develop new projects. Sites must continue to assist in identifying and developing proposals for funding which fit within the projects' goals and objectives. Multiple funding opportunities have already been recognized.
- The best way to extend the Weed and Seed Hawai'i Project is to make sure that it is "marketed" throughout the communities it serves and beyond so that others may also monetarily and voluntarily contribute to the success of the Project.

Weed and Seed Hawai'i staff members have the experience and capacity to make the Project the success it is. The Executive Director and Program Director bring 30+ years of experience in the field.

Some of the strengths and resources that the Weed and Seed Hawai'i staff bring are strong partnerships and interdependent cooperation, enhanced enforcement rules, community driven projects and activities, strong relationships with community and youth, and commitment of police officers in their respective sites.

It is largely due to the ongoing efforts of its staff that community commitments have increased where stakeholders take an increasingly active role in clean up campaigns and community activities rather than passively relying on government or other entities to keep their neighborhoods safe and clean. The following chart shows how many volunteers and volunteer hours logged for the past 8 years.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Volunteers</i>	<i>Total Hours</i>
2016	7,924	1,406
2017	9,835	1,441.25
2018	4,412	968.25
2019	1,109	337.5
2020	1,169	430.5
2021	295	279
2022	3193	619.75
2023	3,032	7,594.75

Weed and Seed Hawai'i has saved the government **millions of dollars** through in-kind volunteer support.

A project of this scope, with this level of community involvement invariably attracts community support. In addition to volunteer support, In-kind contributions received in the most recent year and are anticipated to be received in the next project year from the following:

US Attorney Office, District of Hawai'i

Federal Bureau of Investigations  
State of Hawai'i Attorney General's Office, Community & Crime Prevention  
Branch  
State of Hawai'i Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
City & County of Honolulu, Honolulu Police Department (District 1, 3, 5, 8)  
City & County of Honolulu, Department of Housing & Homelessness  
City & County of Honolulu, Department of Environmental Services  
City & County of Honolulu, Department of Parks and Recreation  
& 100+ businesses, schools, service clubs, banks, associations, not-for-profits,  
churches, etc.

**VIII. Attachments:**

- A. Project Position Descriptions**
- B. Key Project Staff**
- C. Budget Documents**
- D. Letters of Support**

**VIII.A**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOB DESCRIPTION**

**REPORTS TO:** Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Board of Directors

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Implement programs and projects, with moderate guidance, as determined by the Board.
- Assist with review and evaluation of development, operating and services plans for projects.
- Collaboratively design and develop new program initiatives and strategies to meet service provider and property management needs.
- Collaboratively develop tools to support capacity building and technical assistance. Provide technical assistance. Conduct trainings and workshops.
- Develop funding action recommendations. Monitor grants progress and compliance with performance and reporting requirements.
- Administer and monitor program action recommendations and consultant agreements.
- Prepare fundraising proposals. Manage and track grant related expenditures.
- Create and maintain relationships with grantor staff, advisory committee members, program funders, providers, and other external partners.
- Identify and disseminate supportive housing models and related materials that reflect best practices and innovative approaches to meeting the needs of various stakeholders.
- Work collaboratively with communities to establish and attain strategic goals annually.
- Perform any other organization related duties or special projects as directed by the Board.
- Work related travel as required.

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Bachelor's degree, or advanced degree in related field strongly preferred. Additional experience may substitute for education.
- Minimum of 4 years' experience in finance, community development, support services or employment services, as relevant to program responsibilities. Additional education may substitute for experience.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Strong organizational, project management, interpersonal, research, and analytic skills.
- Strong computer skills. Demonstrated proficiency using Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, Access, and Outlook).
- Eagerness and ability to manage a diverse set of tasks.

- Skilled in facilitation, team building, forging collaborative partnerships, and developing and maintaining strong relationships within the community and in convening and engaging people from diverse groups and sectors.
- Able to work independently with minimal supervision and be able to represent Weed and Seed Hawaii in public forums with a high level of professionalism.
- Familiarity with relevant state and local policy as well as financing mechanisms for operating and support services.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with professional staff, government agencies and community-based organizations.
- Ability to realistically assess capacity and provide technical assistance on a group or individual basis.

## **PROGRAM DIRECTOR JOB DESCRIPTION**

**REPORTS TO:** Weed and Seed Hawaii Executive Director

**SUMMARY:** The Program Director is responsible for facilitating community-building initiatives designed to improve conditions in the Weed & Seed project neighborhoods. Success of the program will depend on the involvement of neighborhood residents, stakeholders, and community institutions. The Program Director will need to demonstrate leadership skills result in volunteer participation in program activities. Grant funding is committee for 12 months for this position.

Duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

### **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Network community residents and neighborhood-based institutions to increase collaboration, relationship and community building and development and implementation of new initiatives that benefit the service area
- Increase connectivity of neighborhood residents to one another
- Network grassroots, community-based non-profits, and institutions to one another, creating opportunities for partnerships and collaboration
- Connect residents and institutions together to create positive comprehensive community change
- Implement a comprehensive network weaving model to increase resident engagement/involvement and connect residents to opportunities using an asset-based approach
- Coordinate youth leadership programs and various neighborhood programs
- Develop programming and collaborative partnerships with all neighborhood-based schools and education initiatives
- Assist in the planning, marketing, and implementation of community-based events, including community clean-ups, etc.
- Develop volunteer leaders among neighborhood residents, stakeholders, and community institutions
- Promote public relations and outreach campaigns
- Serve as liaison with participating organizations and stakeholders
- Submit required narrative and budget reports on a timely basis to ensure compliance with program guidelines
- Collect and compile necessary data and evaluation requests
- Develop program goals and measurable evaluation criteria
- Prepare small grant proposals with neighborhood groups and community institutions to assist in project development
- Attend block club meetings and recruit volunteers
- Conduct door-knocking and outreach campaigns
- Other duties as assigned

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Bachelor's degree (or equivalent work experience) in social work, urban studies, human services, non-profit administration, or related field
- Five years' experience in community organizing or social service, or neighborhood development
- Leadership and team building skills
- Availability and willingness to work flexible schedule including evenings and weekends; local travel and some out-of-town travel required.
- Ability to work with people of all racial, ethnic and income backgrounds.
- Passion for creating social change, combines with sufficient detachment to allow residents to make their own decisions about issues, strategies, and tactics.
- Good written and verbal communication skills and an ability to "think on your feet"
- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision
- Excellent oral communication and writing skills; proficiency in preparing written reports and business correspondence
- Computer proficiency including Word and Excel and use of the Internet
- Driver's license, insurance and automobile in good condition

**PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

Master's Degree

Five or more years of relevant work experience

Experience with grantsmanship, fundraising and budget preparation and reporting

**PHYSICAL DEMANDS**

Ability to operate a computer and keyboard. Ability to operate a motor vehicle or equipment. May require reaching, standing, walking and the ability to lift or move objects up to 20 pounds. May require vocal communication for expressing or exchanging ideas, hearing to perceive information at normal spoken word levels, visual acuity for color perception, preparing and analyzing written or computer data, determining the accuracy and thoroughness of work and observing general surrounding and activities.

**WORKING CONDITIONS**

Availability for extended hours during peak periods and attendance at evening and weekend meetings. Exposure to inside and outside environmental conditions. The office is located in a smoke free facility.

This position description is not intended to be a complete list of all responsibilities, duties or skills required for the job and is subject to review and change at any time, with or without notice, in accordance with the needs of the project. Since no position description can detail all the duties and responsibilities that may be required from time to time in the performance of a job, duties and responsibilities that may be inherent to the job, reasonably required for its performance or required due to the changing nature of the job shall also be considered part of the jobholder's responsibility.

**VIII.B****EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RESUME**

**Experience:** Weed and Seed Hawaii  
January 1, 2017 to present  
Position: Executive Director

Empower Oahu/Wahiawa CBDO  
Weed & Seed Hawaii  
February 2015-December 31, 2016  
Position: Community Coordinator

YMCA of Honolulu  
Leeward YMCA/Metro  
Weed & Seed Hawaii  
May 2, 2005-February 2015  
Position: Program Director

**Duties:** To coordinate opportunities for residents and businesses to work cooperatively in taking control of their neighborhoods for a cleaner, safer community that nurtures healthy family living and work environments. This effort includes developing collaborative, synergistic working relationships between social agencies, businesses, faith-based counsels, residents, and other community organizations. The focus is to facilitate positive community action, coordinate community communications, and serve as a liaison between the community and the Honolulu Police Department.

