

**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 a:

Aloha Harvest

Amount of State Funds Requested: \$ 200,000

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

PROGRAM: O'AHU FOOD RESCUE AND REDISTRIBUTION

To combat Hawaii's significant 13.1% food insecurity issue, Aloha Harvest expects to rescue and redistribute over 3.2 million pounds of food in FY2026. Our primary program activity is to rescue quality food before it enters the waste stream, and to deliver it on the same day to nonprofit partners that feed the food insecure. We will provide these critical services 7 days a week, free to the donors and recipient agencies.

- ☒ Objective 1: Rescue 3.2 million Pounds of Food
- ☒ Objective 2: Complete 1,800 Food Rescue Pickups From Donors on O'ahu
- ☒ Objective 3: Equitably Redistribute Food to 50,000 Food-Insecure Individuals

Amount of Other Funds Available:

State: \$ 200,000 (requested here)
Federal: \$ 195,010 (pending)
County: \$ 150,000 (pending)
Private/Other: \$ 415,662 (secured/pending)

Total amount of State Grants Received in the Past 5

Fiscal Years:

\$ 250,000

Unrestricted Assets:

\$ 372,362

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:

3599 Waialae Avenue, Suite 23

City:

Honolulu

State:

HI

Zip:

96816

Contact Person for Matters Involving this Application

Name:

Mele Pepa Latu

Title:

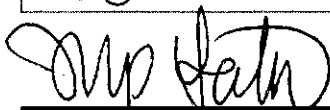
Executive Director

Email:

mele@alohaharvest.org

Phone:

808-537-6945



Authorized Signature

Mele Pepa Latu, Executive Director

Name and Title

1/16/2025

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: ALOHA HARVEST

DBA/Trade Name: ALOHA HARVEST

Issue Date: 01/07/2025

Status: Compliant

Hawaii Tax#:

New Hawaii Tax#: GE-0384837632-01

FEIN/SSN#: XX-XXX4209

UI#: No record

DCCA FILE#: 116372

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 REVISED STATUTES**

The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies the following:

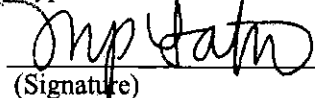
- 1) The applicant meets and will comply with all of the following standards for the award of grants pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is licensed or accredited, in accordance with federal, state, or county statutes, rules, or ordinances, to conduct the activities or provide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

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

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

Aloha Harvest

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)



(Signature)

1/10/2025

(Date)

Mele Pepa Latu

(Typed Name)

Executive Director

(Title)

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

Mele Pepa Latu, Executive Director
PRINT NAME AND TITLE

1/10/2025
DATE

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, 2024.

Certificate of Vendor Compliance attached.

2. Declaration Statement

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

Declaration Statement attached.

3. Public Purpose

The applicant shall specify whether the grant will be used for a public purpose pursuant to Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Aloha Harvest confirms that the requested grant will be used for a public purpose pursuant to Section 42F-102, Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

II. Background and Summary

This section shall clearly and concisely summarize and highlight the contents of the request in such a way as to provide the State Legislature with a broad understanding of the request. Please include the following:

1. A brief description of the applicant's background;

MISSION

Established in 1999, Aloha Harvest has a *mission To Rescue Quality Food to Nourish and Strengthen Our Community*. Our vision is *A Resilient and Sustainable Hawai'i, Where Hunger and Food Waste No Longer Exist*.

PROGRAMS

Aloha Harvest addresses the misalignment of our food system where people can go hungry while an enormous amount of food is wasted. Our primary activity is to rescue quality food before it enters the waste stream and to deliver it on the same day to community partners that feed the hungry. We provide these critical services 7 days a week, free of charge to the donors and recipient agencies. In the process, we also provide a boost to our local businesses and economy while reducing the impact of food waste on the environment. Our work is closely aligned with both the State and the City & County of Honolulu's sustainability goals.

COLLABORATION

Aloha Harvest works with over 150 participating donors and 100 social-service agencies on O‘ahu, and has curated a network of over 1,000 collaborators over the past 25 years. We have created one of the largest collaborations between the for-profit and nonprofit sectors in the state. We average over 130 food donors each month, with entities including grocery stores, wholesalers and distributors, restaurants and caterers, farms, and more.

