

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:

Travel Visions Aloha

Travel Visions Aloha for the Blind

Amount of State Funds Requested: \$83,134

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

Travel Visions Aloha for the Blind (TVA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering the blind and visually impaired (BVI) community of Oahu through free, adaptive programs. TVA's mission is to address the social, physical, and accessibility challenges faced by BVI individuals, reducing isolation and fostering independence, connection, and confidence. With State Grant-in-Aid support, TVA plans to expand its programming to include more inclusive activities, improve accessibility resources, and develop inter-island outreach initiatives. This funding will allow TVA to host 12+ adaptive events annually, including spontaneous Blind Side events, and continue its TVA Run Club, all designed to address the unique needs of the BVI community

Amount of Other Funds Available:

State: \$0

Federal: \$0

County: \$150,000, pending

Private/Other: \$unknown

Total amount of State Grants Received in the Past 5

Fiscal Years:

\$0

Unrestricted Assets:

\$In progress

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:

1181 Mokuhano Street, Unit J

City:

Honolulu

State:

HI

Zip:

98825

Contact Person for Matters Involving this Application

Name:

Marri Murdoch

Title:

Founder & President

Email:

marri@travelvisionsaloha.org

Phone:

(808) 343-8913


 Authorized Signature

Marri Murdoch, Founder & President

Name and Title

01/16/2025

Date Signed

Revised 2024.12.04

Applicant Travel Visions Aloha

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

 Marri Murdoch-Lander/President 01/16/2025
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE PRINT NAME AND TITLE DATE

I. Certifications

1. Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate



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: TRAVEL VISIONSALOHA

DBA/Trade Name: Travel Visions Aloha For The Blind

Issue Date: 01/13/2025

Status: Compliant

Hawaii Tax#:

New Hawaii Tax#:

FEIN/SSN#: XX-XXX3554

UH#: No record

DCCA FILE#: 322652

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

2. Declaration Statement The applicant shall submit a declaration statement affirming its compliance with Section 42F-103, Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

Travel Visions Aloha is a 501(c)(3) founded in the year 2022 in the state of Hawai'i with the purpose of serving blind and visually impaired individuals by providing physical activity, outdoor experiences, socialization and integration with the sighted community. I hereby declare that Travel Visions Aloha is in full compliance with Section 42F-103, Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

**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's 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's 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's 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's 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.

Travel Visions Aloha

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)



(Signature)

01/16/2025

(Date)

Marri Murdcoh

Founder & President

(Typed Name)

(Title)

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.

Pursuant to the public purpose requirements of section 42F-102 Hawai'i revised statutes for organizations seeking grants in aid from the state of Hawai'i Travel Visions Aloha provides assistance, means and opportunity for blind and visually impaired individuals to enhance confidence, reduce isolation, build community engagement and gain economic empowerment through integration with the sighted community via physical activities performed in public.

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;

Travel Visions Aloha (TVA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization established in 2022 with the mission to “illuminate the world for the visually impaired community of O‘ahu by bridging the gap between income and ability levels.” TVA is dedicated to fostering empowerment, education, and connection for blind and visually impaired (BVI) individuals through structured, adaptive programs that address loneliness, isolation, and diminished physical health—ultimately improving the overall quality of life for all participants by promoting confidence, independence, and meaningful community engagement.

TVA is the only organization on O‘ahu solely focused on providing free, inclusive programming designed to address the complex social, emotional, and physical challenges faced by the BVI community. TVA’s holistic approach combines physical activity, social connection, and personal enrichment to foster a sense of belonging and reduce the long-term impacts of isolation, depression, and anxiety.

Since launching operations in February 2024, TVA has become a trusted resource for adaptive, community-driven programming that builds lasting social connections, strengthens resilience, and enhances well-being. Our offerings include tactile historical site visits, sensory cultural workshops, and guided recreational outings that empower participants to engage in enriching experiences alongside their peers and sighted volunteers.

Participants regularly express the transformative impact of TVA’s programs, describing how the events make them feel more connected, valued, and supported. TVA’s unwavering commitment to accessibility and inclusion continues to fill a critical gap in services for O‘ahu’s BVI population by providing equitable opportunities for connection, growth, and independence.

2. The goals and objectives related to the request;

TVA seeks to address the lack of accessible, inclusive activities for BVI individuals across O‘ahu. Many BVI residents experience isolation due to limited mobility and opportunities for connection. Our request focuses on empowering BVI individuals by fostering independence, confidence, and community belonging through adaptive programs.

Goals:

1. **Enhanced Confidence:** Encourage independence through structured outdoor experiences.
2. **Reduced Isolation:** Strengthen social bonds through consistent, inclusive events.
3. **Community Engagement:** Promote awareness and reduce stigma related to vision loss.
4. **Economic Empowerment:** Improve physical and mental well-being to support vocational growth.

Objectives:

- Host 12+ events annually, plus several Blind Side pop-up events and the TVA Run Club.
- Conduct accessibility research to expand inter-island services.
- Measure outcomes through surveys and participant feedback to track confidence, connections, and well-being.

TVA’s initiatives directly address a critical need for free, inclusive programming that strengthens community ties, boosts participant confidence, and promotes well-being. This grant will enable us to expand our reach, ensuring that BVI individuals across O‘ahu have the resources and opportunities they deserve.

