

Application Submittal Checklist

The following items are required for submittal of the grant application. Please verify and check off that the items have been included in the application packet.

- ☒ 1) Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate (If the Applicant is an Organization)
- ☒ 2) Declaration Statement
- ☒ 3) Verify that grant shall be used for a public purpose
- ☒ 4) Background and Summary
- ☒ 5) Service Summary and Outcomes
- ☒ 6) Budget
 - a) Budget request by source of funds ([Link](#))
 - b) Personnel salaries and wages ([Link](#))
 - c) Equipment and motor vehicles ([Link](#))
 - d) Capital project details ([Link](#))
 - e) Government contracts, grants, and grants in aid ([Link](#))
- ☒ 7) Experience and Capability
- ☒ 8) Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing



AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

GALE BRACEROS, EXECUTIVE DIR.

PRINT NAME AND TITLE

1/17/25

DATE

**THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
APPLICATION FOR GRANTS
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES**

Type of Grant Request:



Operating



Capital

Legal Name of Requesting Organization or Individual: Db a:

Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc.

Amount of State Funds Requested: \$ 400,000.00

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

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

Amount of Other Funds Available:

State: \$ _____

Federal: \$ _____

County: \$ _____

Private/Other: \$ _____

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

\$ 754,900.00

Unrestricted Assets:

\$ 55,890.00

New Service (Presently Does Not Exist): ☐

Existing Service (Presently in Operation): ☒

Type of Business Entity:



501(C)(3) Non Profit Corporation



Other Non Profit



Other

Mailing Address:

91-884 Ft Weaver Rd Suite A

City:

Ewa Beach

State:

HI

Zip:

96706

Contact Person for Matters Involving this Application

Name:

Gale Bracer os

Title:

Executive Director

Email:

galeb@weedandseedhi.org

Phone:

808-232-6437


Authorized Signature

Gale Bracer os, Executive Director

Name and Title

1/17/25

Date Signed



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF VENDOR COMPLIANCE

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

Vendor Name: WEED & SEED HAWAII, INC.

Issue Date: 01/13/2025

Status: **Compliant**

Hawaii Tax#: 15881946-88
New Hawaii Tax#: GE-1598294688-01
FEIN/SSN#: XX-XXX0982
UI#: XXXXXX5735
DCCA FILE#: 240563

Status of Compliance for this Vendor on issue date:

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

Status Legend:

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

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

The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies the following:

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

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

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

Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)

(Signature) 

1/17/25

(Date)

Gale Bracer

(Typed Name)

Executive Director

(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 Application Page 3.

2. Declaration Statement

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

See Application Page 4.

3. Public Purpose

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

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

II. Background and Summary

1. A brief description of the applicant's background

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

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

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

2. The goals and objectives related to the request

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

The Weed and Seed Hawaii Project has three objectives:

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

The "weeding" and "seeding" components work hand in hand in reducing crime in targeted areas. We rely on our partner the Honolulu Police Department to "weed out" and enforce the laws. Weed and Seed Hawaii then focuses on the "seeding" through the implementation of prevention strategies and programs aimed at educating the greater public and reducing criminal elements.

3. The public purpose and need to be served

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

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

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

Crime causes economic and social costs for those victimized and the communities they live and work in. Authorities spend millions of dollars each year on the prevention of crime and the detection, prosecution and punishment of criminals. In FY 2024, the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) spent over \$352 million fighting crime on O'ahu despite struggling to fill its vacancies.

The Weed and Seed Hawaii Project will work in designated geographical areas with a history of high levels of crime, drug use, violence and severe economic deterioration. *Our goal is to address these risk factors by increasing the protective factors in the community.*

Preventing crime is a shared responsibility and we recognize that HPD cannot do it alone. The *Presidents Task Force on 21st Century Community Policing* emphasized that "personal interactions between police officers and community members build mutual trust, which is essential to addressing neighborhood problems and reducing crime." (2015) Crime prevention requires the efforts of law enforcement agencies, service providers, institutions (such as schools), families, and individuals to address the root cause of delinquency and crime.

The Weed and Seed Hawaii Project is unique in that despite being a not-for-profit, our partnership with HPD and other law enforcement entities puts us in a place of really being able to affect change. Weed and Seed Hawaii has helped to bridge law enforcement with the community so that they can continue to "weed" crime. Weed and Seed Hawaii Project will continue to lead the effort in "seeding" in these respective communities.

The success Weed and Seed Hawaii has enjoyed is due to the strong relationships and longevity we've had in the communities we serve.

4. Describe the target population to be served

The communities targeted by this Project are the 3 "graduated" Weed and Seed Hawaii sites in the City & County Honolulu:

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

On O'ahu, these are the only communities that earned the Weed and Seed designation after successfully demonstrating to the Federal government that they could and were willing to work together for the benefit of the community. These 3 Weed and Seed Hawai'i sites benefit from "brand name recognition," known both to criminals, residents, partnering social service agencies and potential funders. These 3 sites have also

established fiscal and in-kind support within the communities they serve as well as across the State.

The Weed and Seed Hawai'i Project will serve low to moderate income residents in the targeted communities with emphasis on reaching out to the most vulnerable populations including but not limited to, the ***homeless, special needs population, senior citizens, English Second Language families*** and ***youth***.

5. Describe the geographic coverage

The Weed and Seed Hawai'i Project will take place in Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach communities, which are part of 8 State Senate districts, 10 State House districts, 6 City Council districts, and 4 out of 8 Honolulu Police Department districts. Each Weed and Seed Hawai'i site works closely with a team of Community Policing officers from Districts 1, 3, 5 and 8. These police districts also report the highest number of incidences according to the Honolulu Police Department Annual Reports from 2016-2023.

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

III. Service Summary and Outcomes

1. Describe the scope of work, tasks and responsibilities

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

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

Providing opportunities for healthy recreational activities help in the positive consumption of individuals' energy and in effect, can help deter them from engaging in crime. Having positive adult role models also help youth reach their potential. All keiki

deserve a safe place to grow and thrive. Through PIT programs and activities, not only will youth be strengthened but other stakeholders as well.

