

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:

Amount of State Funds Requested: \$ _____

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

Amount of Other Funds Available:

State: \$ _____

Federal: \$ _____

County: \$ _____

Private/Other: \$ _____

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

\$ _____

Unrestricted Assets:

\$ _____

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:

City:

State:

Zip:

Contact Person for Matters Involving this Application

Name:

Title:

Email:

Phone:

Jennine E. Sullivan

Authorized Signature

Name and Title

Date Signed

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

Jennine G. Sullivan
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

JENNINE SULLIVAN

PRINT NAME AND TITLE

JANUARY 10, 2025

DATE



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF VENDOR COMPLIANCE

This document presents the compliance status of the vendor identified below on the issue date with respect to certificates required from the Hawaii Department of Taxation (DOTAX), the Internal Revenue Service, the Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR), and the Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA).

Vendor Name: FEEDING HAWAII TOGETHER.ORG

DBA/Trade Name: Feeding Hawaii Together

Issue Date: 12/13/2024

Status: Compliant

Hawaii Tax#: 20099204-01

New Hawaii Tax#:

FEIN/SSN#: XX-XXX1806

UI#: XXXXXX8133

DCCA FILE#: 202613

Status of Compliance for this Vendor on issue date:

Form	Department(s)	Status
A-6	Hawaii Department of Taxation	Compliant
8821	Internal Revenue Service	Compliant
COGS	Hawaii Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs	Exempt
LIR27	Hawaii Department of Labor & Industrial Relations	Compliant

Status Legend:

Status	Description
Exempt	The entity is exempt from this requirement
Compliant	The entity is compliant with this requirement or the entity is in agreement with agency and actively working towards compliance
Pending	A status determination has not yet been made
Submitted	The entity has applied for the certificate but it is awaiting approval
Not Compliant	The entity is not in compliance with the requirement and should contact the issuing agency for more information

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

The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies the following:

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

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

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

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)

Jennine E. Sullivan
(Signature)

(Date)

(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, 2024.

See attached Certificate of Vendor Compliance.

2. Declaration Statement

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

See attached Declaration Statement.

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](#).

If awarded State Grant-in-Aid, funds would be used for a public purpose as described below in section ***II. Background and Summary***. State GIA funds would enable Feeding Hawaii Together (Trade Name: The Pantry) to build capacity by adding to its team of direct service personnel, critical to providing uninterrupted weekly services to meet the needs of the alarming number of food insecure keiki to kupuna on Oahu. At the end of 12 months, The Pantry estimates distributing 1.5 million pounds of food to a duplicated 80,000 hurting children and adults of all ages throughout the City and County of Honolulu. Funds would also be used to design food justice initiatives of a new multifunctional Garden and Education Center located directly across the existing warehouse. The new Center will strengthen The Pantry's capacity to enhance access to fresh produce, educational programming and hands-on sustainable gardening, fostering collaboration while maximizing community engagement.

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;

The Pantry by Feeding Hawaii Together was established in 2002 with the mission of addressing Oahu's hunger crisis by providing consistent and reliable access to nutritional food. Our vision is to serve as a model for food security and sustainability in Hawaii, ensuring food directly and immediately gets into the hands of hungry individuals and families in need year-round.

The Pantry began 22 years ago in a shared warehouse on Oahu, quickly growing into one of the largest food distribution organizations in Hawaii. Development of the community surrounding the warehouse resulted in a non-renewal of the property lease as the warehouse made way for residential condominium towers, many considered luxury dwellings. For the first time in two decades, The Pantry was forced to shutter its doors in 2016, while searching for an affordable property in which to re-establish operations. With the assistance of a working Board with expertise in real estate, The Pantry located a 13,000-sf warehouse in the heart of Kalihi, which reopened debt-free to the public in April 2020 at the onset of the pandemic, thanks to CDBG funding.

The Pantry is Hawaii's only eCommerce free food distribution program in the State. Operating much like a grocery store, individuals and families register for services through our eCommerce website or app, then "shop" online for items specific to need, including a weekly assortment of fresh fruit and vegetables, meat and dairy products, poultry, eggs and shelf stable goods. Distinct from part-time or popup food distribution services, The Pantry ensures food directly and immediately gets into the hands of hungry individuals and families in need through our online portal/app or call-center that facilitates curbside grocery pickup. For over 20 years, The Pantry has served as a critical lifeline for food insecure children and adults, ensuring families in need are not forced to choose between food and other basic necessities to survive.