3. The public purpose and need to be served;

The BVI community of O‘ahu faces profound challenges that impact their independence, social connection, and overall well-being. With over 17,700 BVI individuals on O‘ahu and over 25,000 statewide, the need for adaptive, community-based services is critical. Vision loss often triggers withdrawal and isolation, with many individuals spending years at home before connecting with service providers, as noted by Ho‘opono Services for the Blind. This isolation can have devastating effects on mental and emotional health. Studies by Rokach et al. (2021) confirm this, finding that BVI individuals experience significantly higher levels of loneliness, depression, and anxiety due to limited social support and reduced access to enriching activities.

Our 2022 survey of O‘ahu’s BVI community members revealed that 92% of respondents desired more opportunities for social connection, but cited financial constraints, safety concerns, and transportation barriers as key obstacles. Economic disparities compound the issue—households with a working-age BVI member in Hawai‘i earn an average of \$30,000 less annually than other households. Additionally, of the 17,700 BVI individuals on O‘ahu, 1,500 receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and 4,400 households live in poverty according to the 2022 Cornell University Disability Statistics. Without free, accessible programming, many BVI individuals

remain unable to participate in life-enriching activities that could bolster their health, resilience, and sense of community.

TVA addresses these challenges by providing free, adaptive programs that foster confidence, connection, and resilience. Our services extend beyond recreation to include activities that promote physical health, social engagement, personal enrichment and education. By offering tailored experiences such as tactile historical site visits, sensory cultural workshops, and guided recreational outings, TVA empowers participants to engage meaningfully in their communities, reducing isolation and improving their overall quality of life.

4. Describe the target population to be served; and

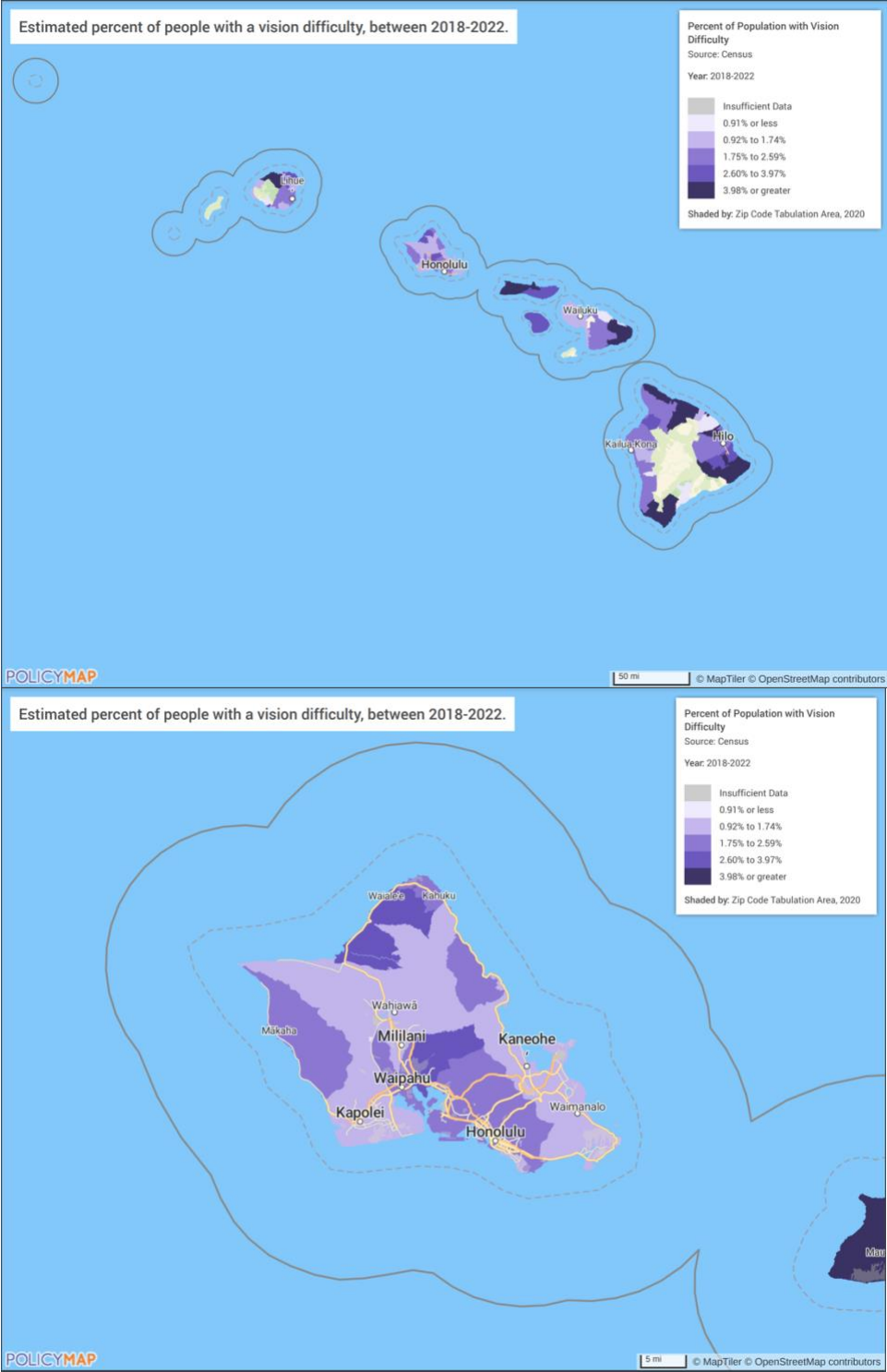
TVA serves BVI individuals of all ages, regardless of economic background or physical ability. Our target population includes keiki, adults, and kūpuna, with a focus on individuals facing systemic barriers to participation, such as financial hardship and limited mobility. The need for these services is particularly pronounced in Hawai'i, where economic hardship intersects with physical inaccessibility. Many BVI individuals rely on limited financial resources, and transportation remains a significant obstacle to participation. By providing free, inclusive events, TVA ensures that individuals can experience life-enriching activities without the burden of financial constraint.