- To supervise and provide resources and assistance to program staff.
- Work with residents, businesses, and service providers in the community to help identify problems and needs.
- Conduct community surveys in focus areas; collect data to identify the focus areas; establish a plan of action with sub-committees.
- Attend monthly Neighborhood Board Meetings, reporting upcoming events and answering any community concerns.
- Receive complaints and concerns, reporting illegal activities from the community to HPD for timely follow up.
- Attend Association meetings for 'Ewa/Ewa Beach area, conducting Weed & Seed presentations and providing basic training.
- Facilitate Weed & Seed Committee meetings (Neighborhood Restoration Committee, Economic Development Committee, Legislature Committee and Steering Committee).
- Participate in community events, providing resources and promoting active ties relating to Weed & Seed's strategies.
- Facilitate and organize community events and projects with residents, businesses, and service providers (Neighborhood Restoration Projects, Community Policing events and activities, Prevention, Intervention and Treatment events).
- Build active partnerships, in and out of the community, in support of community initiatives.
- Collect crime stats and monthly weeding activities from Weed & Seed officers to include in monthly reports.
- Monitor all federal, state and city grants for assigned site.



**Accomplishments:**

Nov. 2005	YMCA Group Work Training - Certificate of Completion
April 18, 2013	YMCA Introductions to Leading Others
April 2007	Community Capacity Development Offices (DOJ): Weed & Seed Honolulu chosen one of 8 Best Practice Weed & Seed site nationally
May 2007	Kapolei Outstanding Achievement Award (KOA) for Community Service-Organization
Oct. 2007	McGruff's National Crime Prevention Award of Excellence - Crime Prevention Program of the Year
Feb. 20, 2013	City and County of Honolulu Council, Certificate of Recognition - Ewa Weed and Seed
2016	Honolulu Police Department Service Award: Citizen of the Year

**Other Experience:**

Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc.  
O'ahu Head Start  
June 1, 1987 to April 30, 2005  
Position Held: Family Advocate  
Supervisor: Ellen Taoka

**Duties:** As Family Advocate, my job was to assist families with resources, linking them with community opportunities, as well as with other agencies relevant to the individual needs. The work with everyone included assisting them in establishing their short-term and long-term goals; helping them to realize their strengths as well as their needs; developing and facilitating parent workshops and training monthly.

**Other Responsibilities:** A major portion of this job was to work consistently on developing productive relationships with other agencies in the community, effectively utilizing their services to assist families in crisis. To achieve this, the building of teamwork was essential: collaboration and cooperation with other team members, teaching staff and other community specialists (state, federal, and private agencies).

- Coordinate bi-annual Health Fairs for Central and Waipahu/Ewa districts.
- Organized weekly parent workshop/trainings for families
- Comprehensive quarterly reports for State funded sites.
- Work with agencies to meet building inspection for licensing for all new childcare sites.
- Required to do two home visits with each assigned site (20 families per site, total of 80 families)
- Work with other agencies to provide quality resources and services, establish an Individual Action Plan with each family, monitor plan and do necessary follow-ups.

**Special Assignments:**

Job Corp Head Start 2001 – 2003  
Assigned to Job Corp Head Start to lead the assessment, evaluation, and reorganization process necessary for them to meet federal compliances.

'Ewa Head Start 1998 – 2001  
Assigned to 'Ewa Head Start to do an assessment-evaluation-reorganization necessary for them to meet Federal compliances. In addition, worked to facilitate efforts to:

- Strengthen working partnership and relationship with Hale Kipa, Easter Seals and Child and Family Services

- Completed necessary federal, city and state requirements needed to obtain licensing.

**Accomplishments:** Early Head Start 2000 – 2003  
 First to implement Early Head Start for teen parents at James Campbell High School, Waipahu High School, Mililani High School and Leilehua High School: opened childcare centers; organized and facilitated teen parenting workshops.

**Education:** YMCA/Group Work (2 credits) Nov. 2005  
 YMCA of Honolulu

Honolulu Community College  
 Associates in Social Services June 17, 2005

Honolulu Community College 2002- 2003  
 Completed Family Advocate Certification Courses:

- Human Development/FAMR 250
- Domestic Violence/Dynamics of Family Violence, FAMR 133
- Working with People, FAMR 296
- Family Dynamics/Interviewing Difficult Families, SOSER 21

Kapiolani Community College  
 Certified Nursing Assistant 1975  
 Licensed Practical Nurse 1977

Waianae High School 1971-1975  
 High School Diploma

**Training:** Child Abuse/Neglect  
 Second Step Program  
 (Selected to attend training to develop parenting classes with parents)

Drug Awareness/Recognizing the Problem  
 Working with Micronesians/Learning their culture  
 Federal Grant Application Training 2007  
 Community Leadership Training 2006  
 Helping Build Safer Communities 2007  
 Community Capacity Builders Forum 2009  
 Grassroots Leadership Development 2009  
 Strategic Thinking and Planning 2009

**Conferences** Community Capacity Development Office  
 (U.S. Department of Justice): August 22-25, 2005  
 - Community building and sustainability

CCDO Strategy Development Training March 27-30, 2006

NeighborWorks America October 12-15, 2006  
 - Plant a Seed of Change and Grow a Better Neighborhood

NeighborWorks America May 6-8, 2009  
- Building Powerful Community Partnership  
- Grassroots Leadership Development  
- Strategic Thinking and Planning

CCDO Implementation & Strategy Training 2010  
Community Leadership Institute,  
NeighborWorks Training 2011  
National Crime Prevention Council  
Gang Violence Awareness Prevention October 2011

**References can be provided upon request.**

## PROGRAM DIRECTOR RESUME

**EDUCATION** Bachelor of Arts Social Work and Bachelor of Arts Liberal Arts: Behavioral Science, 1989  
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, Portland, Oregon

**WORK EXPERIENCE** Program Director, Kalihi-Palama-Waipahu Jan. 2018 to Present  
WEED AND SEED HAWAII, INC.

Community Coordinator, Kalihi-Palama-Waipahu Feb. 2015 to Dec. 2017  
EMPOWER O`AHU/WAHIAWA CBDO

Program Director, Kalihi-Palama-Waipahu Jul. 2009 to Feb. 2015  
LEEWARD/METRO YMCA

To coordinate opportunities for residents and businesses to work cooperatively in taking control of their neighborhoods for a cleaner, safer community that nurtures healthy family living and work environments. This effort includes developing collaborative, synergistic working relationships between social agencies, businesses, faith-based counsels, residents, and other community organizations. The focus is to facilitate positive community action, coordinate community communications, and serve as a liaison between the community and the Honolulu Police Department.

Rural Youth Program Director/Outreach Svcs Superv. Oct. 2004 to June 2009  
KALIHI YMCA

Responsible for the management of daily operations of sites from Waipahu to Waianae. Serves as a liaison between schools, service providers, churches, and families. Responsible for recordkeeping and site reports. Provides direct supervision to staff and monitors progress of program participants. Facilitates staff meetings/trainings and participates in Association personnel trainings/meetings and community activities/projects.

Senior Program Director June 1994 to September 2004  
COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS – HAWAI'I

Responsible for the management of daily operations of site. Serves as a liaison between schools, service providers, churches, and families. Responsible for overall records and reports of various programs to funding sources; monitoring and reporting of select clientele. Responsible for the coordination of services for students and families, developing collaborations between service providers, bridging the community with resources, facilitation of all programs, production of quarterly newsletters, training in the 'Ohana Management System and supervision of all staff and volunteers. Works closely with Executive Director and other Program staff in writing grants; facilitating staff meetings/trainings, participating in Association personnel trainings/meetings and community activities/projects.