2. The goals and objectives related to the request;

The Pantry works to improve the quality of life for vulnerable individuals of all ages throughout Oahu communities by providing for the most basic of needs – access to food.

Goals:

1. To increase The Pantry's bandwidth to effectively distribute food to the growing number of food insecure children and adults on Oahu, estimated at 80,000 duplicated keiki to kupuna over 12 months.
2. To empower communities through development of multifaceted, community-based initiatives centered on local food systems that advance food justice by integrating education, Indigenous food preparation, sustainable practices, food sovereignty and equitable access to reduce food waste.

Objectives:

1. Hire 5 new key service personnel.
 2. Register 500 new families to The Pantry.
 3. Recruit and train 300 new volunteers to serve at The Pantry, whether individually, as a group, or part of company/agency community service days/projects.
 4. Distribute 1.5 million pounds of food or more, with a focus on healthy, indigenous items through partnership with local food sources.
3. The public purpose and need to be served;

Oahu is facing a public health crisis, with 1 in 3 households struggling with food insecurity, leading to far-reaching impacts on the physical and mental well-being of individuals and communities.

With recent reductions in SNAP benefits and wages in Hawaii unable to keep up with inflation-driven price increases, families living paycheck to paycheck are struggling to put food on the table, particularly as the cost of groceries has increased by 25% since 2020. Aloha United Way indicates a family of four must earn a staggering \$107,796 to afford basic household essentials like food, healthcare and housing, spending around \$1,757 per month on food alone and seniors spending approximately \$595 monthly on groceries (ALICE Update, 2024).

A little over 2 in 5 earn wages below the ALICE (asset limited, income constrained, employed) household survival threshold but are often ineligible to receive federal assistance or the level of government benefits falls painfully short of enabling families to feed their households. It comes as no surprise that 1 in every 10 households in Hawaii forgoes meals for an entire day at least some or most months throughout the year according to a 2023 survey by Hawaii Foodbank.

Without year-round access to food distribution programs like The Pantry, food insecure children and adults will become even more vulnerable, contributing to a vicious cycle of poverty and chronic health issues. When vulnerable families lack consistent access to nutritious food, they are more likely to suffer from a range of health problems, including malnutrition, obesity, diabetes, heart disease, and weakened immune systems. The stress of food insecurity can also worsen mental health disorders in both children and adults, especially as families are compelled to prioritize food over other essential household needs.

A 2023 study on *Food Insecurity in Hawaii* by Hawaii Foodbank suggests a significant link between food insecurity and health. Food insecurity, a major social determinant of health, has a ripple effect on the health outcomes for the entire family, with food insecure families facing 20% higher annual healthcare costs compared to food secure households. It is estimated that Hawaii's current 30% food insecurity rate will result in \$800 million in additional healthcare costs annually.

Among the most severely impacted are the vulnerable food insecure keiki on Oahu, who are more likely to struggle in school and suffer from poor child development, higher hospitalization and behavioral health problems. Oahu's growing number of food insecure kupuna are also at greater risk of poor health outcomes, such as depression, heart attacks and a higher incidence of chronic conditions that escalate healthcare costs, such as high blood pressure, stroke and arthritis.

Children and seniors from low-to-moderate income communities are the primary beneficiaries of services at The Pantry. Although these food insecure keiki and kupuna often have health issues or dietary restrictions, healthy food options are generally cost prohibitive when purchased through many food retail outlets on Oahu. While free food distribution can account for up to half of a family's dietary intake, food lower in salt and added sugars, such as fresh fruit, dairy products, eggs, fresh produce and meat are scarcely available through many food distribution programs. The Pantry's client choice food model is vital in addressing this public health crisis by combating food insecurity on Oahu through the distribution of healthier food options, while also playing a key role in reducing the long-term healthcare costs linked to poor nutrition.

With a new administration set to take office in January 2025, there is widespread concern over additional cuts to government benefit programs like SNAP and WIC, which could significantly increase demand for services, strain limited resources and disproportionately effect vulnerable populations, further exacerbating food insecurity within Oahu communities. Unfortunately, The Pantry is currently operating at peak capacity and has already been forced to cap the number of individuals served on distribution days, impacting 350 families each week. As the number of food insecure on Oahu reaches crisis levels rivaling numbers served at the height of the pandemic, The Pantry must ensure it has the bandwidth to continue providing a reliable safety net to meet immediate needs, while offering a long-term solution so families are not forced to choose between food and other essentials just to survive.