Social and economic factors, such as income, education, employment, community safety, and social supports can play a significant role in how well and how long we live. Through NR efforts, we will focus on improving the economic and social conditions of the community through skill-building, career education, coalition building and clean up projects.

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

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

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

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

Citizen Patrol/NSW

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

Shall provide 50 Citizen Patrol/NSW activities. 500 duplicated participants shall participate in the citizen patrol/NSW activities. At the end of the grant period, 75% of participants surveyed shall report that they feel like they are contributing to making their community safer.

Sign Waving

Sign Waving activities held at various locations with dates and times based on the availability of HPD. Schools, businesses, residents, etc. partner to conduct sign waving events. Sign waving helps to bring awareness to the broader

community around Safe Driving, Pedestrian Safety, and other topics such as Domestic Violence, Youth Underage Drinking or Being Drug Free. These activities encourage community participation and help to prevent crime.

Shall provide 15 sign waving activities. 150 duplicated participants shall participate in the sign waving activities. At the end of the grant period, 75% of participants surveyed shall report that they feel like they are contributing to making their community safer.

Safety Presentations

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

Shall provide 15 safety presentation activities. 150 duplicated participants shall participate in the safety presentation activities. At the end of the grant period, 75% of participants surveyed shall report that they learned something new and valuable that they could apply to their life.

Senior Citizen Fairs & Events

Senior Citizen Fairs and Events held at various locations and dates and times based on the need in the community. Guest speakers, resource booths and workshops help to bring awareness and education to one of the most vulnerable populations – our elderly.

Shall provide 10 senior citizen fairs and events. 100 duplicated participants shall participate in the activity. At the end of the grant period, 75% of the participants surveyed shall report that they learned something new and valuable that they could apply to their life.

Homeless Outreach

Homeless Outreach activities held at various locations and dates and times based on the need in the community. The goal of the outreach is to provide resources, information and/or assistance to those individuals not sheltered.

Shall provide 10 homeless outreach activities. 30 duplicated participants shall participate in the activity. At the end of the grant period, 75% of the participants surveyed shall report that they received useful information that they could apply to their life.

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

Sports/Fitness

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

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

Character Development/Cultural Awareness

Character Development/Cultural Awareness activities offered to youth and adults in partnership with schools, non profits, businesses, etc. Treasures of the Pacific is an example of this type of activity where youth are given the opportunity to learn more about themselves and others through Cultural lessons and activities.

Shall provide 15 character development/cultural awareness activities. 150 duplicated participants shall participate in the character development/cultural awareness activities. At the end of the grant period, 75% of the participants surveyed shall report that they learned something new and valuable that they could apply to their life.

Youth Mentorship/Community Service/Life Skills

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

Shall provide 50 youth mentorship, community service, and life skills activities. 500 duplicated participants shall participate in the youth mentorship, community service, and life skills activities. At the end of the grant period, 75% of the participants surveyed shall report that they learned something new and valuable that they could apply to their life.

Drug Free Events and Family Engagement

Drug Free Events and Family Engagement include Celebrate Movie Nights, Bingo Nights, Fairs, 'Ohana Nights, etc. and take place at schools, parks, non profits, shopping centers, etc. Providing opportunities for families to spend time as a family in a safe, drug free environment is good for the community because it helps kids feel connected to their caregivers, families and communities. Kids who feel connected also feel safe, secure, supported and are ready to learn. Family engagement helps parents and other caregivers feel connected and tuned into their children and communities. When adults are tuned in and feel supported by schools and other agencies, they feel connected to their child and more prepared to support their child. Family engagement events are at no cost to allow families to participate in a safe, drug free event as a family. These events provide opportunities for staff and officers to interact with, connect and share resources with family members.

Shall provide 10 drug free events and family engagement activities. 500 duplicated participants shall participate in the drug free events and family engagement activities. At the end of the grant period, 75% of the participants surveyed shall report that they appreciated the resources provided that will help to strengthen their family.

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

Community Clean Ups/Beautification Projects

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

Shall provide 10 community cleanup/beautification activities. 200 duplicated participants shall participate in the community cleanup/beautification activities. At the end of the grant period, 75% of the participants surveyed shall report that they feel like they are contributing to making their community safer

Economic and Career Development

Economic and Career Development activities will take place in schools, in the neighborhoods and community at-large. It is important for family members to have opportunities to increase their income and gain employable skills. Some examples may include Career Fairs, Job Shadowing, Financial Literacy, etc. This is good for the community as it improves economic and social conditions through

education, job training, and skill building. These opportunities help them to sustain and not resort to criminality.

Shall provide 10 economic development/employment skills activities and workshops. 100 duplicated participants shall participate in the economic and career development activities. At the end of the grant period, 75% of the participants surveyed shall report that they feel like they are gaining knowledge and skills that will help them become more employable and self-sustaining.

Family Support Services

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

Shall provide 25 family support services activities. 250 duplicated participants will participate in the family support services activities. At the end of the grant period, 75% of participants surveyed shall report that they appreciated the resources provided that will help to strengthen their family.

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

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

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

4. List the measure(s) of effectiveness that will be reported to the State agency through which grant funds are appropriated (the expending agency). The measure(s) will provide a standard and objective way for the State to assess the program's achievement or accomplishment. Please note that if the level of appropriation differs from the amount included in

this application that the measure(s) of effectiveness will need to be updated and transmitted to the expending agency.

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

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

IV. Financial

Budget

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

See attached budget forms. Attachment VIII.C.

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

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total Grant
\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$400,000

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

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

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

The applicant has not applied for or anticipate applying for any state or federal tax credits.

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

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

- State of Hawai'i, Department of Health: 5/10/22-12/31/22
- State GIA 2023: 4/1/23-3/31/25
- City & County of Honolulu, Non Profit Emergency Fund: 2023
- State GIA 2024: 6/1/24-5/31/25

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

The applicants unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2024 is \$55,890.