MILESTONES REACHED

Working with our network over the past two decades, Aloha Harvest has:

- Rescued over 38 million pounds of food that would have been discarded, equivalent to over 609 MT (metric tons) of CO2 emissions sequestered, almost 34 million meals served, or almost \$159,000,000 dollars saved!
- During the COVID pandemic, in partnership with the USDA, Hawai‘i Community Foundation, Hawai‘i Public Health Institute, and the City & County of Honolulu’s Department of Community Services, Aloha Harvest redistributed over 4.1M pounds of food and hosted over 200 community-based food distribution events.
- Launched several programs to complement its food rescue efforts:
 - Meals with Aloha - a program creating prepared meals and value-added products utilizing rescued food and locally sourced ingredients.
 - Community Harvest - a gleaning program that captures excess produce from backyards, community gardens, farmers markets, and small farms.
 - O‘ahu Compost Project - a 2-year pilot project with the USDA, City & County of Honolulu, and several local nonprofit organizations which created nutrient-rich compost from consumer waste.

EXPERTISE

Aloha Harvest has demonstrated leadership in connecting and bringing together partners, as well as coordinating difficult same-day distribution logistics. After more than 25 years of operations, we continue to build on our strong organizational experience, reputation, and resources to successfully achieve our proposed objectives.

2. The goals and objectives related to the request;

GOALS OF PROGRAM IN FY2026

Aloha Harvest addresses the misalignment of our food system where people can go hungry while an enormous amount of food is wasted.

Through our O‘ahu Food Rescue and Redistribution program, Aloha Harvest directly addresses our community’s needs by:

1) Reducing Dependence on Food Imports

In Hawai‘i, it is estimated that we import 85% - 95% of our food, making us vulnerable to disruptions in shipped food supply. The O‘ahu Food Rescue and Redistribution program helps maximize the use of our food supply, reducing dependence on imported food and increasing food security.

2) Improving Financial Security

People experiencing unemployment, or those with low income face difficulties meeting basic food needs. Food assistance can be a lifeline for those struggling financially and help to avoid detrimental coping strategies used to afford food. The simple act of providing food assistance helps to free up additional resources and income for other living expenses (e.g., rent, transportation, healthcare, etc.)

3) Reducing Waste and Greenhouse Gas

Food waste is diverted from the incinerator which produces toxic ash, and landfills where it would rot under anaerobic conditions. The anaerobic process produces methane, a greenhouse gas that is 28%-36% more potent than carbon dioxide. In Hawai'i, residents waste 237,000 tons of food every year. By reducing waste and the resources it takes to produce food, Aloha Harvest is working towards strengthening our climate resilience.

4) Addressing The Social Determinants of Health

Aloha Harvest will partner with healthcare providers, particularly those in communities with significant food-security issues, to increase community resilience and improve health outcomes.

The proposed Grant Activity provides the means to scale up our current food rescue operations and meet the increased demand for food assistance in FY2026.

MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES IN FY2026

Our primary program activity is to rescue quality food before it enters the waste stream, and to deliver it on the same day to nonprofit partners that feed the food insecure. We provide these critical services 7 days a week, free to the donors and recipient agencies.

- Objective 1) **Rescue 3.2 million Pounds of Food** (Note: Recovering 3.2 million pounds of food is equivalent to creating 2.4 million meals with an approximate value of \$9 million dollars (based on Feeding America's estimate of 1.3 pounds/meal, and \$2.83 dollars saved per pound of food that is recovered in Hawai'i).)
- Objective 2) **Complete 1,800 Food Rescue Pickups From Donors on O'ahu**
- Objective 3) **Equitably Redistribute Food to 50,000 Food-Insecure Individuals**

3. The public purpose and need to be served;**PUBLIC PURPOSE OF FOOD RESCUE AND REDISTRIBUTION****ONE IN EIGHT RESIDENTS!**

- In Hawai'i, 13.1% of families are food insecure, affecting over 188,000 of our residents.
- On O'ahu, 12.3% of families are food insecure, affecting over 124,000 residents – with a food budget shortfall of \$120 million annually, just in Honolulu County alone (Feeding America, 2022).

ASSISTING OUR VULNERABLE COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Aloha Harvest assists the most vulnerable and at-risk members of the community, serving lower-income individuals and families who are food insecure by partnering with, and providing logistical support to, social service and charitable agencies. The result for our community is improved access to food assistance for those who experience long-standing inequities and those who are disproportionately impacted by disaster events.