With Hawaii importing roughly 85-90% of its food, Oahu is highly vulnerable to supply chain disruptions, natural disasters, and economic instability. This dependency exacerbates food insecurity and limits community access to fresh, culturally significant foods. Additionally, the historical impacts of colonization have marginalized Indigenous Hawaiian food systems and practices, threatening biodiversity, traditional knowledge, and food sovereignty. The Pantry is at an exciting crossroads to begin designing multipronged initiatives as part of a proposed Garden and Education Center. These initiatives will have the potential to address entire food systems, such as supporting local agriculture, preserving Indigenous food traditions, developing children's educational programming and promoting sustainable practices – with The Pantry serving as the central hub for program coordination.

4. Describe the target population to be served; and

The Pantry serves as a critical lifeline directly benefiting keiki to kupuna, ALICE families and the physically or mentally challenged throughout the City and County of Honolulu.

Reflecting the rich cultural diversity of Oahu communities, every single one of our clients faces financial adversity and wrestles with the challenge of meeting basic needs. A little over 2 in 3 clients are considered ALICE and 69% are female-led households. Food insecure children and seniors continue to be the primary beneficiaries of services at The Pantry, with many who have dietary restrictions that require a selection of healthy food items for optimal health not often found at many other food distribution programs. Over 1 in 3 of our clients have children in their households and 2 in every 5 are seniors.

As the only weekly eCommerce free food distribution program in Hawaii, The Pantry directly benefits vulnerable populations, providing an innovative food distribution model that addresses systemic barriers restricting equitable access to food and essential goods. As leading change agents, The Pantry supports sustainable local food systems through an eCommerce food distribution model that distributes food and essential items inclusively, equitably and with dignity. The Pantry's cutting-edge client choice pantry model facilitates acceptance of an array of healthier food options, empowering individuals to tailor food selections to fit their unique nutritional or health requirements, as well as cultural preferences.

5. Describe the geographic coverage.

The Pantry and the proposed Garden and Education Center are ideally situated in the Kalihi-Palama submarket near Middle Street, with bus stops just two blocks away in both directions. We serve clients from Kalihi-Palama and nearby communities, including those residing in homeless shelters, public housing, and tax-subsidized low-income rental units. Additionally, The Pantry provides a vital food security safety net for vulnerable children and adults of all ages throughout Oahu, particularly in impoverished communities most greatly impacted by the lingering effects of the global pandemic and record-high inflation.

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;

Over the next 12 months, The Pantry plans to add to its team of direct service personnel to meet incredible demand, as well as to begin developing and launching new initiatives as part of a proposed Garden and Education Center. To achieve its Goal and Objectives, The Pantry plans to implement the following **Scope of Work, Tasks and Responsibilities:**

1. Hire key personnel to build capacity for The Pantry to enhance service delivery, streamline distribution, optimize inventory and maximize client services operations. Key personnel will also enable The Pantry to begin developing

multifaceted initiatives designed to ultimately support local farmers, enhance access to healthier, more culturally relevant food, reduce waste and empower communities through education and employment opportunities.

2. The Volunteer & Distribution Coordinator will collaborate with businesses and community-based organizations to recruit and train an ongoing corp of volunteers to receive food, pack orders and distribute selected items to individuals and families.
3. The Executive Director will develop strategic partnerships, including collaborations with local farmers, growers, fisheries, ranchers, and distributors to help offset rising food prices while increasing the percentage of healthy food items available to clients weekly.
4. The Director of Strategy & Impact will work with the Executive Director to lead efforts for designing food justice initiatives through the proposed multifunctional Garden and Education Center, including identifying key performance indicators related to food sovereignty, sustainability, and nutrition education while increasing The Pantry's capacity to attract partnerships.

Individuals and families will register for services through our eCommerce website or app, then "shop" online for items specific to need, including a weekly assortment of fresh fruit and vegetables, meat and dairy products, poultry, eggs and shelf stable goods. The online ordering system is available 24/7, with weekly curbside pickup determined on the day the order is placed.