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

V. Experience and Capability

1. Necessary Skills and Experience

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

This Project is governed by the Weed and Seed Hawaii Board of Directors which is comprised of individuals who live or work in one of the respective sites. The Board of Directors meet at least once a month to discuss fiscal and management issues across the Project. The Board of Directors has 9 members and meets on average 5 hours per month for monthly board and project-related meetings and activities. It is estimated that 720 hours of Board support will be provided over the length of the Project at a rate of \$22.16 per hour resulting in a total Project in-kind contribution of \$15,955.20.

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

Each Steering Committee is comprised of a minimum of 6-9 active members and is charged with designing the program for that site. The Steering Committees meet every other month to discuss issues in their community and make decisions and coordinate activities with Project partners. Each member participates on average 5 hours per month in monthly board and project related meetings and activities. It is estimated that 1,440 hours of advisory support will be provided over the length of the Project at a rate of \$22.16 per hour resulting in a total Project in-kind contribution of \$31,910.

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

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

2. Facilities

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

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

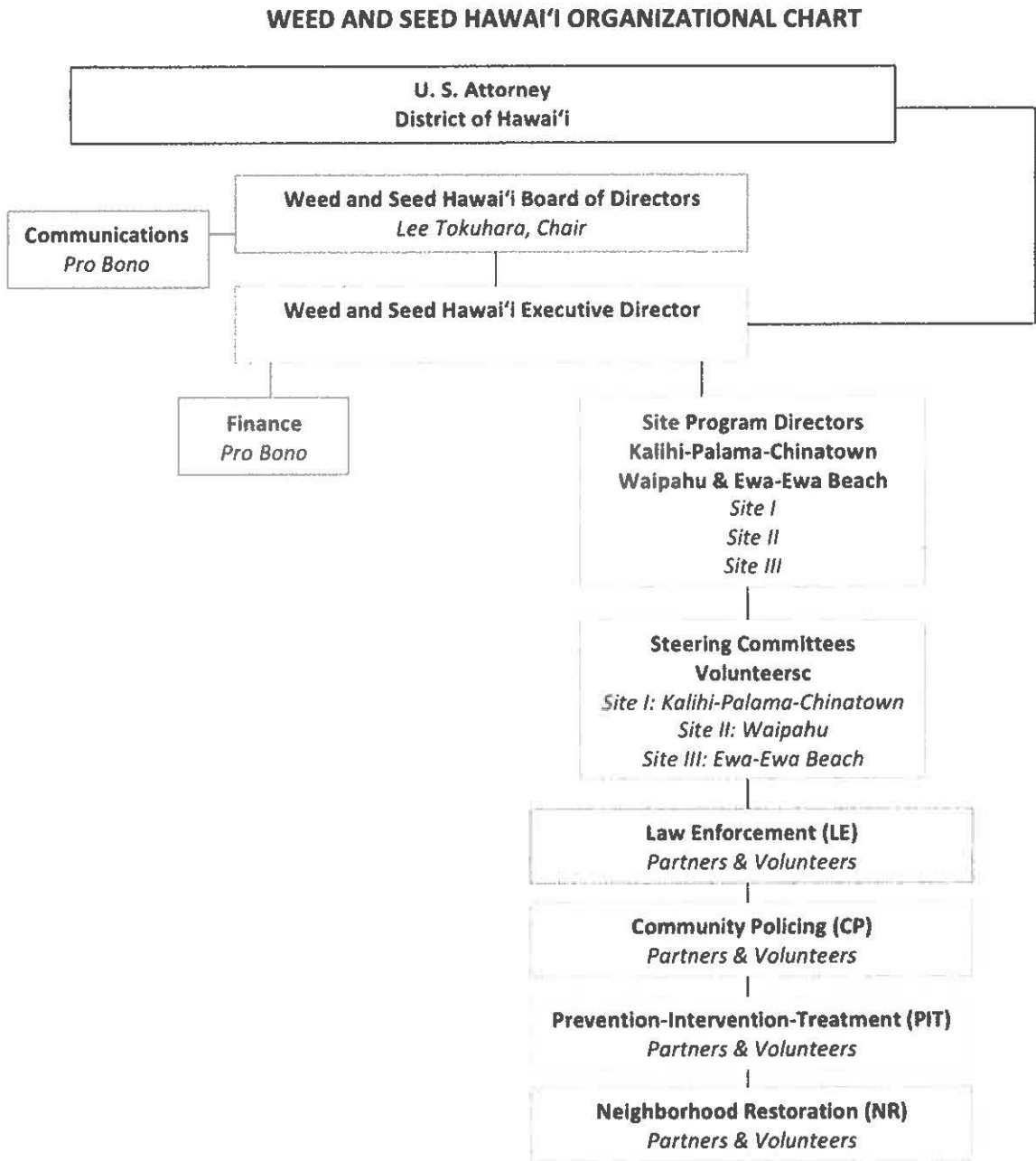
VI. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

1. Proposed Staffing, Staff Qualifications, Supervision and Training

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

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

2. Organization Chart



3. Compensation

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

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

VII. Other

1. Litigation

There is no pending litigation for which Weed and Seed Hawaii is a party to.

2. Licensure or Accreditation

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

3. Private Educational Institutions

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

4. Future Sustainability Plan

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

- By working across communities and sharing resources, benefits of scale, shared knowledge and increased cooperation maximizes opportunity for sustainability.
- The Project needs to convince funders that the strategies offered in the project benefit a wider area than simply the communities the project works in. Funders need to understand that criminals often simply move around seeking the most vulnerable communities. Several funding opportunities have been identified and will be pursued. They include:
 - Hawaii Community Foundation (Ewa Beach Community Fund)
 - SAMSHA STOP Act Grant
 - Agency Fundraisers & Private Donations
- The dynamic nature of each steering committee with its ever-changing volunteer membership requires Project staff to provide the institutional memory and capacity needed to manage existing and develop new projects. Sites must continue to assist in identifying and developing proposals for funding which fit within the projects' goals and objectives. Multiple funding opportunities have already been recognized.
- The best way to extend the Weed and Seed Hawaii Project is to make sure that it is "marketed" throughout the communities it serves and beyond so that

others may also monetarily and voluntarily contribute to the success of the Project.