While much progress has been made in the collection and distribution of food in Hawai'i, there is still a great opportunity to bring partners together to address food security as a Social Determinant of Health. The 2021 Hawai'i Community Health Needs Assessment, led by The Healthcare Association of Hawai'i, identified Food Security as the second largest concern of our community. Failing to address food-security concerns allows a barrier towards better community health to persevere. Food insecurity does not exist in a vacuum: people who face challenges accessing enough food also face challenges affording adequate housing, healthcare, transportation, and other basic needs.

PUBLIC NEEDS SERVED:**1) FOOD INSECURITY**

Defined as "the lack of access to enough food for an active, healthy life due to limited financial resources," food insecurity has sharply risen in the last ten years throughout Hawai'i.

About 1 in 6 Hawai'i residents (18%) report skipping or reducing at least one meal a day or a few meals a week for financial reasons (Imi Pono Hawai'i Wellbeing Survey, 2022). On O'ahu, 12.3% of residents (over 124,550 people) are food insecure, lacking reliable access to safe and nutritious food (Feeding America, 2022). According to data from "Hunger in Hawai'i," the need for food is greatest among 22% of children, 36% of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander households, and 11% of seniors (Feeding America, 2020; Pruitt et al, 2021).

In 2021, Feeding America reported a 9.8% food insecurity rate for Honolulu County, and a 15.1% rate of child food insecurity (32,690 children). Of these food insecure adults in Honolulu County, 51% are above the SNAP threshold of 200% poverty and 49% are below SNAP threshold. Throughout Hawai'i, seniors (60+) have a food insecurity rate of 3.7% (13,482 people).

2) CHALLENGES IN DISPOSING FOOD WASTE

At the same time of increasing need for food assistance, there are also about 237,000 tons of food (26% of available food supply) wasted annually on O'ahu (City & County of Honolulu, 2017). The Department of Environmental Services notes that food waste continues to be a significant problem that is severely impacting the City's waste management capacity.

According to the USDA, food waste is the single largest component that goes into municipal landfills, where it rots under anaerobic conditions producing methane, a greenhouse gas, that is 28% to 36% more potent than carbon dioxide (USDA, 2016). The Waimanalo Gulch Landfill is nearing capacity and is scheduled to close by 2028, and no new landfill site has been approved.

On O‘ahu, we currently capture only 2% of potentially recoverable food, based on the latest 2017 Waste Composition study. This shows that there is still an opportunity to increase the volume of food rescued.

3) RISK FOR DISASTER EVENTS

Local food assessments characterize Hawai‘i as a “limited scale, closed food-system” where food costs are 22% of average income (compared to 13% on the continental US). Hawai‘i has a perilous dependence on food imports with about 90% of food being imported from a minimum of 2,500 miles away. Finally, Hawai‘i has a food inventory of only 10 days through its supply chain (State of Hawai‘i, 2012; Rocky Mountain Institute, 2007).

Recent disasters such as the COVID-19 pandemic, supply chain disruptions, environmental disasters, and general inflation have caused widespread impacts, while exacerbating food insecurity for an increasing number of people. These events effected a significant increase in emergency food assistance, and they underscore the need for actions to improve resiliency.

Food needs have increased as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftereffects, and this event has illuminated the risk for ALICE groups (asset-limited, income-constrained and employed) during crises. Additionally, the rising cost of fuel, rent, and other essentials is affecting the financial stability of Hawai‘i’s families. As Hawai‘i emerges from the pandemic, a rise in food insecurity now comes amid cuts to social safety net programs such as SNAP, the child tax credit and free school lunch programs.

4. Describe the target population to be served; and

Aloha Harvest’s mission addresses O‘ahu’s at-risk residents, including services to economically and socially disadvantaged populations. We distribute food to the most vulnerable members of our community, primarily serving lower income individuals, kupuna, and families with children who are food insecure, through our partnerships with 100+ social service and charitable agencies.

A 2023 report by Feeding America estimated a total of 170,970 food insecure residents in Hawai‘i, or 11.9% of the population in the state. This is calculated at a \$139,174,000 shortfall in annual food budgets inside our state. Children’s food insecurity (as a subset of the data above) is estimated at over 54,000 children, or 17.8% of children in the state.

Aloha Harvest assists the most vulnerable and at-risk members of the community, serving lower-income individuals and families who are food insecure by partnering with, and providing logistical support to, social service and charitable agencies.