## CERTIFICATES

Intro to Leading Others, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, 2013  
Interviewing Guide eLearning, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, 2013  
Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Waipahu, HI, 2012

Introduction to Design Thinking, Design Thinking Hawai'i, Honolulu, HI, 2011  
Engage! Lead! Training, Neighbor Works America, Waipahu, HI, 2011  
Gangs 101 Workshop, Missouri Western State University Regional Community Policing Institute, Waipahu, HI, 2010  
Listen First, YMCA of Honolulu, Kalihi, HI, 2009  
Motivational Interviewing Basic and Advanced Skills, State of Hawai'i Department of Health Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division, Kapolei, HI, 2009  
Senior Director, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, November 2008  
Current Support Director Institute, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, May 2001  
Introduction to Not-For-Profit Marketing, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, Nov 1999  
Pricing, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, November 1999  
YMCA Program Management and Development, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, November 1999  
Grant Proposal Writing Workshop, Grantsmanship Center, Honolulu, HI, May 1997  
Principles and Practices, YMCA of the USA, Berkeley, CA, April 1997  
Group Work, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, March 1996  
Volunteerism and the YMCA, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, Sept 1995  
LTP Delivery Module, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, April 1995  
Problem Solving and Decision Making and Substance Abuse Prevention, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, November 1993  
Basics in Community Development, Working with 10-14 Year Olds and Working with 15-17 Year Olds, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, November 1992  
Program Trainer Orientation, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, October 1992

**OTHER  
TRAININGS**

Hawai'i Health Data Warehouse Training, Honolulu, HI, 2012  
Gang Violence Prevention Training, National Crime Prevention Council, Waipahu, HI, 2011  
CCDO National Conference, Department of Justice, Tampa, FL, 2009  
Healthy Honolulu Together Curriculum Writer, Kalihi YMCA, Honolulu, HI, 2009  
Ka Ulu Pono Curriculum Writer, Kalihi YMCA, Honolulu, HI, 2009  
Alaka'i Malama Academy Planning Team Advisor, Communities in Schools of Hawai'i, Waipahu, HI, 1995 to 2003  
Living Aloha Through Volunteerism Regional Conference Facilitator, Communities in Schools of Hawai'i, Waipahu, HI, 1999  
Orientation to Social Services Division, Philosophy & Resources (Family Centered Strengths & Needs Based Practice), Overview of CPS Statutes, HRS 350 & 587 and Behavioral & Physical Indicators of Child Abuse and Neglect Trainings, Department of Human Services, Honolulu, HI, 1999

**HONORS**

City & County of Honolulu, Environmental Services Good Neighbor & Environmental Hero – Weed and Seed, 2021-2022  
State of Hawai'i Governor's Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation Honoree, 2018  
City & County of Honolulu, Honolulu Police Department Service Award: Citizen of the Year, 2017

**References available upon request.**





### BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Period: July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Applicant: Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
NONE			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:				
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:				

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
NONE			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:				
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:				



## BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS

Period: July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Applicant: Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

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: 2022-2023	FY: 2023-2024	FY:2024-2025	FY:2024-2025	FY:2025-2026	FY:2026-2027
PLANS						
LAND ACQUISITION						
DESIGN						
CONSTRUCTION						
EQUIPMENT						
<b>TOTAL:</b>						
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:						

**GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID**

Applicant: Weed and Seed Hawaii Project

Contracts Total: 454,900

	<b>CONTRACT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATES</b>	<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)</b>	<b>CONTRACT VALUE</b>
1	Community Kokua Project	7/1/21-12/31/21	Dept of Housing & Homelessness	Honolulu County	60,000
2	Community Collaborative Partnership	12/1/21-5/31/22	Dept of Health	State of Hawaii	49,900
3	Community Collaborative Partnership	5/10/22-12/31/22	Dept of Health	State of Hawaii	45,000
4	Weed and Seed Hawai'i Project	4/1/23-3/31/24	Grant-in-Aid	State of Hawaii	300,000
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VIII.D

January 16, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairman Senate Ways and Means Committee  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, Chairman House Finance Committee  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: SUPPORT OF WEED AND SEED'S GRANT IN AID REQUEST

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita,

My name is Florence Nakakuni and I am currently with the Honolulu Prosecutor's Office. I have been involved with Weed and Seed since 2009 when I was appointed U. S. Attorney for Hawaii by President Barak Obama. Weed and Seed was and continues to be a program of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Hawaii—the office does community outreach and training through this program and has done so since approximately 1998 when it was started up by then-U.S. Attorney Steven Alm. It was a federal grant program with a 5-year maximum federal funding period and the expectation was that state and local government would fund the program—and that is exactly what happened and it is this support that has sustained Weed and Seed for more than 25 years!

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach. Weed and Seed is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community.

I support Weed and Seed because I have seen the successes of collaboration and the importance of close working relationships with law enforcement, community organization and individuals in "weeding" and "seeding" to ensure the safety and well-being of the community. Weed and Seed has a long history of solid, meaningful partnerships with all groups and with anyone who is interested in helping the community.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued support of this important initiative will ensure that the community partnerships will be able to continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, safe and healthy communities.

I urge you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. Grant-in-Aid.

Very truly yours,



Florence Nakakuni  
246 Halemaumau Street  
Honolulu, HI 96821

January 17, 2024

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SUPPORT OF WEED AND SEED HAWAII'S GRANT-IN-AID

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Michael Broderick, and I am the principal of Broderick Dispute Resolution. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for over 25 years. As a State Judge, I saw first-hand the positive effect it had on our community. As the CEO of the YMCA of Honolulu, for a number of years, Weed and Seed was housed in the Y. And so I saw first-hand the dedication and commitment of Weed and Seed staff.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama, Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes.

I humbly ask for your support of Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for the following reasons: (1) they have transformed communities by weeding out those elements that destroy communities and then planting community resources and initiatives which identify and respond to social service needs and fully participate in community planning; (2) Weed and Seed relies on critical partnerships between HPD, the City, business and community residents, and human service organizations, to create a positive working environment; (3) Weed and Seed invests in the future of our youth.

I urge you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Grant-In-Aid.

Sincerely,



Michael Broderick  
1164 Bishop Street, Suite 924  
Honolulu, HI 96813

January 17, 2024

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairperson, Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chairperson, House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SUPPORT OF WEED & SEED HAWAII'S GRANT-IN-AID

Aloha Chairpersons Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Lee Tokuhara, currently serving as the president of the board of directors for Weed & Seed Hawaii. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. as a volunteer, board member and steering committee member for more than 14 years.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama, Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes.

We would love to continue the good and effective work that Weed and Seed does in our communities, from working with youth through sports programs, our signature culinary school and serving as a resource for teen issues and challenges. Further, our work with the kupuna population is as important. Being able to connect with the elderly provides a level of comfort and safety some of them regularly rely on.

Our unique role as a dependable partner between HPD, residents, schools, faith-based and non-profit organizations and the business community is critical and significant.

Please support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Grant-In-Aid.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lee Tokuhara

94-1114 Limahana Street  
Waipahu, HI 96797



January 16, 2024

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SUPPORT OF WEED AND SEED HAWAII'S GRANT-IN-AID

Dear Chairs, Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Richard Quiamzon, and I am a resident, business member (GM McDonald's of Ewa Beach), and an Ewa Weed and Seed steering committee member since 2005.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama, Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes.

I humbly ask for your support of Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. I support Weed and Seed because it is a vital part in improving our community. Through its neighborhood restoration efforts, I have seen firsthand the decline of graffiti in the area. With law enforcement and community policing truancy has declined tremendously. The Ewa Beach community has become a clean and safe place to live and work in due to the success of Weed and Seed.

I urge you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Grant-In-Aid.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Quiamzon', is written over a horizontal line.

Richard Quiamzon  
General Manager, McDonald's  
91-919 Fort Weaver Road  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706



January 16, 2024

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SUPPORT OF WEED AND SEED HAWAII'S GRANT-IN-AID

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Anna Kobashigawa. I am a relief branch manager at First Hawaiian Bank. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for 10 years and serve on the Board of Directors.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama, Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes.

I humbly ask for your support of Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. I have personally seen improvement in the Ewa Beach community because of Weed & Seed's neighborhood restoration and clean ups. The condition of the neighborhood impacts the behavior of residents. Well maintained public area hold residents to a higher standard and builds community pride.

I urge you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Grant-In-Aid.