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

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

It is largely due to the ongoing efforts of its staff that community commitments have increased where stakeholders take an increasingly active role in clean up campaigns and community activities rather than passively relying on government or other entities to keep their neighborhoods safe and clean. The following chart shows how many volunteers and volunteer hours logged for the past 9 years.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Volunteers</i>	<i>Total Hours</i>
2016	7,924	1,406
2017	9,835	1,441.25
2018	4,412	968.25
2019	1,109	337.5
2020	1,169	430.5
2021	295	279
2022	3193	619.75
2023	3,032	7,594.75
2024	1,364	489.00

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

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

US Attorney Office, District of Hawaii
 Federal Bureau of Investigations
 State of Hawai'i Attorney General's Office, Community & Crime Prevention Branch
 State of Hawai'i Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
 City & County of Honolulu, Honolulu Police Department (District 1, 3, 5, 8)
 City & County of Honolulu, Department of Housing & Homelessness
 City & County of Honolulu, Department of Environmental Services
 City & County of Honolulu, Department of Parks and Recreation

& 100+ businesses, schools, service clubs, banks, associations, not-for-profits, churches, etc.

VIII. Attachments:

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

VIII.A

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOB DESCRIPTION

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

RESPONSIBILITIES:

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

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

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

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

PROGRAM DIRECTOR JOB DESCRIPTION

REPORTS TO: Weed and Seed Hawaii Executive Director

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

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

RESPONSIBILITIES:

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

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

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

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

Master's Degree

Five or more years of relevant work experience

Experience with grantsmanship, fundraising and budget preparation and reporting

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

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

WORKING CONDITIONS

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

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

VIII.B

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RESUME

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

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

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

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

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

Accomplishments

- Honolulu Police Department Service Award: Citizen of the Year, 2016
- YMCA Introductions to Leading Others, Apr. 18, 2013
- City and County of Honolulu Council, Certificate of Recognition - Ewa Weed and Seed, Feb. 20, 2013
- McGruff's National Crime Prevention Award of Excellence - Crime Prevention Program of the Year, Oct. 2007
- Kapolei Outstanding Achievement Award (KOA) for Community Service-Organization, May 2007
- Community Capacity Development Offices (DOJ): Weed & Seed Honolulu chosen 1 of 8 Best Practice Weed & Seed Sites Nationally, Apr. 2007
- YMCA Group Work Training - Certificate of Completion, Nov. 2005

Education

- Honolulu Community College, Associates Degree in Social Services, Jun. 17, 2005
- Honolulu Community College, Family Advocate Certification Courses, 2002-2003
Human Development/FAMR 250
Domestic Violence/Dynamics of Family Violence, FAMR 133
Working with People, FAMR 296
Family Dynamics/Interviewing Difficult Families, SOSER 21

Training

- Child Abuse/Neglect
- Second Step Program
- Drug Awareness/Recognizing the Problem
- Working with Micronesians/Learning Their Culture
- Strategic Thinking and Planning, 2009
- Grassroots Leadership Development, 2009
- Community Capacity Builders Forum, 2009
- Federal Grant Application Training, 2007
- Helping Build Safer Communities, 2007
- Community Leadership Training, 2006

Conferences

- Gang Violence Awareness Prevention, National Crime Prevention Council, Oct. 2011
- NeighborWorks Training, Community Leadership Institute, 2011
- CCDO Implementation & Strategy Training, 2010
- NeighborWorks America, May 6-8, 2009
Building Powerful Community Partnership, Grassroots Leadership Development and Strategic Thinking and Planning
- NeighborWorks America, Oct. 12-15, 2006
Plant a Seed of Change and Grow a Better Neighborhood
- Strategy Development Training, CCDO, USDOJ, Mar. 27-30, 2006
- Community Building and Sustainability, CCDO, USDOJ, Aug. 22-25, 2005

References can be provided upon request.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR RESUME

EDUCATION

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

WORK EXPERIENCE

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

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

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

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

Rural Youth Program Director/Outreach Services Supervisor. Oct. 2004 to June 2009
KALIHI YMCA

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

Senior Program Director June 1994 to September 2004
COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS – HAWAII

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

CERTIFICATES

Intro to Leading Others, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, 2013

Interviewing Guide eLearning, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, 2013
 Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws, Office of Juvenile Justice and
 Delinquency Prevention, Waipahu, HI, 2012
 Introduction to Design Thinking, Design Thinking Hawai'i, Hon, HI, 2011
 Engage! Lead! Training, Neighbor Works America, Waipahu, HI, 2011
 Gangs 101 Workshop, Missouri Western State University Regional
 Community Policing Institute, Waipahu, HI, 2010
 Listen First, YMCA of Honolulu, Kalihi, HI, 2009
 Motivational Interviewing Basic and Advanced Skills, State of Hawai'i
 Department of Health Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division, Kapolei, HI, 2009
 Senior Director, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, November 2008
 Current Support Director Institute, YMCA of the USA, Hon, HI, May 2001
 Introduction to Not-For-Profit Mktg, YMCA of the USA, Hon, HI, Nov 1999
 Pricing, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, November 1999
 YMCA Program Management and Development, YMCA of the USA,
 Honolulu, HI, November 1999
 Principles and Practices, YMCA of the USA, Berkeley, CA, April 1997
 Group Work, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, March 1996
 Volunteerism and the YMCA, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, Sept 1995
 LTP Delivery Module, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, April 1995
 Problem Solving and Decision Making and Substance Abuse Prevention,
 YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI, November 1993
 Basics in Community Development, Working with 10-14 Year Olds and
 Working with 15-17 Year Olds, YMCA of the USA, Honolulu, HI,
 November 1992

OTHER TRAININGS

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

HONORS

City & County of Honolulu, Environmental Services Good Neighbor &
 Environmental Hero – Weed and Seed, 2021-2024
 State of Hawai'i Governor's Sexual Assault Awareness Month
 Proclamation Honoree, 2018
 City & County of Honolulu, Honolulu Police Department Service Award:
 Citizen of the Year, 2017

References available upon request.

BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS**VIII.C**

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

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	230,000			
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments	30,176			
3. Fringe Benefits				
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	260,176			
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Lease/Rental of Space	4,500			
2. Insurance	20,400			
3. Telecommunication/Subscriptions	3,300			
4. Supplies	8,624			
5. Contract Service: Trainer	4,000			
6. Contract Service: HPD Overtime	60,000			
7. Marketing	30,000			
8. Mileage/Parking	9,000			
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	139,824			
C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES				
D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES				
E. CAPITAL				
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	400,000			
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	400,000	Gale Braceros 808-232-6437		
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested	0	Name (Please type or print) Phone		
(c) Total County Funds Requested	0	<i>Gale Braceros</i> 1/17/25		
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested	0	Signature of Authorized Official Date		
TOTAL BUDGET	400,000	Gale Braceros, Executive Director Name and Title (Please type or print)		

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - PERSONNEL SALARIES AND WAGES

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

POSITION TITLE		FULL TIME EQUIVALENT	ANNUAL SALARY A	% OF TIME ALLOCATED TO GRANT REQUEST B	TOTAL STATE FUNDS REQUESTED (A x B)
Executive Director		1.00	\$105,000.00	100.00%	\$ 105,000.00
Program Director		1.00	\$75,000.00	100.00%	\$ 75,000.00
Program Director		1.00	\$50,000.00	100.00%	\$ 50,000.00
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
TOTAL:					230,000.00
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS: Three (3) full time staff will carry out all activities as described in this RFP.					

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

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

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

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED						
TOTAL PROJECT COST	ALL SOURCES OF FUNDS RECEIVED IN PRIOR YEARS		STATE FUNDS REQUESTED	OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS REQUESTED	FUNDING REQUIRED IN SUCCEEDING YEARS	
	FY:2023-2024	FY:2024-2025	FY:2025-2026	FY:2025-2026	FY:2026-2027	FY:2027-2028
PLANS						
LAND ACQUISITION						
DESIGN						
CONSTRUCTION						
EQUIPMENT						
TOTAL:	0	0	0	0	0	0
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:						

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID

Applicant: Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

Contracts Total: 754,900

	CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)	CONTRACT VALUE
1	COMMUNITY KOKUA PROJECT	7/1/21-12/31/21	DEPT OF HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS	HONOLULU COUNTY	60,000
2	COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP	12/1/21-5/31/22	DEPT OF HEALTH	STATE OF HAWAII	49,900
3	COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP	5/10/22-12/31/22	DEPT OF HEALTH	STATE OF HAWAII	45,000
4	WEED AND SEED HAWAII PROJECT	4/1/23-3/31/25	GRANT-IN-AID 2022	STATE OF HAWAII	300,000
5	WEED AND SEED HAWAII PROJECT	6/1/24-5/31/25	GRANT-IN-AID 2023	STATE OF HAWAII	300,000
6					
7					
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12					
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16					
17					
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19					
20					
21					
22					

January 15, 2025

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

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

Aloha Chairpersons Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thank you for your consideration,

Lee Tokuhara, President 

94-1114 Limahana Street
Waipahu, HI 96797



WEED AND SEED HAWAII

91-884 Ft. Weaver Road Ste. 7

Ewa Beach Hawaii 96706

Tel: 808-376-7005 (Direct)

Board of Directors

Lee Tokuhara, President

Richard Quiamzon, Vice-President

Jon Yoshimura, Secretary

Anna Kobashigawa, Finance

Joy Barua

Russell Henna

Maile Kanemaru

Corporal Roland Pagan

Monique Wall

Gale Bracerros, Executive Director

Lorrie Kanno, Program Director

WSHI is a non-profit organization

Empowering and Strengthening the Community



January 13, 2025

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

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

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Anna Kobashigawa. I am a Relief Branch Manager at First Hawaiian Bank. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for 15 years.

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anna", with a small mark above the final stroke.

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

P: (808) 525-6340
email: akobashigawa@fhb.com

January 13, 2025



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

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

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Richard Quiamzon and I am a resident, business member, and a Weed and Seed Hawai'i Board Member. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawai'i, Inc. for 18 years.

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

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

I support Weed and Seed Hawai'i because it is a vital part in improving our Ewa Beach Community. Our community has become a clean and safe place to live and work due to the success of Weed and Seed Hawai'i. WNSH recognizes that for youth to avoid a life of criminality the youth need to co-exist in a community that is thriving. WNSH and the HPD District 8 CPT officers have been critical in providing youth activities such as Jr. golf, bowling leagues, and many mentoring programs.

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

Sincerely,

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

Richard Quiamzon
General Manager
McDonald's of Ewa Beach



January 14, 2025

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

GENTRY HOMES, LTD.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Debra'.

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

January 14, 2025

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

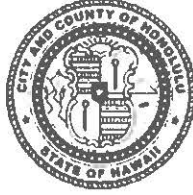
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Broderick", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT
KA 'OIHANA MĀKA'I O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 • WEBSITE www.honolulu.gov



OUR REFERENCE **GB-RG**

ARTHUR J. LOGAN
CHIEF
KAHU MĀKA I

KEITH K. HORIKAWA
RADE K. VANIC
DEPUTY CHIEFS
HOPE LUNA NUI MĀKA I

January 10, 2025

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

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

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Major Gail Beckley. I am the Honolulu Police Department's District 8 Commander and have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii for many years.

I am writing to express my strong support for Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.'s submission of the proposal to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama, Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and 'Ewa -'Ewa Beach.

The Honolulu Police Department (HPD) recognizes the Weed and Seed Program as an essential initiative in reducing crime, fostering community partnerships, and improving the quality of life for residents. This program is unique because it combines law enforcement strategies with community empowerment to address persistent crime problems at their root. Unlike other programs, weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups, and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes.

Reasons for HPD's Support of the Weed and Seed Grant Funding:

1. **Crime Reduction and Prevention** – Weed and Seed have successfully targeted high-crime areas by "weeding out" violent offenders, illegal drug activity, and organized crime through proactive law enforcement and community policing.