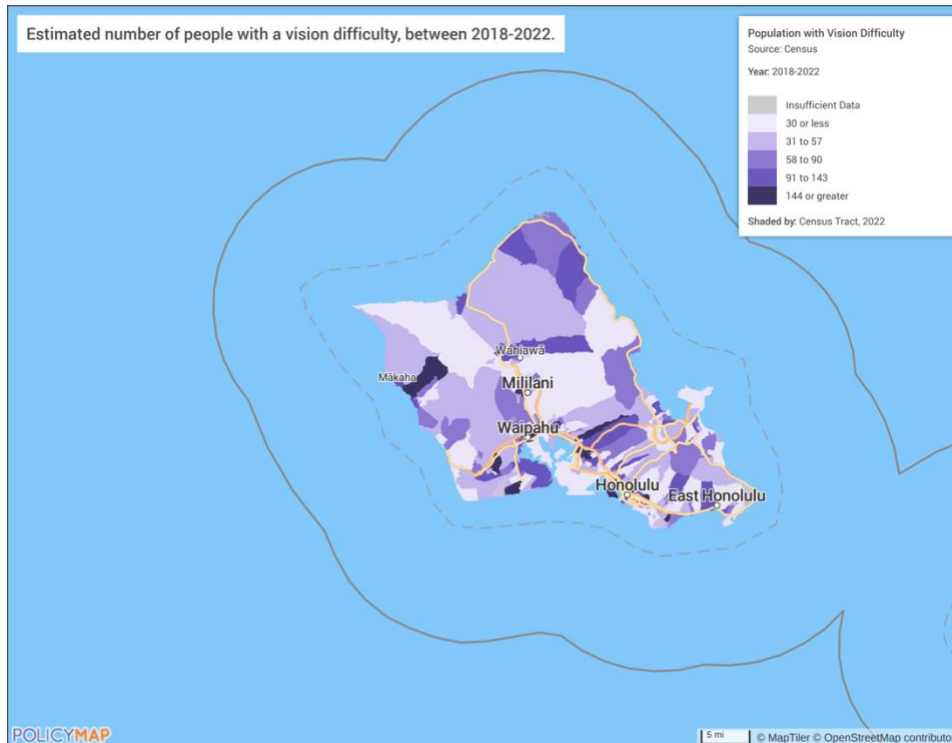
In addition to fostering inclusion and community connection, TVA's programs address the health disparities prevalent within the BVI population. Only 22% of BVI individuals meet the recommended physical activity guidelines, compared to 50% of the general population (Caputo et al., 2022). Through adaptive programming that encourages physical activity and provides emotional support, TVA helps participants build confidence, strengthen social ties, and foster independence. Our safe, inclusive spaces allow BVI individuals and their sighted peers to engage in meaningful activities that promote resilience and well-being.

5. Describe the Geographic Coverage

TVA primarily serves the island of O'ahu, focusing on both urban and rural communities. Our current reach spans communities from Honolulu to the North Shore, with particular emphasis on underserved areas where access to adaptive services is limited. With additional funding, TVA aims to expand programming to neighboring islands such as Maui and Kaua'i, ensuring that BVI individuals statewide have access to life-enhancing services regardless of their geographic location.

The below three maps are compliments of the Hawai'i Broadband Hui group and Ho'opono Services for the Blind. The first shows the prevalence of BVI individuals statewide as a percentage of households within each census district that reported at least one individual having a visual impairment. The second is O'ahu only as a percentage of households. The third is raw number of households in each census district. 2022 is the most recent census data available.





We aim to support as many of these individuals as possible, starting on O‘ahu and moving statewide when funding allows.

III. Service Summary and Outcomes

1. Describe the scope of work, task and responsibilities.

Imagine suddenly losing your vision. The world shifts—your phone becomes inaccessible, walking down the street feels daunting, and daily tasks fill you with overwhelming anxiety. This is my story. Two years ago, I felt lost and isolated, trying to navigate life on O‘ahu with vision loss. Determined to find connection, I reached out to every organization I could find, only to discover the resources I needed simply weren’t there. It was then I realized something had to change, not just for me but for others facing the same challenges. This realization led me to create TVA as a bridge to connection, support, and empowerment for O‘ahu’s BVI community.

The need for connection is echoed by participants at each TVA event. One attendee shared, “I didn’t even know these opportunities existed.” Others thank us for providing braille materials or accessibility features, and our impact doesn’t stop there. Establishments we visit receive braille brochures, signage, and audio guides, encouraging wider accessibility across the island. Event Lead Bryson Amaral, who is legally blind, reached out early on, saying, “I want to help you help people like us,” underscoring TVA’s role in fostering connection and empowerment within the BVI community.

TVA’s Grant Activity is delivering monthly, fully accessible social events for BVI individuals. Each activity fosters confidence, physical health, and social connection through adaptive resources like braille materials and audio guides. These events are supported by trained sighted

volunteers who provide 1:1 guidance, ensuring every participant can fully engage. These Grant Activities shall include:

- Provide 1 each Hosted and non-Hosted Event per month;
- Provide travel, food, and trained volunteers such that participation is free and fully accessible;
- Ongoing outreach activities, that include but are not limited to:
 - Monthly newsletter;
 - Meeting with partner organizations to recruit participants and volunteers as well as secure donations;
 - Board Members shall join partner organizations in their outreach events, at least quarterly;
 - Media appearances by TVA Staff as available;
 - Travel to 2 state and 2 national consumer group conventions for at least 1 TVA Board Member per convention;
- Accessibility (braille and audio) upgrades for event venues as necessary for BVI participation;
- 6 annual volunteer training sessions;
- Minimum of 2 notices per event;
- One survey per event, plus one large annual survey;

Definitions:

- Hosted event – structured activity or gathering of BVI individuals accompanied by trained volunteers; integrated with the general public, organized and scheduled by TVA.
- Un-Hosted event – community event, not organized by TVA, but with BVI participation enabled by TVA.
- Trained Volunteers – sighted individuals who are taught how to support BVI individuals while maximizing independence.