Currently, the demographic make-up of our end consumers includes: 22% homeless, 36% unemployed, 46% Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, 29% children, 16% seniors, and 10% challenged with mental illness, substance abuse or physical and/or mental disabilities.

- The food we deliver serves communities across O‘ahu: Honolulu (59%), Waianae/Leeward (17%), Windward (7%), Central (8%), and North Shore (9%).
- Food donations come from: Central O‘ahu (15.1%), Honolulu (64.3%), Waianae/Leeward (10.5%), Windward O‘ahu (4.5%), and North Shore (5.6%).

5. Describe the geographic coverage.

Aloha Harvest serves the entire island of O‘ahu with its food rescue and distribution operations.

III. Service Summary and Outcomes

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

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

ACTION PLAN

The Aloha Harvest process begins with educating food donors, distributors, and the general public as to the benefits of a food-rescue operation. These educational sessions can occur via public-relations events, general marketing opportunities, and by word of mouth. Now in our 25th year of operation, we benefit from having strong brand-equity in our space.

As the provider of logistics from donor to distributor, our Operations team works dilligently to fit new partners into established routes. Our island-wide coordination strives for an efficient and effective rescue operation.

PARTNERSHIPS

Aloha Harvest cannot function without our partners, both our donor and recipient agencies. Our role is to provide a benefit to the partner agency, and an incentive to take part in the food rescue operation. We provide a tax-break to our donors, but also an opportunity-cost benefit.

Our expertise in logistics and transportation allows the donor to continue focusing on their operational strength – producing food. For our recipients, we provide that same opportunity-cost benefit, but we also provide real cash-flow benefits. Our ability to source food items at no cost to the recipient allows that agency to focus its resources on other expenses. The benefits we provide to our partners are critical in this time of tight budgets with increasing demand.

The primary donors include partners such as manufacturers, food distributors, grocery stores, food wholesalers, restaurants, convenience stores, caterers, military sites, and farms. The top 5 donors are: Pepsi Co, Foodland, Y. Hata, Meadow Gold Dairies, Ham Produce and Seafood.

The primary recipient agencies we partner with include faith-based programs, social service agencies, detention center, shelters, schools, hospitals, and other housing programs. The top 5 distribution sites are: Hawai'i Cedar Church, Kalihi Valley Homes Association, Lighthouse Outreach Center, The Pantry, O'ahu Community Correction Center.

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

Q1 (Jul - Sep 2025)

- Grant period begins
- Food rescue team will facilitate 150 pick ups per month
- Food rescue team will (re)distribute 750,000 lbs. of food (Jul-Sep)
- Business Development Team will acquire or reengage 30 new, active food donors
- Q3 2025 Impact Report is released, summarizing highlights of the entire project
- Summer Community Engagement event to support summer programs for children

Q2 (Oct - Dec 2025)

- Food rescue team will facilitate 150 pick ups per month
- Food rescue team will (re)distribute 950,000 lbs. of food (Oct-Dec)
- Business Development Team will acquire or reengage 30 new, active food donors
- Q4 2025 Impact Report is released
- Monthly team planning to review tasks and deliverables
- Community engagement efforts with our Recipient Agencies to review data, gather feedback and address concerns
- Harvesting with Aloha campaign to promote food drives and fresh produce drives to be repackaged and distributed to the community in time for the holidays.

Q3 (Jan - Mar 2026)

- Food rescue team will facilitate 150 pick ups per month
- Food rescue team will (re)distribute 750,000 lbs. of food (Jan-Mar)
- Business Development Team will acquire or reengage 30 new, active food donors
- Q1 2026 Impact Report is released
- Midpoint project evaluation
- Annual data update for our recipient agencies

Q4 (Apr - Jun 2026)

- Food rescue team will facilitate 150 pick ups per month
- Food rescue team will (re)distribute 750,000 lbs. of food (Apr-Jun)
- Business Development Team will acquire or reengage 30 new, active food donors
- Q2 2026 Impact Report is released
- Community Engagement event for Food Waste Prevention Week (April 6-12, 2026) and Earth Day (April 22, 2026) to promote the environment aspect of our mission
- End of project evaluation, debrief, documentation of lessons learned and next steps

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

Aloha Harvest prioritizes the tracking and reporting of our program outcomes. These can be viewed on our interactive online dashboard and quarterly Impact Reports found on our website.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Aloha Harvest tracks key performance measures including:

- Total weight of food rescued and distributed to the food insecure
- Total pickup stops and drop off stops each vehicle makes
- Food donor information including type of operation and volume donated
- Food recipient information including type of operation and volume received and monthly data and demographics from recipients

MILESTONES

Since 1999, Aloha Harvest has rescued over 38 million (38,170,770) pounds of food. That is 38 million pounds diverted from a landfill and distributed to persons seeking food security. Our key metric is tied to the pounds of food diverted, however we realize that weight alone doesn't tell a whole story. In an effort to rescue and redistribute healthy food options Aloha Harvest has started to work with small farms, often harvesting leafy green vegetables that provide increased nutritional value but decreased weight by volume.

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.

By the end of the grant period, Aloha Harvest will collaborate with our partners to:

- Rescue 3,200,000 pounds of food on O'ahu
- Complete 1,800 food rescue pickups from donors on O'ahu
- Redistribute food to 50,000 food-insecure persons

IV. Financial

Budget

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

The total budget for the O'ahu Food Rescue & Redistribution project is \$960,672. We are committed to raising \$760,672 and request \$200,000 in State of Hawai'i support.

Budget documents attached.

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

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total Grant
50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	200,000

3. The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are seeking for fiscal year 2026.

Secured:

- Hau'oli Mau Loa - \$200,000 (unrestricted gift)
- USDA Community Food Projects - \$248,549 (2 years remaining)
- Sophie Russell Trust - \$60,000 (2 years remaining)
- The Healy Foundation - \$135,000 (over 3 years)
- Kosasa Foundation - \$20,000

Pending:

- City & County GIA - \$150,000
- USDA Community Food Projects - \$390,020 (\$195,010 for 3 years)
- A&B Foundation - \$10,000

Planned:

- Atherton Family Foundation - \$50,000
- McInerney Foundation - \$50,000
- First Hawaiian Bank Foundation - \$100,000

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

None.

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

Government Contracts, Grants, and/or Grants In Aid attachment.

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

As of December 31, 2024, Aloha Harvest's unrestricted current assets are \$372,362.

V. Experience and Capability

1. Necessary Skills and Experience

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

DEMONSTRATED EXPERIENCE

Aloha Harvest has demonstrated leadership in connecting and bringing together different partners, as well as coordinating difficult same-day distribution logistics. The organization is more than capable of the work required to successfully expand our food rescue and redistribution program to reach more of our vulnerable low-income populations. After more than 25 years, we continue to build on our strong organizational experience, reputation, and resources which are required to successfully achieve the proposed outcomes to scale our operations by increasing the volume of food rescued and recruiting new partner donors and recipients.

Aloha Harvest is one of approximately 50 food-rescue nonprofit organizations across the nation recognized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and is listed as a resource by the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Environmental Services for reducing and eliminating Food Waste for businesses and households.

STAFFING

We have a core management team and Board of Directors with a range of experience in nonprofit management, foodservice, warehouse operations, logistics, and capital projects of varying complexities. The proposed development of community based pantries remains a major missing element needed to sustain and further scale operations. Supplementing our foundational experience in managing an extensive relationship network and coordinating complicated food distribution, the proposed grant activity aims to further expand our reach.

STAKEHOLDERS

We continue to grow a robust network of donor and recipient partners. For over two decades we have developed a reputation and skills in managing a collaborative network of over 1,000 organizations. We have a long track record of accomplishments -- acting as an intermediary between diverse partners to rescue food, playing a critical role in connecting gaps in the food supply chain, and distributing (instead of wasting) food for those with need. We have created a strong network that excels in connecting the different parts of the food system.

Our partner relationships have also provided us the opportunity to take on multifunctional roles, manage large service contracts, and offer expanded services through programs such as:

1. Ohana Pack Distributions (C&C of Honolulu, Dept. of Community Services)
2. Meals with Aloha (Hawai'i Public Health Institute)
3. Buy Local, Feed Local (Hawai'i Community Foundation)

With just these three programs above, Aloha Harvest successfully secured and managed over \$2.1M in program funding over 6 months.

2. Facilities

The applicant shall provide a description of its facilities and demonstrate its adequacy in relation to the request. If facilities are not presently available, describe plans to secure facilities.

Currently we are managing our scaled O'ahu Food Rescue and Redistribution operations by utilizing/leasing several distributed spaces:

- Administrative Office (First Hawaiian Bank)
 - 3599 Waialae Avenue, Suites 22 & 23, Honolulu, HI 96816
- Staff Parking (Kaimuki Municipal Parking Lot)
 - 1150 12th Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96816
- Fleet Parking
 - Hawaii Self Storage, 2909 Waialae Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96826
 - Elite Parking, 1217 Wilhemina Rise, Honolulu, HI 96816
- Cold & Dry Storage (Y Fukunaga Products Ltd)
 - 99-1093 Iwaena Street, Bay C, Aiea, HI 96701

COMMUNITY BASED PANTRIES

To spread the community reach and accessibility of food rescues, three community based pantry locations are also under review, with Central O'ahu, the Leeward Coast, and the North Shore all being considered. Aloha Harvest is also assessing the purchase and placement of a Refrigerated Storage Unit on a farm property, providing storage to small, local farmers in a rural community.

VI. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

1. Proposed Staffing, Staff Qualifications, Supervision and Training

The applicant shall describe the proposed staffing pattern and proposed service capacity appropriate for the viability of the request. The applicant shall provide the qualifications and experience of personnel for the request and shall describe its ability to supervise, train and provide administrative direction relative to the request.

Aloha Harvest came from modest beginnings, with 2 part-time Drivers, an Administrator, and a rented truck. We have since upgraded our fleet to 6 commercial-grade vehicles, operated by 7 drivers, 7 Administrative staff, and contractors providing support services. An organizational chart is attached.

LEADERSHIP

Aloha Harvest's new Executive Director, **Mele Pepa Latu**, has been with the organization for over 13 years – most recently serving as the Operations Manager. In this previous role, Mele was responsible for managing day-to-day operations with a focus on productivity and quality control for the field staff (Lead Driver, Drivers & Driver Helpers), and direct supervision of the Field Services Coordinator and Programs Assistant. She brings to the new role a strong understanding of operational procedures, business processes, data management, accounting, grants, and reporting functions as she transferred to the new role in January and expects to hire an Operations Manager to succeed her by the end of January. Mele's strength is in maintaining relationships with our community and business partners to ensure that accountability, trust and needs are met.

Mele is now responsible for all aspects of Aloha Harvest, with a close focus on capacity building, fiscal operations and project management. She is looking to diversify the fundraising and business development functions and is currently exploring ways to create mission-focused revenue streams for the organization.

VOLUNTEERS

Aloha Harvest also relies on our volunteers to accomplish a significant amount of the food rescue work we accomplish throughout our community. We currently have 1,430 O'ahu volunteers registered in our system. As an example, during 2024, Aloha Harvest volunteers put in a total of 1,500 hours (labor valued at \$53,250) through community harvests, on-call food rescues, large food kit assemblies and farmers market rescues -- that adds up to 35,982 pounds of food rescued by our volunteers in 2024.

2. Organization Chart

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

Organization Chart attached.

3. Compensation

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

Executive Director	\$100,000 to \$125,000
Operations Manager	\$50,000 to \$75,000
Program Coordinator	\$40,000 to \$60,000

VII. Other

1. Litigation

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

Not applicable.

2. Licensure or Accreditation

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

Not applicable.

3. Private Educational Institutions

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

Not applicable.

4. Future Sustainability Plan

The applicant shall provide a plan for sustaining after fiscal year 2026 the activity funded by the grant if the grant of this application is:

- (a) Received by the applicant for fiscal year 2026, but
- (b) Not received by the applicant thereafter.

CAPACITY AND RESOURCES

Over the past four years, as a function of Pandemic Response activities, Aloha Harvest has been able to more than double its income/operating budget. As a result of the increased activity, Aloha Harvest has been able to improve its financial footing and stability.

As a nonprofit organization, we rely on sustained funding from longtime financial supporters, but also realize that onboarding new supporters is necessary to survive into the future. The Aloha Harvest Board and Leadership understands that compelling business plans detailing the Aloha Harvest Value Proposition will be necessary to attract and maintain future support, especially as funding is diverted to pressing redevelopment needs, both near term as well as into the future.

EXPANDING ACTIVITIES WITH COMMUNITY BASED PANTRIES

Working to have access to additional cold/dry storage spaces within the community will present new opportunities to expand and diversify our food rescue services. Besides providing a centralized hub for Aloha Harvest to aggregate, store, and distribute food, other partners integrating into the Community Based Pantry spaces could create opportunities for increased collaboration and shared operating costs. It is our hope that

fostering our network of partners by clustering activity in community food hubs should lead to creating new jobs and additional services.

BEYOND THE GRANT PERIOD

Our mission resonates with many funders and volunteers who continue to support and strengthen our work. Many of these stakeholders, including several large foundations, have explicitly expressed their support of our core programs, to help create a more sustainable, resilient, and equitable food system in Hawai'i. Aloha Harvest has 25 years of history behind our brand. Funders have trusted Aloha Harvest and the services we provide, and we have every confidence that they will continue to do so into the future.

BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: **Aloha Harvest**

BUDGET CATEGORIES	Total State Funds Requested (a)	Total Federal Funds Requested (b)	Total County Funds Requested (c)	Total Private/Other Funds Requested (d)
A. PERSONNEL COST				
1. Salaries	101,500	121,210	105,505	201,420
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments	7,765	10,040	8,071	20,544
3. Fringe Benefits	0	0	0	46,595
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	109,265	131,250	113,576	268,559
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Airfare/Travel for Federal Grant	0	3,760	0	0
2. Insurance	9,000	0	0	6,000
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment	0	0	0	1,750
4. Lease/Rental of Truck Storage Space	14,400	0	0	0
5. Staff Training	0	0	0	0
6. Program Activities Supplies	43,760	10,000	30,000	0
7. Telecommunication	0	0	0	10,000
8. Utilities, Occupancy, Rent	0	0	0	17,010
9. Vehicle Maintenance/Repairs	14,575	15,000	6,424	0
10. Fuel for Delivery Trucks	9,000	30,000	0	31,000
11. Evaluator for Federal Grant	0	5,000	0	0
12. Promotion, Advertising, Fundraising	0	0	0	46,400
13. Accounting, Payroll, Contractor Services	0	0	0	34,943
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	90,735	63,760	36,424	147,103
C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES	0	0	0	0
D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES	0	0	0	0
E. CAPITAL	0	0	0	0
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	200,000	195,010	150,000	415,662
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> (a) Total State Funds Requested 200,000 (b) Total Federal Funds Requested 195,010 (c) Total County Funds Requested 150,000 (d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested 415,662 </div> <div> Mele Pepa Latu Name (Please type or print) Signature of Authorized Official </div> <div> 808-469-6800 Phone 1/16/2025 Date </div> </div>		
TOTAL BUDGET	960,672	Mele Pepa Latu, Executive Director Name and Title (Please type or print)		

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - PERSONNEL SALARIES AND WAGES

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: **Aloha Harvest**

POSITION TITLE	FULL TIME EQUIVALENT	ANNUAL SALARY A	% OF TIME ALLOCATED TO GRANT REQUEST B	TOTAL STATE FUNDS REQUESTED (A x B)
Operations Manager	1	\$60,000.00	30.00%	\$ 18,000.00
Safety and Compliance Coordinator	1	\$50,000.00	30.00%	\$ 15,000.00
Program Coordinator	1	\$45,000.00	30.00%	\$ 13,500.00
Driver	1	\$35,000.00	50.00%	\$ 17,500.00
Driver	1	\$35,000.00	50.00%	\$ 17,500.00
Executive Director	1	\$100,000.00	20.00%	\$ 20,000.00
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
TOTAL:				101,500.00
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS: Funds requested above will be used for the workforce to support this phase of the Food Rescue and Redistribution program, expanding organizational capacity and scaling the impact of our mission. This includes new positions and existing roles that will have adjusted/expanded scope of responsibilities.				

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: **Aiona Harvest**

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:				
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS: Not applicable.				

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:				
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS: Not Applicable.				

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: **Aloha Harvest**

FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED						
TOTAL PROJECT COST	ALL SOURCES OF FUNDS RECEIVED IN PRIOR YEARS		STATE FUNDS REQUESTED	OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS REQUESTED	FUNDING REQUIRED IN SUCCEEDING YEARS	
	FY:2023-2024	FY:2024-2025	FY:2025-2026	FY:2025-2026	FY:2026-2027	FY:2027-2028
PLANS						
LAND ACQUISITION						
DESIGN						
CONSTRUCTION						
EQUIPMENT						
TOTAL:						
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS: Not Applicable.						

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID

Applicant: **Aloha Harvest**

Contracts Total: 623,823

[illegible]

ALOHA HARVEST

Organizational Chart