Sincerely,



Anna Kobashigawa  
Assistant Vice President & Relief Branch Manager  
Branch Banking Division

P: (808) 293-9273  
Email: akobashigawa@fhb.com

Jon C. Yoshimura  
91-287A Ewa Beach Road  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: IN SUPPORT OF WEED AND SEED HAWAII'S GRANT-IN-AID (GIA)

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

I serve as Secretary of Weed and Seed Hawaii's (WSHI) Board of Directors and have been a member of the Board for six years. Please support vital funding that will allow WSHI to continue its mission to serve strategic Oahu neighborhoods challenged by crime, drug abuse, and a need for community building programs.

Weed and Seed was established on Oahu in 1998 as a US Department of Justice program, targeting Honolulu's Chinatown. Designed as a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses, WSHI now serves three distinct Oahu communities: Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

Today, in its 26<sup>th</sup> year, WSHI continues its mission to serve, but no longer receives federal funding. For 20 years, WSHI has relied on fundraisers, government and private support to finance its programs which include the three aforementioned sites, its Culinary Institute, Junior Golf program and much more.

I humbly request your support of WSHI's GIA application.

Mahalo,

*Jon C Yoshimura*



January 16, 2024

The Honorable Chair Donovan DelaCruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Mean  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair  
House Committee on Finance

415 Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu Hawaii, 96813

RE: Support of Weed and Seed Hawaii's Grant In Aid

My name is Maile Kanemaru. I am a member of the Board of Directors of Weed and Seed Inc.  
I have been involved this this program for 25 years.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal.  
The Weed and Seed Project serves the following communities:  
Kalihi-Palama, China town-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed Hawaii Inc. is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups, and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug related crimes.

I humbly ask for your support of Weed and Seed Hawaii Inc's Grant In Aid.

Sincerely,



Maile Kanemaru  
94-277 Hokulewa Loop  
Mililani, Hawaii 96789

1/17/2024

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SUPPORT OF WEED AND SEED HAWAII'S GRANT-IN-AID

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Roland Pagan, and I am a Corporal with the Honolulu Police Department District 8, Community Policing Team. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for 13 years.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama, Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes.

I humbly ask for your support of Weed and Seed Inc. for the following reasons: In the 13 years I have been involved with Weed and Seed Inc., I have seen firsthand the benefits to the community and the difference it makes. As an Officer I have seen all sides of Weed & Seed Hawaii. I am currently a member of the Site III Steering Committee as well as a member of the Board of Directors. Having been directly involved with Weed and Seed, I have been a part of the Summer Culinary program for 13 years. I have had the benefit of seeing the difference the coming together of Weed and Seed, community members and business partners, community youth and officers of the Honolulu Police Department has made in many of these youth's lives. The partnerships that have been forged have been long lasting and impactful for these communities and they would only continue to benefit by the continued funding of Weed and Seed Inc. As an Officer in the Ewa to Waianae area I am continually being asked by community leaders and members outside of the Ewa site, "when will we be able to extend Weed and Seed into our communities?" This has always reinforced my belief that Weed and Seed has been a positive and impactful program in the communities that it serves. I strongly encourage the Senate to find a way to fund this type of program for years to come, and it is grants like this that will allow us to maintain and enhance the programs that we currently have and expand when able to.

I urge you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Grant-In-Aid.

Sincerely,  
Roland T. Pagan  
91-1137 Hoowalea St.,  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

January 16, 2024

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SUPPORT OF WEED AND SEED HAWAII'S GRANT-IN-AID

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Monique Wall, Business Development Manager with HawaiiUSA Federal Credit Union, I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for four years.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama, Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

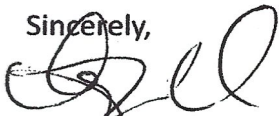
Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes.

I humbly ask for your support of Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for the following reasons:

Sustaining new and existing programs for our youth and kupuna in all of these communities such as our Culinary Arts Program, Shop with a Hero, and Kupuna Safety Fair just to name a few  
Creating positive interaction with law enforcement (HPD) and the community  
Educational Community events

I urge you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Grant-In-Aid.

Sincerely,



Monique Wall  
91-1108 Hookaahea St Ewa Beach, Hi 96706

January 16, 2024

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SUPPORT OF WEED AND SEED HAWAII'S GRANT-IN-AID

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Fumikazu Muraoka, I am a Sergeant of the Honolulu Police Department and I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for a total of 10 years, initially 8 years when it was first brought to Honolulu in the early 2000s and recently 2 years in my capacity as supervisor for the HPD Community Policing Team in District 8.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama, Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes.

My initial involvement in Weed and Seed Hawaii efforts both in HPD enforcement ops fighting crime utilizing special Weeding strategies, as well as working with the schools, agencies and residents to develop positive relationships with youth as Seeding strategies, both have brought me back to working with Weed and Seed Hawaii. I am looking forward to continuing outstanding collaborations in the community in the coming years and making increased impact in the quality of life on the Westside of Oahu.

I humbly ask for your support of Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc., and I respectfully urge you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Grant-In-Aid.

Sincerely,  
Fumikazu Muraoka, Sergeant  
Kapolei Police Station  
1100 Kamokila Blvd  
Kapolei Hawaii 96707

January 19, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, House Finance Committee Chair

Re: State GIA Application from Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. for Weed and Seed Hawai'i Project

My name is John KAUWENAOLE and I am a retired Honolulu Police Department Sergeant. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Honolulu and Waipahu for 27 years.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community.

I support Weed and Seed because being involved from the inception of Weed and Seed in Hawaii, I have seen firsthand what it has done for communities in Kalihi, Honolulu, Waipahu and Ewa Beach.

As law enforcement our job is to enforce the laws. As part of the Weed and Seed detail, we were able to work with the community to address the issues. This resulted in HPD having a good working relationship with the community. Because of our collaborative relationship, we netted positive results in our site. I know firsthand how effective Weed and Seed is and that is why although I am now retired, I have continued to support it as a Steering Committee member.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

I urge you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. Grant-in-Aid.

Sincerely,



John W. Kauwenole, Retired  
94-763 Kaaka Street  
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

January 19, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, House Finance Chair

RE: State GIA - Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

Aloha! My name is Barbara Tom and I am a retired Registered Nurse. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for over 20 years and currently serve on its Steering Committee.

I support Weed and Seed because they have been a key component to reducing crime rates in Waipahu. Their approach of attacking crime through prevention via education in the schools and community is one that I am personally involved with as a volunteer.

The Waipahu Safe Haven Immigrant and Migrant Center was created to help families succeed and become contributing members of the community. As part of a seeding component in the community, the Safe Haven was supported and initially housed in Weed & Seed's office in the Pupuole community. They were strategic in partnering and convening members of the Waipahu Community, such as the Waipahu Community Coalition, Olelo, Public Health Nurses, Hoomaka Hou Learning Center, the DOE's ESL Leeward District, Americorp/Vista, and community members. Their visibility in the school, and community to provide education on topics such as drugs, drinking and vaping are much needed and appreciated by the families.

Additionally, they provide strong support for our community garden project at the Waipahu Intermediate School as well as the community clean-up of the Bike Path area. Their coordination with the schools and community is key to the success of these projects.

Weed and Seed is an important community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

**I urge you to support Weed and Seed Hawaii by supporting their State GIA application.**

Sincerely,



Barbara Tom, Director  
Waipahu Safe Haven Immigrant/Migrant Resource Center

January 19, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, House Finance Committee Chair

Re: Grant Application from Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. for Project Weed and Seed

My name is Kelli Buenconsejo. I am a Public Health Nurse for the State of Hawaii Department of Health and serve as a Steering Committee member for the Waipahu site.

- I am an avid supporter of Weed and Seed, because I have seen the improvement in my community through decreased crime and increased community awareness of illegal activities. They have realized that crime prevention must start at a younger age and they work with elementary, intermediate and high school students to combat and prevent substance abuse, truancy and gang involvement. They've organized graffiti paint outs and participated in beautification projects. They've assisted in creating neighborhood security watches in the most at-risk neighborhoods and have empowered the residents to report illegal activities promptly.
- They work with the 6<sup>th</sup> graders at Waipahu and Honowai Elementary for their "Real and Powerful Sessions" educating the students about juvenile laws, substance abuse and illicit activity and help to empower the students to make safer choices as they age.
- They were instrumental in hosting the first meeting in Waipahu to discuss how the community can support the state and federal government concerning prison re-entry into the community.
- They were instrumental in hosting the first discussions regarding the over representation of Polynesian youth in the Juvenile Justice System. This led to the creation of the Civil Citation program which was implemented in Kalihi to divert first time offenders into a culturally based program instead of into the Juvenile Justice System.
- They are an integral part of the Waipahu Community and help to provide safe, healthy, drug-free activities for the residents of Waipahu. It is a pleasure working with such dedicated professionals to improve Waipahu and I look forward to working with them in future projects.