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

In the grant period, TVA shall host events with between 20 and 40 BVI participants per event and at least 1 trained volunteer per BVI participant. By the end of the grant period, TVA aims to increase attendance to an average of over 25 BVI attendees per event for a total of at least 150 unique BVI individuals.

Each month within the grant period, the following activities will be completed, and these lead into the next month's event, becoming a cycle of activity. Therefore, our timeline includes these events being repeated 12 times.

1. Event Attendance and Participant Engagement

TVA sends a minimum of 2 notifications to our contact list, and pre-registration of attendees enables guide assignment and sets the costs for food and travel. TVA will grow to an average of over 25 participants per event.

2. Survey Implementation and Feedback

In July 2026, TVA will survey all past participants, aiming for 50% reporting increased confidence in exploring new activities. This feedback, compared to 2022 data, will gauge TVA's impact on reducing isolation among socially and economically disadvantaged populations.

3. Post-Event Participant and Volunteer Feedback

TVA will send a survey to all participants and volunteers after each event and use data to refine programs. During the grant period, TVA will endeavor to maintain our current 100% positive feedback results and meet community needs.

4. Sighted Guide Volunteer Training and Evaluation

TVA has trained 130 volunteers in human guide techniques to date, aiming for 240 by the grant's end. Volunteer effectiveness is regularly assessed through feedback on their support of BVI participants, raising public awareness of accessibility needs within the community.

5. Annual Analysis and Program Adjustment

Each August, TVA analyzes survey results, volunteer feedback, and participant data to refine programs. Findings from the July 2026 survey will be compared against the 2025 plan, and used to create the 2027 program, aligning it with participant needs for confidence, social connections, and resilience.

The below month-by-month timeline outlines TVA's approach to growth, engagement, and program evaluation within the grant period.

Month 0 – Pre-Grant Participant Survey. TVA will conduct a survey prior to beginning grant activities to establish baseline levels of confidence, social connection, and engagement. This data will serve as a foundation for measuring TVA's impact.

NFB / ACB National Conventions. NFB and ACB National Conventions TVA will send team members to both conventions, supported by Ho'opono Services for the Blind, to engage nationally with BVI individuals and gain insights for program enhancement.

Month 1 – Launch of Grant-Funded Activities TVA begins the grant period with accessible events for O'ahu's BVI community. Pre-registration enables TVA to assign trained guides, ensuring an inclusive experience. This activity repeats monthly as noted above.

Month 2 – Monthly Feedback Collection Begins. TVA collects detailed feedback after each event to monitor satisfaction and volunteer effectiveness. Monthly surveys will assess engagement, confidence, and connection. This activity repeats monthly as noted above.

Months 2-3 – Annual Participant Survey and Analysis. TVA will survey all participants, capturing self-reported growth in confidence, social connection, and independence, guiding TVA's next programming cycle.

Month 5 – National Federation of the Blind (NFB) State Convention. TVA will attend and secure a vendor booth at the NFB Hawai'i State Convention, connecting with BVI members statewide to promote our mission, encourage participation, and strengthen local ties.

Month 9 – Hawaii Association of the Blind (HAB) State Convention. TVA will attend the HAB State Convention, American Council of the Blind's (ACB) local affiliate, engaging local and statewide BVI attendees.

Month 10 – Volunteer Training Expansion. TVA intensifies recruitment and training efforts to reach 200 trained volunteers by the grant’s end. Training emphasizes human guide techniques for safe, accessible experiences.

Month 12 – Training and Participant Growth Completion. By the grant’s end, TVA expects to achieve 30 BVI participants per event and 200 trained volunteers, supporting sustained impact.

This timeline reflects TVA’s structured growth, engagement, and adaptability, ensuring a lasting impact for O‘ahu’s BVI community.

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

Our primary tool for evaluation is a survey we email to all participants at every event’s end as noted in question #4 below we use this survey to inform the next month's activities as well as to guide how we train our staff below we have presented the survey as we are currently using it but do note that we are likely to amend the survey throughout the grant period to better serve our participants.

TVA post Event Participant Exit Survey

Please take the time to give us feedback on our event. Your input is invaluable to us as we will be striving to always improve.

- 1. Your feedback is vital in helping us continue to provide free, impactful events for the blind and visually impaired community. How important do you feel it is to offer programs like this at no cost to participants?**
 - a. Extremely Important
 - b. Somewhat Important
 - c. Neutral
 - d. Somewhat Not Important
 - e. Extremely Not Important
- 2. How enjoyable was the event?**
 - a. Rankings, 1-5 stars
- 3. Would you recommend our program to family and friends?**
 - a. Yes/No
- 4. How would you rate the effectiveness or comfort level of your human guide?**
 - a. Scale, 1-5, 5 being the highest
- 5. Do you have any suggestions for our Human Guides?**
 - a. Comment box, long answer
- 6. Do you have any suggestions for our organization for improvements/suggestions for future events?**
 - a. Comment box, long answer

If participants wish they can click through to our Baseline Community Feedback survey which we use to monitor progress in participants confidence and comfort with new activities, social connection and community engagement, and resilience and independence.