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

Upon receiving the Notice to Proceed, The Pantry will accomplish the following service outcomes:

- Hire additional staff, contingent on availability of funding.
 - Register new clients.
 - Recruit and train volunteers.
 - Develop and/or strengthen partnerships with local farmers/growers and/or distributors, with all local options explored as the primary source for The Pantry's food distribution.
 - Distribute food weekly to qualified individuals and households.
 - Begin developing multifaceted programming in conjunction with the proposed Garden and Education Center that will be leased from Atherton.
3. Describe its quality assurance and evaluation plans for the request. Specify how the applicant plans to monitor, evaluate, and improve their results; and

The Executive Director will work with staff to track food purchases, including the quantity of food purchased or donated through local sources over 12 months. The Pantry staff will also review monthly, quarterly and year-end reports to determine the number of new clients registered and volunteers trained. This data will be analyzed by the Executive Director and shared with staff and the Board to determine the success of this project, as well as ways to refine services to meet the needs of vulnerable populations throughout the City & County of Honolulu.

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.

The Pantry will report quarterly progress to the State on number of: 1) staff hired; 2) new clients registered; 3) volunteers recruited and trained; and 4) pounds of food distributed.

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](#))

See attached Budget Forms.

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
\$444,662	\$444,661	\$444,661	\$444,661	\$1,778,645.00

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

The Pantry submitted a \$150,000 request to City GIA FY2026 in November 2024, with decisions anticipated by Spring 2025. A \$1,778,645 award from State Grant-in-Aid would ensure The Pantry has the bandwidth to address Oahu's percolating food

insecurity health crisis, promoting stability among families who are a paycheck away from homelessness. Funds would also enable The Pantry to begin developing multifaceted initiatives that address local food systems in tandem with the proposed Garden and Education Center.

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.

This does not apply.

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.

<u>Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
City GIA FY24	\$200,000	Rebuilding Resilience for Oahu's Food Insecure
City GIA FY23	\$200,000	A Food Security Safety Net During Covid and Beyond
State GIA FY25	\$150,000	Building Capacity Through Partnerships
State GIA FY24	\$50,000	Rebuilding Resilience for Oahu's Food Insecure

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

The estimated balance of Feeding Hawaii Together's current assets as of December 31, 2024 is \$1,156,231.73.

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.

For over 20 years, The Pantry's grocery-style shopping experience has served as a critical lifeline for food insecure children and adults, ensuring families in need are not forced to choose between food and other basic necessities to survive.

Since our humble beginnings in 2002, The Pantry has evolved into one of Hawaii's largest and most trusted food distribution organizations. Thanks to the leadership of The

Pantry's working Board and a Community Development Block Grant, The Pantry operates from a debt-free, 13,000-sf-warehouse in the low income community of Kalihi that opened at the onset of COVID-19. From 2020 – 2022, The Pantry served nearly 400,000 duplicated children and adults, distributing 6.5 million pounds of food. In 2023 alone, The Pantry experienced a 147% increase in the volume of food distributed compared to 2022, serving 106,347 duplicated individuals and distributing over 2.2 million pounds of food. July 2024 saw record-breaking numbers, with nearly 5,000 unduplicated individuals served in just 30 days. These recent figures are mirrored only by those seen during the height of the pandemic, underscoring the essential role The Pantry plays in addressing food insecurity throughout the City and County of Honolulu.

Under the leadership of Executive Director Jennine Sullivan since 2020, The Pantry has thrived. Jennine's expertise and forward-thinking approach led to the development of our eCommerce model that provides a "grocery style" shopping experience, with free items available weekly on a custom-designed website. The Pantry App, which launched in June 2022, further expanded access by enabling clients to tailor food choices to their individual and cultural preferences. The Pantry remains the only weekly eCommerce free food distribution program in Hawaii, addressing systemic barriers that restrict equitable access to food and other essentials. By eliminating the stigma often associated with receiving food assistance, The Pantry empowers its clients through choice, offering them the ability to select items that fit their unique health situations and cultural preferences.

Some of the most powerful qualitative evidence showcasing the success of our food distribution model comes from the stories of the clients we serve each week.

"T" is married and both she and her husband work. They have 5 boys ranging from 5 years old to 13 years old. Unfortunately, their SNAP benefits have been drastically reduced, which means less food stamps to feed 7 people. With the price of a gallon of milk currently between \$9 - \$11 at most stores on Oahu, they especially love the dairy products they are able to receive for their 5 growing boys.

Although "B" and her husband work full time and do not qualify for government assistance, their wages are insufficient to cover the cost of food. Without weekly access to fresh, healthy food through The Pantry, "B" does not know how they would be able to feed their family, which includes two children and their dog.

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.

The Pantry owns a 13,000-square-foot facility in the heart of Kalihi, featuring a parking lot, a building connected to a warehouse, and mezzanine office space on fee simple land. After completing minor capital upgrades, the facility was brought up to code in

early 2020 and approved for use as a pantry, just in time to serve the community at the onset of the pandemic. All public areas and food distribution operations are ADA-compliant and located on the first floor of the warehouse, which includes ample space for refrigeration and pallet shelving. The large adjacent parking lot supports food deliveries and a contactless pick-up system for clients. The proposed Garden and Education Center, which would be leased from Atherton, is located across the street from The Pantry warehouse, with ample parking and space for education and community-based initiatives.

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.

Leveraging extensive experience and an innovative food delivery model, supported by robust partnerships, volunteers and a dedicated staff, The Pantry will successfully achieve proposed objectives, ensuring year-round food access for Oahu's growing food-insecure populations.

Executive Director Jennine Sullivan oversees daily operations at The Pantry, setting strategy and collaborating with the team to execute operational directives. Jennine's leadership was instrumental during the pandemic, implementing an online grocery-style model that promotes client dignity – Hawaii's only eCommerce free food distribution program in the State. Named one of Pacific Business News' "Women Who Mean Business" in 2022, Jennine secured funding, doubled the Board size, and trained over 1,200 volunteers. She holds a BSBA from Babson College and has expertise in marketing, research, and finance.

Jennine's expertise in securing food vendor relationships and community partnerships has been essential to The Pantry's success, strengthening its collaborations with local businesses, nonprofits, and organizations to ensure a steady flow of volunteers and resources. For example, our partnership with University of Hawaii's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) enables The Pantry to plant, harvest and learn about Indigenous crops through their Urban Garden Center. Thanks to CTAHR, The Pantry recently picked 125 pounds of fresh, organic and locally grown produce for our clients, including ulu, starfruit, bananas and more.

In 2024, Jennine received the Paulette V. Maehara Award for Nonprofit Leadership from the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Aloha Chapter in recognition of her exceptional leadership and effectiveness in the nonprofit sector. In May 2024, Jennine was appointed to the Hawaii Community Foundation's Board of Governors, further acknowledging her commitment to improving the well-being of Hawaii's residents.

Director of Strategy and Impact Stephanie Yeatts – With over fifteen years of experience in public and private sectors, Stephanie is a seasoned professional with expertise in corporate social responsibility, strategic planning, and program implementation. She has held prominent leadership roles, including Chief Programs Officer at The Skatepark Project and Director of Social Impact and Sustainability at Founders Brewing Co., where she spearheaded multimillion-dollar grant programs, led cross-functional teams, and developed impactful sustainability initiatives. Skilled in community engagement, project management, and cultivating stakeholder partnerships, Stephanie has a proven track record of driving meaningful change. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Metropolitan State University of Denver and a Bachelor of Science in Public Relations from Ferris State University.

Jennifer Roberts, Volunteer & Distribution Coordinator, helps recruit The Pantry's corp of volunteers from businesses and community-based organizations, training and licensing volunteers for their food handling certification. Jennifer brings her expertise in organizing large-scale food distributions to The Pantry, drawing from her experience as a firefighter coordinating the Kau Kau Wagon's Thanksgiving meal service for the homeless.

Robin Sherley, Operations Coordinator, oversees the daily logistics of food sourcing, storage and inventory to ensure efficient and equitable service to clients. Robin began as an intern and advanced due to her expertise in data analysis and nonprofit management. She holds a Bachelor's in Human Development and Family Studies and is pursuing a Master's in Public Health. Robin's work enhances operational efficiency and ensures service delivery is continually improved.

The Pantry operates from a debt-free, 13,000-square-foot warehouse in Kalihi, which has ample space to ensure efficient food storage and distribution. The Pantry's website and app provide clients with an easy-to-use platform to select food items that meet health requirements and cultural preferences. The app also enables The Pantry to collect data on client preferences in real-time and capture self-reported data to improve service delivery.

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.

See attached Organization Chart

3. Compensation

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

Position Title	Annual Salary
Executive Director	\$150,000
Director of Strategy and Impact	\$130,000
Operations Manager (not yet hired)	\$85,000

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.

This does not apply.