2. Strengthening Community Relations – This initiative builds trust between law enforcement and residents, creating long-term partnerships that lead to sustainable crime reduction. Weed and Seed programs reassure the community that law enforcement is committed to their safety.
3. Youth Intervention and Outreach Programs—By providing at-risk youth with mentorship, education, and job training, the program prevents gang involvement and juvenile delinquency. Many of these efforts have reduced recidivism among young offenders.
4. Addressing Homelessness and Drug-Related Issues – Weed and Seed partners with social services and community organizations to assist unhoused individuals and those struggling with addiction, redirecting them toward rehabilitation instead of incarceration.
5. Community Engagement and Economic Development—The program fights crime. It revitalizes neighborhoods by supporting local businesses, creating safe public spaces, and organizing community events that foster unity and pride.
6. Leveraging Partnerships for Greater Impact – Weed and Seed Hawaii collaborates with local businesses, non-profits, religious organizations, and government agencies to maximize resources and provide a “whole-of-community” approach to crime prevention.

The 'Ewa region has seen an increase in property crimes, drug activity, and violent incidents. Without the continued support and resources that Weed and Seed provides, these problems may escalate. Grant funding will allow the program to expand its reach, increase enforcement efforts, and strengthen community-driven solutions to crime.

I humbly ask for your support in securing funding for Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. so that we can continue making a tangible impact on public safety and community well-being. The Honolulu Police Department stands firmly behind this initiative and looks forward to furthering our shared mission of crime reduction and community development in 'Ewa and beyond.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

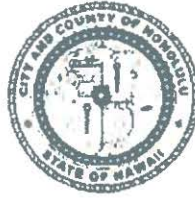
Sincerely,



Major Gail Beckley
District Commander,
Honolulu Police Department – District 8

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT
KA 'OIHANA MAKA'I O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET • HONOLULU HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 • WEBSITE: www.honolulu.gov



8 K. BLANCHARD
MAYOR
MHA

KEITH J. LOGAN
CHIEF
KANE MAKA
KEITH J. LOGAN
MADE S. VANCE
DEPUTY CHIEF
KANE MAKA

YOUR REFERENCE **BS-MS**

January 15, 2025

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

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

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita,

My name is Sergeant Brandon Shiraishi, and I serve as the supervisor of the District 1 Community Policing Team (Downtown/Chinatown) with the Honolulu Police Department. I have had the privilege of working closely with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for the past five years and have witnessed firsthand the positive impact of their work in our communities.

I am writing to request your support for the proposal submitted by Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc., which seeks funding to continue and expand the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama, Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. is a highly effective, collaborative initiative that brings together law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups, and private businesses to reduce violent and drug-related crimes. Their work has made significant strides in improving public safety and strengthening the fabric of our communities.

I respectfully ask for your support of Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. due to the invaluable contributions they have made toward making our neighborhoods safer. Over the years, we have partnered with Weed and Seed Hawaii on numerous community events, including clean-ups, Thanksgiving meals, the "Heroes and Helpers" youth Christmas event, Kupuna Christmas events, and many other initiatives that directly benefit the

January 15, 2025
Page 2

community we serve.

Your support for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Grant-In-Aid would help ensure the continued success and expansion of these vital programs.

Thank you for considering this important request. I am confident that with your support, Weed and Seed Hawaii will continue to make a meaningful difference in our community.



Sergeant Brandon Shiraishi
District 1 Community Policing Team
Honolulu Police Department

Date: January 14, 2025

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

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

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Sergeant Fumikazu Muraoka of the Honolulu Police Department. I currently have 24 years in my career as a police officer and I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for 15 years over the span of my career as a police officer and supervisor in HPD.

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

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

Being assigned to the Weed and Seed detail of the District 8 Ewa Weed and Seed Team early in my career, I was involved in numerous aspects of the community development in Ewa Beach in the early 2000s. We worked with businesses, schools, and residents to make Ewa Beach a safe and enjoyable place to live. HPD also focused on property crimes and drug enforcement operations utilizing enhanced penalties for offenders, a strategy resulting from Weed and Seed partnerships with Prosecutors and judges.

After a promotion, I was assigned as a supervisor in HPD patrol division, but knew I wanted to go back to working with Weed and Seed and the community because it was such a rewarding experience, working with so many fantastic people that I still keep in touch with today and being able to make a difference. I worked my way back to District 8 Community Policing and working with Weed and Seed again to continue the effort of improving quality of life for Honolulu residents.

I urge you to support the request for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. Grant-In-Aid to assist so these efforts can be continued.

Respectfully submitted,

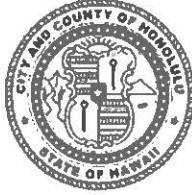
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fumikazu Muraoka', written in a cursive style.

Sergeant Fumikazu Muraoka
Honolulu Police Department
Kapolei Police Station
1100 Kamokila Boulevard
Kapolei Hawaii 96707
(808) 723-8407
fmuraoka@honolulu.gov

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT
KA 'OIHANA MĀKA'I O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 529 3111 • WEBSITE www.honolulu.gov

RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA



OUR REFERENCE **RP-RG**

ARTHUR J. LOGAN
CHIEF
KAHU MĀKA'I

KEITH K. HORIKAWA
RADE K. VANIC
DEPUTY CHIEFS
HOPE LUNA NUI MĀKA'I

January 10, 2025

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

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

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name Corporal Roland Pagan of the Honolulu Police Department and I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for 15 years.

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

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

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

Being an Officer with the Honolulu Police Department for 26 years, I have seen the many positive changes in the 'Ewa / 'Ewa Beach (Site III) community. The interactions with the keiki and kūpuna of the community has provided many opportunities that many would never have had. The Weed and Seed Culinary class which partners with James Campbell High School continues to be a huge draw for many students looking for something to do during the summer. This class has continued to be in high demand and a very sought after opportunity for those wishing to learn to cook, while also earning

Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita
January 10, 2025
Page 2

graduation credits. The outreach that Weed and Seed Hawaii has done with the numerous elderly housing projects continues to be the highlight of many of our senior's days. The loss of funding and support of Weed and Seed Hawaii would negatively affect our community in many ways and this would be sad to see after all of the efforts put in through the years.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roland Pagan', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Roland Pagan, Corporal
Honolulu Police Department – District 8



STATE OF HAWAII
JAMES CAMPBELL HIGH SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – LEEWARD DISTRICT
KA `OIHANA HO`ONA`AUAO
91-980 NORTH RD.
EWA BEACH, HI 96706

January 14, 2025

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

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

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Jon Henry Lee and I am the Principal of James Campbell High School. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for the past 14 years and started my working relationship with them when I was at Ilima Intermediate

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

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

I humbly ask for your support of Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. because they work closely on a regular basis with our faculty and staff and most importantly directly with our students. They take their mission to heart and provide positive mentorship, guidance and direction to our youth. Partnering them has brought countless benefits to our school community.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "JH Lee".