This grant-in-aid will help as we continue to implement the strategies of Weed and Seed (community policing, prevention/intervention/treatment and neighborhood revitalization) as a comprehensive program in improving the quality of life.

Please support Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc.'s GIA application to continue Weed and Seed in our community.

Sincerely,

 BSN, RN  
Kelli L. Buenconsejo, BSN, RN

January 19, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, House Finance Chair

RE: State GIA - Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

Aloha! My name is Rochelle Kalili, a former resident of Waipahu and member of the Waipahu Steering Committee. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 13 years.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed project in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

As a parent-community facilitator at an area elementary school, I have seen the improvement in the way our students/children relate to police officers. In the past, many of our children viewed officers as aggressive people who only caused harm to their 'ohana. Through the partnerships that Weed and Seed Hawai'i and the HPD District 3 CPT officers have created, **it has changed their views.** They now see police officers as people who are looking out for their best interests; people they can trust. Weed and Seed Hawai'i has educated individuals on how drugs and other negative influences ruin families and community. **Weed and Seed Hawai'i has empowered residents to take back their community.** The residents are no longer afraid to call 9-1-1 to ask for help. As the saying goes, "Ohana means no one is left behind." I believe that because of Weed and Seed Hawai'i, no one in Waipahu is left behind.

On the school level, Weed and Seed has served as a tremendous resource for our families, assisting with school supplies, clothing, footwear, PPE and toiletries for needy families. They also help our needy families struggling during the holiday season with meals, gifts and gift cards. Most importantly, they work with the entire school complex to address issues such as bullying, vaping and violence while also providing education in these areas and more.

Weed and Seed is an important community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

**I urge you to support Weed and Seed Hawaii by supporting their State GIA application.** We need positive activities for youth that will keep them on the right track and help families to thrive.

Sincerely,

  
Rochelle Kalili



January 19, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, House Finance Chair

RE: State GIA - Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

My name is Gale Mejia and I am a member of the Waipahu Steering Committee. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 14 years.

Weed and Seed has made a significant difference in the Waipahu community in the following ways:

- 1) Providing the RAP program at Waipahu and Honowai Elementary Schools that help students make good decisions.
- 2) Mentoring high school students at Waipahu High School through the Na Alaka'i student club to reach out to fellow students in need.
- 3) Supporting safe communities through community policing groups.
- 4) Supporting beautification events that engage community members, both young and old, to take pride in our community.
- 5) Providing consultation and manpower to support family-oriented events such as the annual Celebrate Safe Communities, as well as the Town Hall on Underage Drinking and Drug Use and 'Ohana Bingo Night.

Weed and Seed is an important community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

**I urge you to support Weed and Seed Hawaii by supporting their State GIA application.**

Sincerely,



Gale Mejia

January 19, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, House Finance Chair

RE: State GIA - Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

My name is Gayleen Balais and I am a Recreation Director with the Project Ho'omana Program and Waipahu Complex Supervisor under the City and County of Honolulu Department of Parks and Recreation, which provides services to the youth in partnership with Weed and Seed Hawai'i and the HPD District 3 CPT Officers for 21 years.

I support Weed and Seed Hawai'i because they have been an integral part in making the Waipahu community a better and safer community for our youth, adult and seniors to live. They have afforded our community residents with various resources to better enrich their lives and daily living. They understand the "needs" of the community and thus, has created a very strong working relationship/partnership with various community groups, businesses and organizations. Project Ho'omana has been very fortunate to have been working with Weed and Seed Hawai'i for 21 years. Their support and resources to my program have been innumerable and beneficial to all individuals in our program. My partnership with Weed and Seed Hawai'i has been a blessing to myself on a professional and personal level. Not only do I work in the Waipahu community, I am also a proud resident of the Waipahu community. Through their efforts, I have seen many positive changes and am very happy that the Waipahu community has been provided with such a rich community resource like Weed and Seed Hawai'i.

Weed and Seed is an important community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

**I urge you to support Weed and Seed Hawaii by supporting their State GIA application.**

Sincerely,



Gayleen Balais  
Recreation Director, Dept. of Parks & Recreation  
94-230 Paiwa Street, Waipahu HI 96797

January 17, 2024

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SUPPORT OF WEED AND SEED HAWAII'S GRANT-IN-AID

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Mitchell Tynanes, I grew up and now live with my family Ewa Beach, a member of Site III Ewa-Ewa Beach Steering Committee Member and also on the Ewa Beach Neighborhood Board. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for over 10 years.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama, Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes.

As a member of Site III Steering Committee, it is an honor to work closely with Gale Braceros, Executive Director, Honolulu Police Department, District 8 Community Policing Team, members who live and/or work in Ewa Beach, working together to keep our community a safer place to live and work. Weed and Seed Hawaii's mission is all about working together with the community, what is the needs in our community, pulling us together to make things happen.

The youth mentoring programs continues to be in high demand, to see our youth interacting with the Officers is because of Weed and Seed Hawaii. Raised in Ewa Beach, I only wished we had Weed and Seed Hawaii when I was growing up. We need Weed and Seed Hawaii to continue, we need Weed and Seed to continue providing youth mentoring programs and providing excellent resources and activities for our seniors.

I urge you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Grant-In-Aid.

Sincerely,  
Mitchell Tynanes  
91-3074 Makalea Loop  
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706

January 16, 2024

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SUPPORT OF WEED AND SEED HAWAII'S GRANT-IN-AID

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Chair Yamashita,

Aloha, my name is Malia-Ann Ikeda and I have been involved with the Weed and Seed Ewa-Ewa Beach site for about nine years. I kindly ask for your consideration with the Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. proposal to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

I have been a resident of Ewa Beach for thirty one years and have been working in this community for over ten years. There have been many changes during this time but a constant in our the community are the partners, Weed and Seed being one of them.

Weed and Seed is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups, and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community. Besides reducing crime, the various youth and kupuna programs that Weed and Seed offers have helped to bring valuable resources and have provided an awareness to our communities to help us live, work, and play in Ewa-Ewa Beach.

This grant will help us continue to implement the four strategies of: Law Enforcement, Community Policing, Prevention/Intervention/Treatment, and Neighborhood Revitalization. It will also ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network who will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities where we all can thrive.

The after effects of the pandemic are still evident so community outreach and activities will continue to be vital in reconnecting with our community and providing resources. I kindly ask for your support with the Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. Grant-in-Aid.

Very Respectfully,



Malia-Ann Ikeda  
91-1186 Kuhaimoana Pl.  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706-4502

JOSH B. GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
KA'IMILOA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
91-1028 KAUNOLU STREET  
EWA BEACH, HAWAII 96706

Date January 16, 2024

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SUPPORT OF THE WEED AND SEED HAWAII'S GRANT-IN-AID

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Dolores (Dee) Gettle, a Counselors Aide at Ka'imiloa Elementary School for 34 years and a resident/home owner of Ewa Beach for 40 years. As an active member of the community, I see the need and importance of positive role models.

I've seen this community grow from plantation fields into a suburb community. We are a fast-growing community that has endured many changes. Unfortunately, sometimes CHANGES come with large population growth and some negative activity. Weed and Seed has given our community hope for the future of our young youths, and we all know our young youths needs positive reinforcements.

I am requesting for your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama, Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes. I humbly ask for your support of Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for the following reasons:

- \*They help with campaigns to bring safety awareness in our community.
- \*They educate our families and students on Internet safety and bullying presentations.
- \*Maintain a partnership with our school (youths) and community.

I urge you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Grant-In-Aid.