TVA Baseline Community Feedback Survey

Thank you for participating in our baseline survey! We're looking to understand current confidence, social connection, and comfort with new activities within the blind and visually impaired (BVI) community on O'ahu. Your feedback helps guide the work we do and allows us to track progress in the coming years. This survey should take about 5-10 minutes to complete. Your responses are confidential and greatly appreciated.

Section 1: Background Information

1. **Have you ever attended a TVA (Travel Visions Aloha for the Blind) event?**
 - Yes
 - No
2. **If yes, how many TVA events have you attended?**
 - 1–2 events
 - 3–5 events
 - More than 5 events
 - Not applicable (I have not attended a TVA event)
3. **What is your age range?**
 - Under 18
 - 18 – 29
 - 30 – 49
 - 50 – 64
 - 65 and over

Section 2: Confidence and Comfort with New Activities

4. **How confident are you in trying new activities within a structured, supportive group setting?**
 - 1 (Not confident at all)
 - 2
 - 3 (Somewhat confident)
 - 4
 - 5 (Very confident)
5. **How confident are you in trying new activities independently, outside of a group setting?**
 - 1 (Not confident at all)
 - 2
 - 3 (Somewhat confident)
 - 4
 - 5 (Very confident)
6. **How comfortable are you with the idea of joining new activities specifically designed for the BVI community?**
 - 1 (Not comfortable at all)
 - 2
 - 3 (Somewhat comfortable)
 - 4

- 5 (Very comfortable)

Section 3: Social Connection and Community Engagement

7. **How would you describe your current level of social connection?**
- 1 (Very isolated)
 - 2
 - 3 (Somewhat connected)
 - 4
 - 5 (Very connected)
8. **How often do you participate in group activities or events within the BVI community?**
- Regularly (Monthly or more)
 - Occasionally (Every few months)
 - Rarely (Once or twice a year)
 - Never
9. **How comfortable do you feel meeting new people within the BVI community?**
- 1 (Not comfortable at all)
 - 2
 - 3 (Somewhat comfortable)
 - 4
 - 5 (Very comfortable)

Section 4: Resilience and Independence

10. **How resilient do you feel in overcoming everyday challenges related to vision loss?**
- 1 (Not resilient at all)
 - 2
 - 3 (Somewhat resilient)
 - 4
 - 5 (Very resilient)
11. **How independent do you feel in managing daily activities?**
- 1 (Not independent at all)
 - 2
 - 3 (Somewhat independent)
 - 4
 - 5 (Very independent)
12. **To what extent do you feel participating in community events or activities could help you increase your resilience and independence?**
- 1 (Not at all)
 - 2
 - 3 (Somewhat)
 - 4
 - 5 (Very much)

Note: in addition, we have a post-exit volunteer survey for each event to continuously grow and improve our volunteer trainings and event offerings, to invite feedback from volunteers as well. The questions are below and can be modified to fit each event, as needed, as is the participant exit survey.

TVA Post Event Volunteer Exit Survey

Please take the time to give us feedback on our event. Your input is invaluable to us as we will be striving to always improve.

1. Name

- a. Name (Optional)

2. Please rate the event

- a. Scale 1-5 stars, 5 being the highest.

3. Would you be interested in repeating this event at a later date?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Maybe

4. on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 as uncomfortable and 5 as very comfortable, please rate your comfort level as a guide in today's event.

5. On a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 as not useful to 5 being very useful, please rate the value of our human guide video.

6. Would you make any changes/additions to our human guide video?

- a. Comment box, long answer.

7. Would you consider joining us at a future event as a guide? Why or why not?

- a. Comment box, long answer.

8. Any additional feedback is much appreciated.

- a. Comment box, long answer.

4. List the measures of effectiveness that will be reported to the state agency through which grant funds are appropriated. The measures 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 measures of effectiveness need to be updated and transmitted to the expending agency.

TVA's goal is to directly benefit 20-40 BVI residents of O'ahu per event, impacting approximately 1,640 individuals annually. As the only organization dedicated exclusively to free,

accessible activities for the BVI community, TVA aligns with GIA's mission to uplift economically and socially disadvantaged populations. Our four measurable outcomes are:

1. Enhanced Confidence in BVI Individuals:

Newly blind individuals often become isolated, with many remaining homebound for years, limiting their physical and mental well-being. TVA's events provide a safe, supportive environment where participants can explore new experiences and gain independence. This boost in self-assurance and resilience helps participants reconnect with their community, overcoming social and professional barriers.

2. Reduced Loneliness and Isolation:

Social isolation and loneliness are common among BVI individuals, impacting mental health. TVA bridges social and economic gaps through regular, inclusive activities. Our events foster a welcoming environment where participants bond, share stories, and build relationships. This reduces isolation, reinforces social skills, and cultivates a resilient, connected BVI community.

3. Positive Family and Community Ripple Effects:

TVA's benefits extend beyond participants, positively influencing family dynamics and community interaction. As individuals grow in confidence and social engagement, these transformations inspire hope and reduce stigma around vision loss. Increased visibility and engagement foster a more inclusive society.

4. Economic Empowerment Through Confidence and Social Connections:

TVA prepares participants with the confidence and skills to pursue vocational opportunities, aligning with GIA's goal of economic improvement. Studies show that those with better health are more likely to secure employment post-vision loss, and TVA's activities enhance physical and mental well-being, laying a foundation for participants' economic empowerment and development.