Jon Henry Lee
Principal

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

January 14, 2025

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

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

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Kim Sanders and I am the principal at 'Ewa Makai Middle School. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for eight years. I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. and the invaluable contributions they make to our community.

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

The programs offered by Weed and Seed have a profound and positive impact on our students. For example, the culinary program provides students with valuable life skills, such as cooking and nutrition, while fostering creativity and teamwork. This program not only enhances their culinary skills but also cultivates essential life skills that will benefit them throughout their lives. Furthermore, the organization's support for the LGBTQ+ Pride Parade demonstrates their commitment to creating a more inclusive and accepting community. This participation fosters a sense of belonging and acceptance for all students, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Weed and Seed plays a vital role in supporting our students' holistic development, fostering their growth not only academically but also socially and emotionally. Their commitment to community engagement and their dedication to creating a more equitable and inclusive society are truly commendable.

I wholeheartedly endorse the work of the Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. and encourage continued support for their vital programs. Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. is a collaborative effort involving law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, community groups and private businesses that have helped to reduce violent and drug-related crimes.

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

Sincerely,

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

Kim Sanders, Principal
'Ewa Makai Middle School



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

January 10, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of Ilima Intermediate School, I am pleased to offer this letter of support for the Ewa Beach Weed and Seed Program as it seeks funding through the State of Hawaii's Grant in Aid process. Our school community has greatly benefited from the program's dedication to improving the quality of life in Ewa Beach through its comprehensive strategies aimed at reducing crime, fostering community engagement, and empowering youth.

Ilima Intermediate School serves a diverse population of students, many of whom face socio-economic challenges that can hinder their academic and personal development. The Ewa Beach Weed and Seed Program has been a vital partner in addressing these challenges by providing mentorship, educational resources, and opportunities for positive engagement beyond the classroom. These efforts align closely with our school's mission to create a safe, supportive, and enriching environment where students can thrive.

Through initiatives such as community policing, after-school programs, and youth leadership workshops, the Ewa Beach Weed and Seed Program has made a tangible impact on our students and their families. These programs not only help reduce juvenile delinquency but also equip our students with the tools and confidence they need to succeed academically and socially. The program's emphasis on collaboration with schools, local organizations, and law enforcement has fostered a sense of unity and shared purpose in our community.

We strongly believe in the Ewa Beach Weed and Seed Program's mission and its ability to bring about meaningful change. Continued funding through the State of Hawaii's Grant in Aid program will enable the organization to expand its reach and sustain its essential services, ensuring that more families and students in Ewa Beach benefit from its innovative programs and support.

Thank you for considering this request for support. Should you require any further information or wish to discuss the positive impact of the Ewa Beach Weed and Seed Program on our school community, please feel free to contact me at 808-687-9306 or by email at shayne.greenland@k12.hi.us.

Sincerely,

Shayne Greenland - Principal
Ilima Intermediate School

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

January 13, 2025

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

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

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Shely Chang, TA Vice Principal of Ka'imiloa Elementary School in Ewa Beach. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for the 20 years that I have worked at Ka'imiloa.

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

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

I humbly ask for your support of Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for the following reasons: Weed and Seed has come to support our school many times over the years. They have come to support us with such events as our annual Career Day, traffic control/safety, Drive Safe events, parent events providing Keiki ID, and many other numerous school events that we have requested their participation and support.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shely Chang".

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

Date January 14, 2025

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

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

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Dolores (Dee) Gettle and I am a resident/home owner of Ewa Beach for 40 years, and recently retired from Ka'imiloa Elementary School of 34 years as a Counselors Aid. Although I've retired I continue to volunteer at Ka'imiloa and in our community. Having positive role models in our community and from our Weed and Seed Officers can make a difference for our youths today.

As a mother, grand-mother and a great grand-mother I see the need to have a safe community for them to live in. I've seen this community grow from plantation fields into a suburb community. Which means we are a fast growing community with many changes. CHANGES, come's with a large population and some negative activity. Weed and Seed has given our community hope for the future of our young youths, and we all know our young needs positive reinforcements.

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

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

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

- *Multi safety campaigns to bring safety awareness.**
- *Annual Career Day**
- *Internet safety and bullying presentations for our families and students in grades five and six.**
- *Provide keiki and Kapuna ID's**
- *Graffiti cleanup**
- *Most important their positive role model for our youths in our community.**

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

Sincerely,
Dolores (Dee) Gettle



HAWAIIAN PROPERTIES
Building Relationships that Last

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

January 13, 2025

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

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

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

I am writing to express my strong support for Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.'s application for the Grant-in-Aid funding. As a business professional whose workplace is located within the Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan districts—a community deeply impacted by houselessness and criminal activity—I have seen firsthand the critical need for programs like Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. to restore hope, safety, and unity within our neighborhood.

The Weed and Seed program embodies the true spirit of aloha by creating a collaborative environment where law enforcement, residents, nonprofits, community groups, and private businesses come together with a shared mission: to reduce violent and drug-related crimes and uplift the community. Their approach is not merely about enforcement but also about planting the seeds of opportunity, mentorship, and growth in our most precious resource—our keiki.

Our firm is a strong advocate for programs that directly benefit our keiki, especially those that provide safe, positive, and enriching activities. Weed and Seed's afterschool programs are vital, offering our youth a pathway to success by keeping them engaged in uplifting and meaningful experiences. These initiatives not only keep them motivated and active but also provide access to mentors and leaders who guide them toward a brighter future, helping to break cycles of negativity and preventing their involvement in criminal activity.