Sincerely,

Dolores (Dee) Gettle, Counselors Aide

**Continuous Notice of Non-Discrimination**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (HIDOE) and its schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, and religion. Please direct inquiries regarding HIDOE nondiscrimination policies as follows: Beth Schimmelfennig, Director; Rhonda Wong, Compliance; Aaron Oandasan, Title VI; Toby Yamashiro, Title VII; Nicole Isa-Iijima, Title IX; Krysti Sukita, ADA/504; Civil Rights Compliance Branch, Hawaii State Department of Education, PO Box 2360, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96804, (808) 586-3322 or relay, CRCB@k12.hi.us

JOSH B. GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO**  
WAIPAHU HIGH SCHOOL  
94-1211 FARRINGTON HIGHWAY  
WAIPAHU, HI 96797  
(808) 307-9555

January 19, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, House Finance Chair

RE: State GIA - Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed project in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

My name is Zachary Sheets and I am the principal of Waipahu High School. We began our partnership with the Weed and Seed program 20 years ago. The Weed and Seed program in Waipahu truly provides transformational support to not only our schools, but to the entire community that it serves.

Weed and Seed Hawai'i recognizes that in order for youth to avoid a life of criminality, the youth need to coexist in a community that is thriving. At the elementary level, Weed and Seed personnel assist Waipahu students in reflecting on positive choices through their youth mentoring program Real And Powerful (RAP). At Waipahu High School, Weed and Seed serves on our School Community Council and the Academy of Public and Professional Services Board. They have offered workshops on bullying, internet safety and vaping to our students and parents. In addition, Weed and Seed Hawai'i and the Honolulu Police Department have sponsored numerous community-wide events such as the Town Hall on Underage Drinking and Drugs, Keiki and Cops and Celebrate Safe Communities. They have organized community clean ups and pedestrian and traffic awareness sign waving campaigns. These are a few of the programs and services that they provide. Most importantly, they are supportive of our area schools and have been instrumental in deterring negative activities in our school complex.

Weed and Seed is an important community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

**I urge you to support Weed and Seed Hawaii by supporting their State GIA application.**

Sincerely,

Zachary Sheets  
Principal  
Waipahu High School

**AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

**Continuous Notice of Non-Discrimination**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) and its schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, and religion in its programs and activities. Please direct inquiries regarding Department nondiscrimination policies as follows:

Civil Rights Compliance Branch, Hawaii State Department of Education, P.O. Box 2360, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804, (808) 586-3322 or relay [CRCB@k12.hi.us](mailto:CRCB@k12.hi.us). Beth Schimmelfennig, Director, Rhonda Wong, Compliance, Aaron Oandasan, Title VI, Toby Yamashiro, Title VII, Nicole Isa-Iijima, Title IX, Krysti Sukita, ADA/504

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – LEEWARD DISTRICT  
**JAMES CAMPBELL HIGH SCHOOL**  
91-980 NORTH ROAD  
EWA BEACH, HAWAII 96706

January 16, 2024

The Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairman Senate Ways and Means Committee  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, Chairman House Finance Committee  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: SUPPORT OF WEED AND SEED'S GRANT IN AID REQUEST

Hello Senator Dela Cruz and Representative Yamashita,

My name is Jon Henry Lee and I am a Principal of James Campbell High School. Through various roles I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 13 years.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach

I have seen the amazing things that Weed and Seed does for our school community. They work with our students and staff members to directly support school events and whenever there is any kind of need for them to provide support they are there without hesitation or question. Every summer they run a culinary program that connects them to dedicated industry professionals and the greater community so our youth can experience what compassionate service is all about.

Weed and Seed is an important organizational tool and community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

I urge you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Grant-in-Aid.

Sincerely,

  
Jon Henry Lee  
Principal

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
ILIMA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL  
91-884 FORT WEAVER ROAD  
EWA BEACH, HI 96706

PHONE: (808) 687-9300 | FAX: (808) 689-1258

January 15, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairman Senate Ways and Means Committee  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, Chairman House Finance Committee  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

My name is Shayne Greenland, I am the Principal at Ilima Intermediate School. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawai'i for the past ten years. While I was a Vice Principal at James Campbell High School, the Weed and Seed Program assisted the school in a variety of ways. They organized and supported our efforts to combat the various situations regarding drugs, alcohol and fights at the Ewa Beach Community Park. They worked closely with myself and other administrators to mediate potential harmful situations with students and families on campus that escalated from physical altercations on campus and in our community. They have also been involved in many positive programs such as the summer programs involving the Junior golf program, cooking at JCHS and various community clean ups and sign wavings. Weed and Seed has also played a vital role in keeping our school campus safe. They have on numerous occasions responded to a trespassing incident and by already knowing the individual, they were able to remove the individual and/or individuals without any incidents. This program is very beneficial and beyond measure. It would be a disservice to our community to not fully fund and continue the time and dedication that they have truly invested.

I, along with the teachers and staff at Ilima Intermediate School, fully support our Weed and Seed Hawai'i Program. Weed and Seed Hawai'i recognizes that in order for youth to avoid a life of criminality, the youth needs to co-exist in a community that is thriving. Weed and Seed Hawai'i and the HPD District 8 CPT officers have been critical in providing.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of keeping this program intact and providing the funding necessary for its success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shayne Greenland".

Shayne Greenland - Principal

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
EWA MAKAI MIDDLE SCHOOL  
91-6291 Kapolei Parkway  
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706

January 16, 2024

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SUPPORT OF WEED AND SEED HAWAII'S GRANT-IN-AID

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Kim Sanders and I am the principal at Ewa Makai Middle School in Ewa Beach. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for seven years. This amazing organization has helped our Ewa Beach students in all grade levels. Their support is important to our community.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama, Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes.

Our schools depend on Weed and Seed support to enlighten our students make great choices and be contributing citizens in their community. Creating a safe environment for our students is key for a positive culture in our community and the state of Hawai'i.

I encourage you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Grant-In-Aid.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim Sanders".

Kim Sanders, Principal  
Ewa Makai Middle School  
91-6291 Kapolei Parkway, Ewa Beach

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
Waipahu Elementary School  
94-465 Waipahu St.  
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

January 19, 2024

To: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, House Finance Chair

RE: State GIA - Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed project in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

My name is Aaron Tominaga and I am the principal of Waipahu Elementary School. I have been principal at our school for the past six years and truly appreciate our partnership with the Weed and Seed program that has developed and strengthened over the past 20+ years. The Weed and Seed program in Waipahu truly provides transformational support to not only our schools, but to the entire community that it serves.

Weed and Seed Hawai'i recognizes that in order for youth to avoid a life of criminality, the youth needs to co-exist in a community that is thriving. Waipahu Weed and Seed personnel assist our students in reflecting on positive choices through their youth mentoring program Real And Powerful (RAP). They have offered workshops on bullying, internet safety and vaping to our students and parents and provided family engagement activities on campus. In addition, Weed and Seed Hawai'i and the Honolulu Police Department have sponsored numerous community-wide events such as the Town Hall on Underage Drinking and Drugs, Celebrate Safe Communities. They have organized community clean ups and pedestrian and traffic awareness sign waving campaigns. These are a few of the programs and services that they provide. Most importantly, they are supportive of our area schools and have been instrumental in deterring gang related activities on our campus in the past.

Weed and Seed is an important community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

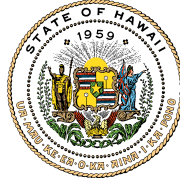
**I urge you to support Weed and Seed Hawaii by supporting their State GIA application.**

Sincerely,



Aaron Tominaga  
Principal  
Waipahu Elementary School

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO**  
AUGUST AHRENS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
94-1170 WAIPAHU STREET  
WAIPAHU, HI 96797

January 19, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, House Finance Chair  
RE: State GIA - Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

Aloha Senator Dela Cruz and Representative Yamashita,

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed project in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

My name is Hanh Nguyen and I am the principal of August Ahrens Elementary School (AAES). AAES first partnered with the Weed and Seed program 20 years ago. Since then, the program has provided transformational support to not only our school, but to the entire Waipahu community.

Weed and Seed Hawai'i recognizes that in order for youth to avoid a life of criminality, the youth needs to co-exist in a community that is thriving. Waipahu Weed and Seed personnel assist Waipahu students in reflecting on positive choices through their youth mentoring program Real And Powerful (RAP). They have offered workshops on bullying, internet safety and vaping to our students and parents. In addition, they have organized community clean ups and pedestrian and traffic awareness sign waving campaigns. These are a few of the programs and services that they provide. Most importantly, they are supportive of our area schools and have been instrumental in deterring negative activities in our school complex.