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.

This does not apply.

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.

This does not apply.

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.

The Pantry has developed a strategic plan focused on sustaining and expanding its services well beyond the grant period by diversifying revenue streams, strengthening partnerships, and ensuring a steady flow of volunteers. These efforts are building long-term capacity, allowing The Pantry to withstand future economic downturns, supply chain disruptions, natural disasters, and health crises.

In 2025, The Pantry is partnering with a Fund Development Consultant to establish a plan to increase revenue through annual giving, targeted solicitations, and government

funding. This plan is designed for long-term growth and is expected to yield significant results over the next 2-3 years. The plan includes cultivating new philanthropic partners through individual and group site visits, as well as exploring the possibility of implementing an annual fundraiser, which would eventually become a consistent source of unrestricted operational revenue.

State GIA FY2026 funding will support The Pantry as we build capacity over 12-24 months to meet unprecedented demand, as well as develop new initiatives centered on local food systems as part of the proposed Garden and Education Center.

BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: Feeding Hawaii Together (Trade Name: The Pantry)

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	\$800,000	\$0	\$110,000	\$0
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments	\$115,000	\$0	\$19,085	\$0
3. Fringe Benefits	\$29,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	\$944,000	\$0	\$129,085	\$0
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Airfare, Inter-Island	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2. Insurance	\$31,645	\$0	\$0	\$0
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4. Lease/Rental of Space	\$300,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
5. Staff Training	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
6. Supplies	\$100,000	\$0	\$915	\$0
7. Telecommunication	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
8. Utilities	\$55,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
9. Professional & Contracted Services	\$70,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$0
10. Local Food Purchases	\$250,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
11. Automotive and Heavy Machinery	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				
16.				
17.				
18.				
19.				
20.				
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	\$834,645	\$0	\$20,915	\$0
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)	\$1,778,645	\$0	\$150,000	\$0
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	\$1,778,645	Jennine Sullivan (808) 888-0779		
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested	\$0	Name (Please type or print) Phone		
(c) Total County Funds Requested	\$150,000	Jennine E. Sullivan January 10, 2025		
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested	\$0	Signature of Authorized Official Date		
TOTAL BUDGET	\$1,928,645	Jennine Sullivan, Executive Director Name and Title (Please type or print)		

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - PERSONNEL SALARIES AND WAGES

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: Feeding Hawaii Together (Trade Name: The Pantry)

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	\$85,000.00	100.00%	\$ 85,000.00
Coordinator	1	\$72,000.00	100.00%	\$ 72,000.00
Coordinator	1	\$72,000.00	100.00%	\$ 72,000.00
Coordinator	1	\$72,000.00	100.00%	\$ 72,000.00
Independent Consultant	1	\$72,000.00	100.00%	\$ 72,000.00
Program Manager/Coordinator	1	\$85,000.00	100.00%	\$ 85,000.00
Director of Strategy and Impact	1	\$130,000.00	70.00%	\$ 91,000.00
Executive Director	1	\$150,000.00	50.00%	\$ 75,000.00
Warehouse Coordinator	1	\$52,000.00	100.00%	\$ 52,000.00
Warehouse Coordinator	1	\$52,000.00	100.00%	\$ 52,000.00
Volunteer Coordinator	1	\$72,000.00	100.00%	\$ 72,000.00
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
TOTAL:				800,000.00
JUSTIFICATION: To support the salaries/wages and related costs of key personnel essential to build capacity and accomplish Goals and Objectives.				

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: Feeding Hawaii Together (Trade Name)

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
Not Applicable			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:				

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

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

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: Feeding Hawaii Together (Trade Name: The Pantry)

FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED - NOT APPLICABLE						
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:						

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID

Applicant: Feeding Hawaii Together (Trade Name: The Pantry)

Contracts Total: \$600,000

	CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)	CONTRACT VALUE
1	State Grant-in-Aid FY2025	10/1/24 - 9/30/25	Office of Community Services	State	\$150,000
2	State Grant-in-Aid FY2024	10/1/23 - 9/30/24	Office of Community Services	State	\$50,000
3	City Grant-in-Aid FY2024	10/1/23 - 9/30/24	Department of Community Services	Honolulu	\$200,000
4	City Grant-in-Aid FY2023	10/1/22 - 9/30/23	Department of Community Services	Honolulu	\$200,000
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					
21					
22					
23					
24					