The Grant-in-Aid funding will allow Weed and Seed Hawaii to continue these essential programs and strengthen their collaboration with community stakeholders. By supporting this grant, you are investing in a program that has a proven track record of creating safer neighborhoods and empowering youth to rise above the challenges they face in our community.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this letter of support. I would love the opportunity to discuss this matter further and share more about why this program is so critical to the health and vitality of our community. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Mahalo for your time and consideration. Together, we can continue to build a community of hope, safety, and aloha.

Sincerely,
Kanani Kaopua, PCAM®, Senior Vice President
Phone: 808-539-9501 E-mail: kananik@hawaiianprop.com



HAWAIIAN PROPERTIES
Building Relationships that Last

January 13, 2025

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

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

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita:

My name is Christine Bayani, Community Relations Coordinator, Haseko Development HI. I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc. for 3 years.

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

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

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

- I have personally seen the good Weed and Seed Ewa Beach has done for the community and how the community has benefited from the program.
- Without Weed and Seed Ewa Beach, James Campbell High School would not have the incorporation of Roy's Koolina with the Culinary Arts Department. Every year, for 21 years, the students have the remarkable opportunity to work with world renowned Chef Roy Yamaguchi and his staff from Roy's Koolina during the summer to learn amazing culinary techniques and earn credits toward their education. At the end of the program, the students provide a luncheon to showcase an amazing menu for honored guests who support Weed and Seed Ewa Beach to enjoy.
- Weed and Seed Ewa Beach has also helped in crime reduction in the community and is an integral part of helping our displaced community members find shelter and support.

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

Sincerely,

Christine Bayani
91-1001 Kaimalie St. #205
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

01/13/25

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

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

Aloha Chairs Dela Cruz and Yamashita,

My name is Malia Ikeda and I have been involved with Weed and Seed Hawaii for ten years as a Steering Committee Member. I am requesting your support with the submission of the Weed and Seed Hawaii proposal to support the Weed and Seed Project in Kalihi-Palama, Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Waipahu, and Ewa-Ewa Beach.

Weed and Seed Hawaii is an organization that collaborates with law enforcement, residents, non-profit organizations, schools, community stakeholders/groups, and private businesses. Through this collaboration Weed and Seed has a stronger presence in our communities, with local businesses, in our schools, and also helping our kupunas.

Year after year we have people inquiring about our programs and activities, especially our culinary program, kupuna fair, and Celebrate Safe Communities. We have been asked to expand our reach into other communities and without support we will be unable to continue our existing programs or even consider an expansion.

I kindly ask for your support for the Weed and Seed Hawaii Grant-In-Aid proposal so we can continue to service our communities.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Malia Ikeda', with a stylized, flowing script.

Malia Ikeda



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

January 17, 2025

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zachary Sheets", written over a horizontal line.

Zachary Sheets
Principal
Waipahu High School

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Continuous Notice of Non-Discrimination

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

Civil Rights Compliance Branch, Hawaii State Department of Education, P.O. Box 2380, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804, (808) 586-3322 or relay CRCB@k12.hi.us, Beth Schimmelfennig, Director, Rhonda Wong, Compliance, Aaron Oandasan, Title VI, Toby Yamashiro, Title VII, Nicole Isa-Iijima, Title IX, Krysti Sukita, ADA/504



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

January 17, 2025

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

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

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


My name is Aaron Tominaga and I am the principal of Waipahu Elementary School. Although I am fairly new to the school, it is my understanding that we began our partnership with the Weed and Seed program 20+ years ago. The Weed and Seed program in Waipahu truly provides transformational support to not only our schools, but to the entire community that it serves.

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

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

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

Sincerely,



Aaron Tominaga
Principal
Waipahu Elementary School

January 17, 2025

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,



Hanh Nguyen
Principal
August Ahrens Elementary School



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

January 17, 2025

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Sheldon Oshio, written in a cursive style.

Sheldon Oshio
Principal January 17, 2025

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

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

January 17, 2025

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

RE: State GIA - Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc

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

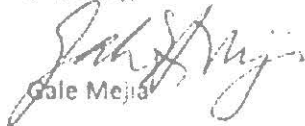
Weed and Seed has made a significant difference in the Waipahu community in the following ways:

- 1) Providing the RAP program at Waipahu Elementary and Safety First Sessions at Hanowai Elementary Schools that help students make good decisions.
- 2) Supporting students at Waipahu High School through the School Community Council and Academy for Public and Professional Services Executive and Advisory Boards.
- 3) Supporting safe communities through community policing groups.
- 4) Supporting beautification events that engage community members, both young and old, to take pride in our community.
- 5) Providing consultation and manpower to support family-oriented events such as the annual Celebrate Safe Communities, as well as the Partnering for Protection and 'Ohana Bingo Night.

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

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

Sincerely,


Gale Mejia

January 17, 2025

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair

Representative Kyle Yamashita, House Finance Committee Chair

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

 BSN, RN

Kelli L. Buenconsejo, BSN, RN

187 Kilea Place

Wahiawa, HI 96786

January 17, 2025

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

RE: State GIA - Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc

Aloha! My name is Evelyn Ahlo and I am a longtime Waipahu resident and member of the Waipahu Steering Committee. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 10 years.

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

I am the former Executive Director of Hawaii's Plantation Village. Although I grew up in Waipahu, it wasn't until I started volunteering with Weed and Seed that I really began to learn about the things that were going on.

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

Weed and Seed recognizes the need for our youth to have positive role models. Through the RAP program and the Law & Justice Academies at the Intermediate and High School, the officers are teaching the students skills that will help them in their future careers.

This year, Weed and Seed added an after-school program that encourages students to respect each other's culture. The program has truly transformed our students and given them opportunities to learn more about who they are. I am even volunteering to help implement the program.

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

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

Sincerely,



Evelyn Ahlo

January 17, 2025

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

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

Aloha! My name is Rochelle Kalili, a former resident of Waipahu and member of the Waipahu Steering Committee. I have been involved with Weed and Seed for the past 14 years.

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

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

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

This year, Weed and Seed added an afterschool program that encourages students to respect each other's culture. The program has truly transformed our students and given them opportunities to learn more about who they are.

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

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

Sincerely,



Rochelle Kalili