Measurement of Outcomes:

We measure these outcomes through participant surveys and attendance tracking, assessing growth in confidence, social connections, and overall well-being. Survey data and attendance metrics guide TVA in refining services for maximum impact.

In conclusion, TVA's approach addresses the BVI community's physical, social, and economic needs. Our outcomes—enhanced confidence, reduced isolation, strengthened community bonds, and economic empowerment—create lasting change for O'ahu's BVI community, aligning with GIA's goal of fostering resilience and opportunity.

IV. Financial Budget 1.


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

BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: Travel Visions Aloha

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	53,000	0	18,750	0
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments	5,856.50	0	2,072	0
3. Fringe Benefits	0	0	0	0
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	58,856.50	0	20,822	0
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Airfare, Inter-Island	0	0	0	0
2. Insurance	2,400	0	0	0
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment	0	0	0	0
4. Lease/Rental of Space	0	0	0	0
5. Staff Training	0	0	2,288	0
6. Supplies	100	0	2,250	0
7. Telecommunication	450	0	1,350	0
8. Utilities	0	0	0	0
9. Travel	1,050	0	4,856	0
10. Asset Depreciation	277	0	830	0
11. Event Activities	15,000	0	68,193	0
12. Contracted Services (website)	5,000	0	1,500	0
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	24,277		81,267	
C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES				
D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES				
E. CAPITAL				
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	83,134		102,089	
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	83,134	Marti Murdoch 808.343.8913		
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested	0	Name (Please type or print) Phone		
(c) Total County Funds Requested	102,089	 01/16/2025		
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested	0	Signature of Authorized Official Date		
TOTAL BUDGET	185,223	Marti Murdoch, Founder & President Name and Title (Please type or print)		

b. Personnel salaries and wages

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - PERSONNEL SALARIES AND WAGES

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: Travel Visions Aloha

POSITION TITLE		FULL TIME EQUIVALENT	ANNUAL SALARY A	% OF TIME ALLOCATED TO GRANT REQUEST B	TOTAL STATE FUNDS REQUESTED (A x B)
Founder/President		1	\$58,856.50	100.00%	\$ 58,856.50
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
TOTAL:					58,856.50

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS: July, August, September, 2025 will be 100% on this grant. Oct-June 2026 will be %75 on this grant 25% County GIA, if and only if the county GIA is awarded.

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Application for Grants

c. Equipment and motor vehicles

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: Travel Visions Aloha

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:				

d. Capital project details

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS
Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: Travel Visions Aloha

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						

e. Government contracts, grants, and grants in aid

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID

Applicant: Travel Visions Aloha

Contracts Total: 50,000

	CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)	CONTRACT VALUE
1	County GIA -- Pending, not approved	Oct 1 2025- Sept. 2026	County of Honolulu	Honolulu	50,000
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
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15					
16					
17					
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23					
24					
25					
26					
27					
28					
29					
30		10			Application for Grants

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
\$26,634	\$26,000	15,000	\$15,000	\$83,134

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

- On our budget request by source of funds above, we included the County Grant-in-Aid request but at this time the County has not decided if it is approving. We have no known other grants that apply during the period covered by the State Grant in Aid. If this changes, we will notify the State.
- Beyond grants, we are pursuing sponsorships and partnerships with brands and organizations that align with our mission to foster empowerment and inclusivity.
- Our founder will continue to participate in marathons and adaptive sports, such as outrigger paddling and surfing, to raise awareness and host fundraising events that support TVA's growth and community impact.

- 5. 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.**
 - Not Applicable.
- 6. 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. 6. The applicant shall provide the balance of its unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2024.**
 - Not Applicable.

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.

TVA opened in February 2024 to empower the BVI community through free, adaptive programs that foster confidence, connection, and independence. Since its inception, TVA has hosted over 11 accessible events, ranging from sensory nature walks and tactile cultural workshops to guided recreational outings that reduce isolation, promote well-being, and foster lasting connections. Participants often share the transformative impact, with one saying, “I didn’t even know these opportunities existed,” and another reflecting, “TVA has helped me feel part of a community for the first time in years.”

TVA’s success is built on strong leadership and a dedicated team. As the founder and president, I have volunteered my time to oversee every aspect of TVA’s development—from program design and partnership-building to event management and community outreach. This level of leadership is essential for ensuring TVA’s programs continue to grow and remain impactful. With the support of Bryson Amaral, our Event Lead, who ensures all activities are safe, inclusive, and well-organized, and Kaili Kameoka, our Webmaster, who manages our accessible digital platforms, TVA’s reach continues to expand. Brandon Young, our secretary, supports operations and advocacy, while Onkar Nerurkar, our IT Director, ensures our digital tools remain effective and accessible. Volunteers, who undergo a three-step training process—including written instructions, videos, and in-person practice—are also vital to our events, providing safe and effective guidance for participants. Together, we ensure each event fosters belonging and empowerment. We understand the community we serve because we *are* the community—all team members are BVI individuals ourselves, involved with local nonprofits and their national affiliates.

As TVA grows, driven by increasing demand, we remain committed to shaping our programs through direct community input. This ensures our offerings continue to foster connection, confidence, and empowerment for those we serve. To meet rising needs, we are actively pursuing additional sponsorships, peer-led fundraising campaigns, and long-term donor partnerships to ensure we can sustain and expand our impact.

Our 2024 program impact launch included:

- 11 successful events hosted at various public spaces on the island.
- TVA has served 87 unique BVI participants and trained 130 tracked sighted volunteers
- Presented 6 new volunteer training courses for new and advanced BVI participants and volunteers.

Outreach includes over 6 appearances on local Hawai'i TV, radio and print media in 2024 alone, presentations at two Rotary clubs, Ho'opono Services for the Blind both the older/hui kupuna group and the New Visions training program, 77th Saint Louis Crusaders Composite Squadron. We spoke at every NFB, Honolulu chapter and HAB meetings. Two board members attended the NFB and ACB national conventions in person, gaining valuable networking connections. Our partnerships continue to grow the further we integrate ourselves into the disabled and nonprofit sectors, with Pure Light Racing, Access Surf, Access to Independence, Assistive Technology Resource Center, The Library for the Blind and Print Disabled, Makapo Aquatics, Achilles International and United In Stride all sharing resources, promoting TVA and collaborating for joint causes.

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.

This section is **not applicable** to us because all our events occur in public venues, including but not limited to Botanical Gardens, beaches, state parks, theaters, restaurants, farms, etc. These sites are fully accessible to the public and therefore our program participants. We have no plans to secure facilities in the future.

VI. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

1. Necessary Skills and Experience

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.

Qualified Leadership Team:

TVA exemplifies its capacity to achieve meaningful outcomes through dedicated leadership, strategic growth, and deep community ties. What sets TVA apart is that our leadership team doesn't just serve the BVI community—we *are* the community. As individuals who are blind or visually impaired, TVA's leaders bring firsthand experience and diverse expertise, ensuring that TVA's programs not only address the unique needs of the BVI community on O'ahu but also foster empowerment, connection, and inclusivity.

Although TVA's leadership team primarily volunteers their time, Marri Murdoch's role as Founder and President is included as a salaried position in this request, reflecting the essential time and expertise required to sustain and expand TVA's impact. Our Webmaster, Kaili Kameoka, serves as a contractor to ensure our digital platforms remain accessible and effective, while all other team members contribute as volunteers.

Each leader contributes distinct strengths—from advocacy and program development to communication and outreach—creating a cohesive and resilient team that drives TVA's mission forward. As active members of national nonprofits and their local affiliates, such as the National Federation of the Blind, the Hawaii Association of the Blind, and Guide Dogs of Hawaii, TVA's leadership remains connected to broader advocacy efforts, aligning the organization with best practices and current issues. This combination of lived experience and professional dedication strengthens TVA's ability to create meaningful, life-changing opportunities for the BVI community.

Marri Murdoch – Founder and President

Marri Murdoch's leadership as the founder and president of TVA has driven the organization's rapid growth and impact. With a B.A. in Mass Communication and extensive experience as an empowerment advocate, adaptive athlete, public speaker, and former business owner, Marri has transformed TVA into a beacon of empowerment and connection for the BVI community. Her commitment to accessibility and independence, combined with her expertise in program development and outreach, has earned her local, national, and international recognition through media appearances on television, radio, blind-focused podcasts, and global interviews. As an adaptive athlete, she has competed in marathons and international paddling events, using these platforms to showcase the resilience of the BVI community and amplify TVA's mission. A dedicated Rotarian, Marri continues to strengthen TVA's partnerships and broaden its outreach, ensuring the organization illuminates the world for the BVI community on O'ahu and beyond.

Brandon Young – Secretary

Brandon Young serves as the Secretary of TVA, contributing his extensive background in advocacy and disability services to the organization's growth and operations. With a B.A. in Political Science, a Graduate Certificate in Diversity and Disability Studies from University of Hawaii at Manoa, and a Masters Degree in Psychology and Vocational Rehabilitation from The George Washington University in progress; Brandon has been a dedicated leader in the BVI community for over a decade. His leadership in organizations such as the NFB informs his commitment to fostering inclusivity and empowerment. In his role as Secretary, Brandon ensures accurate record-keeping and provides essential support to TVA's leadership while strengthening community partnerships and advocacy efforts.

Onkar Nerurkar – IT Director

Onkar Nerurkar serves as the IT Director for TVA, bringing over a decade of experience in IT, web development, and assistive technology. With a Master's in IT and expertise from roles at Amazon Web Services (AWS) and Guide Dogs of Hawaii, Onkar ensures TVA's digital infrastructure is reliable, secure, and accessible. He supports livestreamed events and ensures

compliance with data privacy regulations. His commitment to innovation and mentorship strengthens TVA's ability to foster meaningful connections and deliver exceptional programs.

Bryson Amaral – Event Lead

Bryson Amaral serves as the Event Lead for TVA, bringing exceptional leadership, organizational expertise, and a deep commitment to community service. A retired U.S. Army veteran with 18 years of service in the Hawai'i Army National Guard, Bryson has honed skills in emergency management, event coordination, and volunteer training. He holds a B.A. in Public Administration with a concentration in Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management and has extensive experience leading teams and managing logistics. At TVA, Bryson oversees event planning and execution, ensuring that programs are safe, accessible, and engaging for all participants. His dedication to fostering connection and empowerment makes him an invaluable leader in delivering TVA's mission.

Kaili Kameoka – Webmaster and Digital Media Coordinator

Kaili Kameoka serves as the Webmaster and Digital Media Coordinator for TVA, leveraging her expertise in web development, content creation, and accessible design. With over six years of experience as a Web Administrator for Guide Dogs of Hawai'i and a strong background in digital communications, Kaili ensures TVA's website and online presence are engaging and inclusive. She manages the website, prepares multimedia content, and oversees TVA's social media engagement to amplify the organization's mission. Kaili's dedication to accessibility and connection plays a key role in expanding TVA's reach and fostering a sense of community for BVI individuals on O'ahu.

Volunteers

TVA's volunteer training reflects its expertise in blindness education and adaptive support, ensuring volunteers are well-prepared to assist BVI participants. The three-step process includes:

1. **Written Manual** – Covers blindness etiquette, communication methods, and safety protocols.
2. **Human Guide Training Video** – Demonstrates guiding techniques and real-life scenarios. This can be found on [TVA's YouTube](#):

https://youtu.be/xMxwbQMh_yg?si=IOanyRzRlgwDj7Af

3. **Virtual and On-Site Training** – Provides hands-on experience tailored to each event and participant, offering real-world insight into adaptive support.

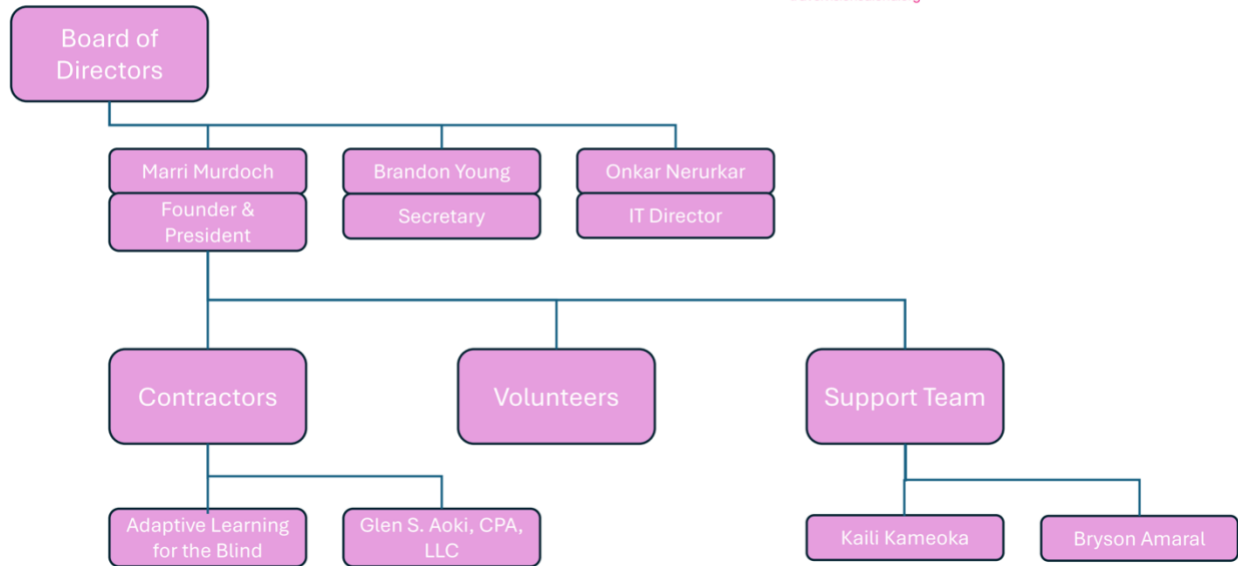
Led by experienced advocates and educators, this training empowers volunteers to build confidence, break down stigmas, and foster meaningful connections, aligning with TVA's mission of empowerment and independence.

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.



*Travel Visions Aloha
for the Blind*



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.

1. **Founder/President**-- \$53,000 salary + \$5,856.50 in payroll fees.

Note: TVA has applied for the County of Honolulu Grant-in-Aid (GIA), covering October 2025 to September 2026. However, since the State GIA period begins earlier (July to September 2025), there are three months when only the State GIA applies and nine months of potential overlap. To avoid double-dipping, our request reflects 100% of our need during the exclusive period and 75% State, 25% County during the overlap. If both grants are awarded, the total compensation requested from each source will be accurate to our grant request and never exceed our budgeted need.

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.

- TVA Affirms that we have no pending litigation.

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.

- TVA affirms that none of our positions require any licensure or accreditation, nor does our organization itself in its field of activity.

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.

- TVA affirms that none of our activities will be used to support or benefit any private educational institution.

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.

As a BVI-led organization, TVA understands the needs of the community we serve and is well-prepared to sustain and expand our plan effectively:

1. **Staffing:** TVA's Board and team bring expertise and strategic guidance rooted in BVI experience. With new volunteers and roles, we ensure professional development and recruit for specialized skills, building a resilient team.
2. **Funding:** Beyond this grant, TVA diversifies funding through grants, donor relationships, and sponsorships. Transparent financial practices and proven impact enhance our appeal, strengthening long-term financial stability.
3. **Community Support:** Strong ties with local businesses, organizations, and stakeholders enhance our financial base and provide in-kind support, positioning TVA as a key community resource.
4. **Volunteer Network:** TVA's volunteer base has expanded since becoming operational, with recruitment and training tailored to BVI needs, essential for program scalability and community engagement.
5. **Strategic Partnerships:** Collaborations with BVI groups, Access Surf, Pure Light Racing, ATRC, and other organizations amplify TVA's reach and enrich program delivery.
6. **Capacity Building:** TVA is prepared to expand statewide, aligning with Act 253 SLH 2023's Neighbor Islands Pilot Program. Ties with Ho'opono Services enable us to integrate into statewide offerings.
7. **Technology Integration:** Leveraging technology for operational efficiency and virtual engagement broadens TVA's reach and supports efficient service delivery.
8. **Empowering BVI Individuals:** TVA empowers BVI members through leadership and skill-building, creating a sustainable model driven by those we serve.

With dedicated staffing, diverse funding, strong partnerships, volunteer development, and empowerment initiatives, TVA is well-equipped to sustain and expand its impact on the BVI community beyond the grant period.

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