Weed and Seed is a vital community resource. Your continued support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

**I urge you to support Weed and Seed Hawaii by supporting their State GIA application.**

Sincerely,

Hanh Nguyen  
Principal  
August Ahrens Elementary School

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
WAIKELE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
94-1035 KUKULA STREET  
WAIPAHU, HI 96797

January 17, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, House Finance Chair

RE: State GIA - Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed project in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

My name is Sheldon Oshio and I am the principal of Waikele Elementary School. We began our partnership with the Weed and Seed program 20 years ago. The Weed and Seed program in Waipahu truly provides transformational support to not only our schools, but to the entire community that it serves.

Weed and Seed Hawai'i recognizes that in order for youth to avoid a life of criminality, the youth needs to co-exist in a community that is thriving. Waipahu Weed and Seed personnel assist Waipahu students in reflecting on positive choices through their youth mentoring program Real And Powerful (RAP). They have offered workshops on bullying, internet safety and vaping to our students and parents. In addition, Weed and Seed Hawai'i and the Honolulu Police Department have sponsored numerous community-wide events such as the Town Hall on Underage Drinking and Drugs, Keiki and Cops and Celebrate Safe Communities. They have organized community clean ups and pedestrian and traffic awareness sign waving campaigns. These are a few of the programs and services that they provide. Most importantly, they are supportive of our area schools and have been instrumental in deterring negative activities in our school complex.

Weed and Seed is an important community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

**I urge you to support Weed and Seed Hawaii by supporting their State GIA application.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sheldon Oshio".

Sheldon Oshio, Principal  
Waikele Elementary School

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**Mayor Joseph Fern Elementary School**  
1121 Middle Street  
Honolulu, HI 96819  
Phone: 808 305-5400  
Principal: Mr. Glen Miyasato  
Vice Principal: Mr. Mark Atta

January 19, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, House Finance Chair

RE: State GIA - Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed project in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

My name is Glen Miyasato and I am the principal of Fern Elementary School. The Weed and Seed program in the Kalihi-Palama area has provided transformational support to not only our schools, but to the entire community that it serves.

Weed and Seed Hawai'i recognizes that in order for youth to avoid a life of criminality, the youth need to co-exist in a community that is thriving. Weed and Seed and the Honolulu Police Department have been offering the Real And Powerful (RAP) program to our fifth grade students for the past 13 years. This youth mentoring program challenges our students to make better choices and to take responsibility for their actions. We are grateful to have this program at our school as we feel it is important for our students to be educated on issues such as bullying, vaping, and juvenile laws, to name a few. Our students have also benefitted from the educational outings that they have been involved in as it has provided them with a greater appreciation for our community and island home. Recently, Weed and Seed Hawai'i and other Kalihi service providers organized a very successful WE Are Kalihi walk and event. They have organized community clean ups and pedestrian and traffic awareness sign waving campaigns. These are a few of the programs and services that they provide.

Weed and Seed is an important community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities. **I urge you to support Weed and Seed Hawai'i's State GIA application to continue Weed and Seed in our community.**

Sincerely,

Glen Miyasato  
Principal  
Fern Elementary School

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
Kalihi Kai Elementary  
626 McNeill Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817**

January 19, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, House Finance Chair

RE: State GIA - Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed project in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

My name is Marc Kawahara and I am the principal of Kalihi Kai Elementary School. The Weed and Seed program in the Kalihi-Palama area has provided transformational support to not only our schools, but to the entire community that it serves.

Weed and Seed Hawai'i recognizes that in order for youth to avoid a life of criminality, the youth need to co-exist in a community that is thriving. Weed and Seed and the Honolulu Police Department have been offering the Real And Powerful (RAP) program to our fifth grade students for the past 10+ years. This youth mentoring program challenges our students to make better choices and to take responsibility for their actions. We are grateful to have this program at our school as we feel it is important for our students to be educated on issues such as bullying, vaping, and juvenile laws, to name a few. Our students have also benefited from the educational outings that they have been involved in as it has provided them with a greater appreciation for our community and island home. Recently, Weed and Seed Hawai'i and other Kalihi service providers organized a very successful WE Are Kalihi walk and event. They have organized community clean ups and pedestrian and traffic awareness sign waving campaigns. These are a few of the programs and services that they provide.

Weed and Seed is an important community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

**I urge you to support Weed and Seed Hawai'i's State GIA application to continue Weed and Seed in our community.**

Sincerely,

Marc Kawahara  
Principal  
Kalihi Kai Elementary School

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

KEITH HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
**KALIHI WAENA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
1240 GULICK AVE, HONOLULU, HI 96819

January 19, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, House Finance Chair

RE: State GIA - Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed project in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

My name is Daniel Larkin and I am the principal of Kalihi Waena Elementary School. The Weed and Seed program in the Kalihi-Palama area has provided transformational support to not only our schools, but to the entire community that it serves.

Weed and Seed Hawai'i recognizes that in order for youth to avoid a life of criminality, the youth need to co-exist in a community that is thriving. Weed and Seed and the Honolulu Police Department have been offering the Real And Powerful (RAP) program to our fifth grade students for the past 10+ years. This youth mentoring program challenges our students to make better choices and to take responsibility for their actions. We are grateful to have this program at our school as we feel it is important for our students to be educated on issues such as bullying, vaping, and juvenile laws, to name a few. Our students have also benefited from the educational outings that they have been involved in as it has provided them with a greater appreciation for our community and island home. Recently, Weed and Seed Hawai'i and other Kalihi service providers organized a very successful WE Are Kalihi walk and event. They have organized community clean ups and pedestrian and traffic awareness sign waving campaigns. These are a few of the programs and services that they provide.

Weed and Seed is an important community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

I urge you to support Weed and Seed Hawai'i's State GIA application to continue Weed and Seed in our community.

Sincerely,

Daniel Larkin  
Principal  
808-832-32, daniel.larkin@k12.hi.us

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
KALIHI UKA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
2411 KALIHI STREET  
HONOLULU, HI 96819**

January 19, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, House Finance Chair  
RE: State GIA - Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed project in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

My name is Derek Santos and I am the principal of Kalihi Uka Elementary School. The Weed and Seed program in the Kalihi-Palama area has provided transformational support to not only our schools, but to the entire community that it serves.

Weed and Seed Hawai'i recognizes that in order for youth to avoid a life of criminality, the youth need to co-exist in a community that is thriving. Weed and Seed and the Honolulu Police Department have been offering the Real And Powerful (RAP) program to our fifth grade students for the past 10+ years. This youth mentoring program challenges our students to make better choices and to take responsibility for their actions. We are grateful to have this program at our school as we feel it is important for our students to be educated on issues such as bullying, vaping, and juvenile laws, to name a few. In this area, our students have seen many illegal activities, violence, and homelessness. Through this experience, the program and the learning, students are interacting with police officers in a positive manner and learning to make choices so they may lead a productive life within this community. Our students have also benefited from the educational outings that they have been involved in as it has provided them with a greater appreciation for our community and island home. Recently, Weed and Seed Hawai'i and other Kalihi service providers organized a very successful WE Are Kalihi walk and event. They have organized community clean ups and pedestrian and traffic awareness sign waving campaigns. These are a few of the programs and services that they provide.

Weed and Seed is an important community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

I urge you to support Weed and Seed Hawai'i's State GIA application to continue Weed and Seed in our community.

Sincerely,

Derek, Santos, Principal

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

January 16, 2024

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SUPPORT OF WEED AND SEED HAWAII'S GRANT-IN-AID  
Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name Adrian Hill, Vice Principal at Ka'imiloa Elementary School in Ewa Beach. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for one year. This is my first year being involved with Weed and Seed, and I am impressed with their commitment to making our school community a safer place.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama, Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.


Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes.

I humbly ask for your support of Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for the following reasons:

1. Creating safe communities for our families.
2. Maintaining positive partnerships with our school and providing Keiki ID's.
3. Their visibility in the community helps prevent cars from speeding through our neighborhood.
4. Their investment in our Junior Police Officers
5. Their collaboration with the community during school sponsored family activities.

I encourage you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Grant-In-Aid.

Sincerely,



Adrian Hill  
91-1028 Kaunolu St.  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

JOSH B. GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
KA'IMILOA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
91-1028 KAUNOLU STREET  
EWA BEACH, HAWAII 96706**

January 15, 2024

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SUPPORT OF WEED AND SEED HAWAII'S GRANT-IN-AID

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Shely Chang, a School Counselor at Ka'imiloa Elementary School in Ewa Beach. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for 18 years.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama, Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.


Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes.

I humbly ask for your support of Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for the following reasons:

- They are a valued member of our school community.
  - They participate in our annual Career Day
  - They have supported us in our Community events
  - They have supported us in morning traffic
  - They have provided parent presentation on various safety aspects

I urge you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Grant-In-Aid.

Sincerely,

  
Shely Chang  
91-1028 Kaunolu Street  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

**Continuous Notice of Non-Discrimination**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (HIDOE) and its schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, and religion. Please direct inquiries regarding HIDOE nondiscrimination policies as follows: Beth Schimmelfennig, Director; Rhonda Wong, Compliance; Aaron Oandasan, Title VI; Toby Yamashiro, Title VII; Nicole Isa-Iijima, Title IX; Krysti Sukita, ADA/504; Civil Rights Compliance Branch, Hawaii State Department of Education, PO Box 2360, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96804, (808) 586-3322 or relay, CRCB@k12.hi.us



PO Box 2300  
Honolulu, HI 96804-2300

January 16, 2024

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SUPPORT OF WEED AND SEED HAWAII'S GRANT-IN-AID

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Michelle Bartell, Director of Community Advancement at American Savings Bank. I have been working with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for the past eight years in my capacity here at ASB.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to provide funding for the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama, Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that has helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes.

I humbly ask for your support of Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. They are a positive force in efforts to engage the youth in our Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown community. We know we can count on Weed and Seed to help us reach vulnerable and at-risk youth in our area with programming and supportive services that otherwise would not be available to them.

I urge you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Grant-In-Aid. Feel free to contact me at [mbartell@asbhawaii.com](mailto:mbartell@asbhawaii.com) or 808-539-7906 if you need any additional information on our relationship with Weed & Seed.

Mahalo.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle Bartell".

Michelle Bartell  
Senior Vice President, Director of Community Advancement  
American Savings Bank



Member FDIC



**HAWAIIAN PROPERTIES**  
Building Relationships that Last

Office: 1165 Bethel Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Mailing: P.O. Box 38078, Honolulu, Hawaii 96837-1078  
Tel: (808) 539-9777 ♦ Fax: (808) 521-2714

January 16, 2024

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SUPPORT OF WEED AND SEED HAWAII'S GRANT-IN-AID

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Kanani Kaopua Senior Vice President with Hawaiian Properties, Ltd. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii Inc. for over five (5) years.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama, Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes.

I humbly ask for your support of Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. The benefits go directly to the root in preventing a majority of crimes against people and property. The ability for Weed & Seed to *with* the Honolulu Police Department by engaging with our keiki and community is priceless. Our keiki should view law enforcement as a supportive relationship, rather than a relationship that brings divisiveness and fear. We need to provide this type of support and services to our keiki now during the most impactful years of their growth and development by instilling the core values of what it means to be a respectful contributing member of society.

I urge you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Grant-In-Aid.

Sincerely,

*Kanani Kaopua*

**Kanani Kaopua, PCAM®**  
Senior Vice President  
Phone: 808-539-9501  
E-mail: [kananik@hawaiianprop.com](mailto:kananik@hawaiianprop.com)  
Front Desk: 808-539-9777



THE GENTRY COMPANIES



January 17, 2024

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair, and Members  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair, and Members  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

SUBJECT: Support of Weed & Seed Hawaii's GIA Request

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz, Yamashita, and Members of the Senate Ways and Means and House Finance Committees:

My name is Debbie Luning, Community Relations Director for Gentry Homes and a member of the Ewa Weed and Seed Steering Committee. I am testifying in **strong support** of the Grant-In-Aid request submitted by Weed & Seed Hawaii to continue the Weed & Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

As the developer of a residential community within the Ewa Weed and Seed site, Gentry has been an active participant in the collaborative effort involving law enforcement, citizens, non-profit organizations, social service agencies, community groups and private businesses, and we are pleased that Ewa is undergoing a positive transformation. Violent and drug-related crimes have been reduced, large drug dealers have been "weeded out" and "seeding" programs have been implemented for families and youth. These programs include youth activities, such as junior golf and bowling, ocean sports, a summer culinary class, health and fitness programs, and more.

Weed and Seed is a lean program that, despite its small staff, makes a huge impact on the communities it serves because of the staff's commitment and the effective partnerships that have been forged. We need more programs like Weed and Seed. Please support its grant-in-aid request.

Sincerely,

GENTRY HOMES, LTD.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Luning', positioned above the printed name.

Debra M. A. Luning  
Director of Governmental Affairs and  
Community Relations

January 16, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairman Senate  
Ways and Means Committee  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, Chairman, House  
Finance Committee

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Chair Yamashita:

Please provide the requested grant to Weed & Seed so they can continue their programs with our youth from areas that needed the most assistance.

I have watched and helped with their youth programs over many many years.

I can state sincerely they do credible work and their impact on our participating youth and the community is long lasting and productive.

Please make extra allowance for this very needed organization to continue with their work.

Mahalo!

Chu Lan Shubert- Kwock

President/ Founder of Chinatown Business & Community Association (CBCA)

Clskwock@gmail.com

808 391/4350

January 19, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, House Finance Committee Chair

Re: Grant Application from Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. for Project Weed and Seed

My name is Susan Moniz, a resident of Waipahu and a member of the Waipahu Steering Committee. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 17 years.

I am requesting your support for the submission of the proposal by Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. to support the collaboration the Weed and Seed program in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes in my community.

Weed and Seed has made a significant difference in my community in the following ways:

- 1) Reduced the truancy in public schools. The Weed and Seed officers show a genuine concern for the children by their visibility and hands-on training of the youth.
- 2) Under-privileged adults from our diverse community consisting of Micronesian, Chuukese, Samoan, Tongan, Filipino, etc. are given a chance to attend Computer and Sewing Center classes thereby improving their family's lives and finding ways to be a productive member of the community.
- 3) After the "Weeding", Weed and Seed sustained, through its maintenance and diligence, a positive, safe community through graffiti paint out and community clean ups.

Weed and Seed is an important community resource which needs to be continued. Your continued support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities.

**There's a rumor that Weed and Seed Hawai'i no longer exists. By the many positive accomplishments in 2023, I know that Weed and Seed is very much alive. I urge you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. Grant-in-Aid.**

Sincerely,



Susan P. Moniz  
94-534 Awamoi Street  
Waipahu HI 96797



JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO**  
Honowai Elementary School  
94-600 Honowai Street  
Waipahu, HI 96797  
PH: 808-307-7100 FAX: 808-675-0167

January 19, 2024

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, House Finance Chair

RE: State GIA - Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

My name is Stacy Kawamura, I am the principal of Honowai Elementary School, and I am requesting your support of the proposal submitted by Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. to continue the Weed and Seed project in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

The Weed and Seed program in Waipahu truly provides transformational support to not only our schools, but to the entire community that it serves. Honowai Elementary and the other Waipahu Complex Schools have partnered with Weed and Seed for over 20 years. While I have only been principal at Honowai since May 2022, I have certainly seen the benefits of the program with the interactions between my students and the Weed and Seed Team.

Weed and Seed Hawai'i recognizes that in order for youth to avoid a life of criminality, the youth needs to co-exist in a community that is thriving. Waipahu Weed and Seed personnel assist our students in reflecting on positive choices through their youth mentoring program Real And Powerful (RAP). They have offered workshops on bullying, internet safety and vaping to our students and parents. In addition, Weed and Seed Hawai'i and the Honolulu Police Department have sponsored numerous community-wide events such as the Town Hall on Underage Drinking and Drugs, Keiki and Cops and Celebrate Safe Communities. They have organized community clean ups and pedestrian and traffic awareness sign waving campaigns. These are a few of the programs and services that they provide. Most importantly, they are supportive of our area schools and have been instrumental in deterring negative activities on our campus in the past.

Weed and Seed is an important community resource and your continued support of this important initiative will ensure that community leaders and partners continue to build a strong network of committed citizens that will work toward preventing crime and growing strong, healthy communities. I urge you to support Weed and Seed Hawai'i by supporting their State GIA application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stacy Kawamura".

Stacy Kawamura  
Principal  
Honowai Elementary School

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER