

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

Type of Grant Request:

Operating Capital

Legal Name of Requesting Organization or Individual: Dba:
Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East Hawaii, Inc

Amount of State Funds Requested: \$ 50,000.00

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

Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East Hawaii (The Friends) is requesting grant funds to support program operations that address emergencies, special needs, enhancement items, and services for child abuse victims aged 0-18 in East Hawaii. To effectively run the program, the Friends aim to maintain employment of two full-time staff members. Friends is the only non-profit organization in East Hawaii that serves child victims and the only non-profit on Hawaii Island operating a 24-hour emergency clothes closet for abused children. Services and resources are offered free of charge to the public, participants, and those working with children and families. The Friends work to address ongoing child abuse issues, promote public education and awareness, and provide services and resources that foster change, resilience, and stability.

Amount of Other Funds Available:

State: \$ 0.00
Federal: \$ 0.00
County: \$ 0.00
Private/Other: \$ 72,453.35

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

\$ 40,000.00

Unrestricted Assets:

\$ 92,472.59

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:

PO BOX 6908
City: Hilo State: HI Zip: 96720

Contact Person for Matters Involving this Application	
Name: Jill Jacunski	Title: Board Treasurer
Email: jill@fcjceh.org	Phone: 808-640-7424

Jill Jacunski

Authorized Signature

Doreen Enberg-President / Jill Jacunski-Treasurer

Name and Title

1/20/2026

Date Signed

Application Submittal Checklist

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

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




Doreen Friberg-President/ Jill Jacunski-Treasurer
PRINT NAME AND TITLE

1/20/2026
DATE



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF VENDOR COMPLIANCE

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

Vendor Name: FRIENDS OF THE CHILDREN'S JUSTICE CENTER OF EAST HAWAII,* INC.

DBA/Trade Name: FRIENDS OF THE CHILDREN'S JUSTICE CENTER OF EAST HAWAII,* INC.

Issue Date: 01/20/2026

Status: **Compliant**

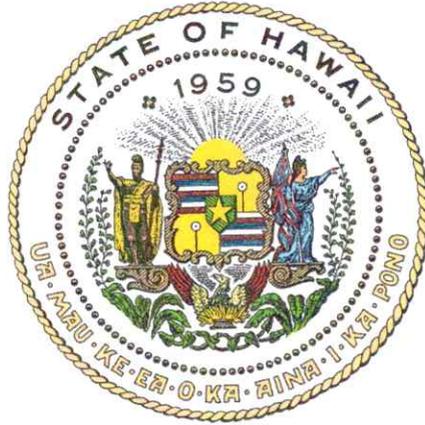
Hawaii Tax#: [REDACTED]
New Hawaii Tax#: [REDACTED]
FEIN/SSN#: [REDACTED]
UI#: XXXXXX7058
DCCA FILE#: 79198

Status of Compliance for this Vendor on issue date:

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

Status Legend:

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



Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

I, the undersigned Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs of the State of Hawaii, do hereby certify that

FRIENDS OF THE CHILDREN'S JUSTICE CENTER OF EAST HAWAII, INC.

was incorporated under the laws of Hawaii on 04/09/1990 ;
that it is an existing nonprofit corporation; and that,
as far as the records of this Department reveal, has complied
with all of the provisions of the Hawaii Nonprofit Corporations
Act, regulating domestic nonprofit corporations.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand and affixed the seal of the
Department of Commerce and Consumer
Affairs, at Honolulu, Hawaii.

Dated: August 25, 2025

Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

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

The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies the following:

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

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

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

Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East Hawaii

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)

Doreen Friberg
(Signature)

Jill Jacunski
(Date)

1/20/2026

Doreen Friberg / Board President and Jill Jacunski / Board Treasurer

(Typed Name)

(Title)

Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East Hawaii, Inc.
P. O. Box 6908 ▲ Hilo, HI 96720
Bus: (808) 935-8755



**PUBLIC PURPOSE STATEMENT OF APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS PURSUANT
TO CHAPTER 42F-102, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES**

The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies that the requested grant shall be used for public purpose pursuant to Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and within this grant request, the State shall find:

- 1) the name of the requesting organization or individual;
- 2) the public purpose for the grant;
- 3) the services to be supported by the grant;
- 4) the target group; and
- 5) the cost of the grant and budget

Signature: Doreen Friberg Date: 1/20/2026
Doreen Friberg – Board President
Friends of the Children's Justice Center East Hawaii, Inc.

Signature: Jill Jacunski Date: 1/20/2026
Jill Jacunski – Board Treasurer
Friends of the Children's Justice Center East Hawaii, Inc.

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, 2025.

Please see attached

2. Declaration Statement

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

Please see attached

3. Public Purpose

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

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

II. Background and Summary

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

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

The Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East Hawaii (Friends, FCJCEH) is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1990 to support children who are sexually, physically, emotionally abused, neglected, or witnesses to violent crimes and domestic violence. This support is provided by funding requested items and services that an abused child might not otherwise receive and by meeting the comfort needs of visitors to the Children's Justice Center East Hawaii (CJC-EH). FRIENDS also contribute more broadly by participating in community outreach and public awareness events and by supporting the training of professional staff who interview abused children. The Friends

work in partnership with the Children's Justice Center, partner agencies, mental health specialists, and community professionals—all of whom work directly with child abuse victims and their caregiver families.

The Friends "Special Needs and Enhancements Program" is dedicated to fulfilling requests that benefit and empower child abuse victims, giving them the same opportunities as their peers and positively impacting their lives with hope and encouragement. FCJCEH is the only organization in East Hawaii that provides resources to child abuse victims to fill emergency, basic needs, and life-enriching items and services. Friends "fills in the gaps" when no other support is available, helping abused children heal, grow, and build resilience.

The Friends "Education and Prevention Program" encourages FCJCEH staff and Board members to participate in community events and outreach activities to promote a healthier community and raise awareness about child abuse. Since the FCJCEH works directly with the community and partner agencies serving families, Friends can support abused children and help reduce family stress. Friends aims to eliminate barriers that tear families apart, so children and families can move forward positively. Two of Friends main outreach initiatives are "Aloha Bags of Hope" and the "Prom Project." The Friends provide duffel bags, called "Aloha Bags of Hope," to Child Welfare Services, filled with basic necessities (toothbrush, toothpaste, comb/brush, etc.), comfort items (stuffed animals, travel pillows or blanket sets, etc.), and activities (crayons, colored pencils or pens, coloring books, journals, reading materials, etc.). These bags are given to children when they are removed from their homes and placed into foster care. The "Prom Project" is held at local high schools, where students can select free prom attire (donated by the community) after attending an educational session.

Training Program: The Friends engages in a private/public partnership with the Children's Justice Center (CJC), a State Judiciary Program. The Children's Justice Center coordinates and supports the Judiciary system's response to victims of child abuse to help reduce their trauma through a multidisciplinary team approach, which includes police, social workers, prosecutors, guardian ad litem, medical professionals, and advocates. Friends support the CJC's training needs for professionals (such as social workers and law enforcement personnel) who conduct forensic interviews with victims and their families.

Center Support: The CJC offers a safe, welcoming environment where children are interviewed about reports of abuse, especially sexual abuse. The Friends provide comfort items, drinks, snacks, etc., to ensure everyone feels safe and comfortable during visits.

2. The goals and objectives related to the request;

Program Objectives:

- 1) Provide funds for clothing, hygiene items, bed/bedding, and other necessities for children in emergency or relative foster placement.
- 2) Provide funds for tutoring, correspondence courses, and/or summer school to allow a child to graduate or progress to the next grade level.
- 3) Provide funds for ground or air transportation for victims of child abuse to attend school or team events, to see medical specialists, or to attend Winners Camp on Oahu.
- 4) Provide funds for child victims of abuse to participate in supervised spring and winter intersession activities or summer camps.
- 5) Pay for fees, equipment, and supplies needed for extracurricular activities, such as sports, music, art, drama, and dancing lessons.
- 6) Provide funds for holidays or birthday gifts when an abused child would otherwise not receive a gift.
- 7) Provide funds (or gift cards) for gas to families on a limited budget so that documented child victims of abuse can attend treatment programs.
- 8) Provide funds for diapers, car seats, and other baby supplies for infants/toddlers who are documented victims of abuse and neglect.
- 9) Pay for event fees, prom dresses, senior pictures, yearbooks, etc., to give a student a chance to participate in school functions.
- 10) Support the training needs of workshops and seminars, as requested by the Children's Justice Center, so that law enforcement, social workers, and other professionals can be educated on current investigative techniques, forensics, sensitivity training, and obtain knowledge of resources.
- 11) Provide for the privacy, comfort, and safety of children and family members who come to the CJC by maintaining its warm environment and providing funds for snacks, drinks, comfort items, etc.
- 12) Collaborate with the Department of Education to provide students with healthy relationships and safety information as part of the Friends "Prom Project."
- 13) Collaborate with community leaders and businesses for donations to stock the 24-hour emergency clothes closet, which is accessible to community professionals.

Program Goals:

Fill "Special Need & Enhancement" - 1200 Requests
Serve child victims of abuse and or neglect – directly benefit 800 children
Fill holiday requests – 300 children
Fill birthday request- 300 children
Volunteer hours - 420 hours
Attend Community Events – 7 events
Host Prom Project Events – 4 events
Keep our 24-hour emergency clothes closet open and accessible to community professionals for abused children in critical need

3. The public purpose and need to be served;

Friends is the only nonprofit organization in East Hawaii that supports documented child victims of abuse and neglect. People working with children and families in public services turn to Friends when no other community resources are available. In 2025, Friends responded to 1,134 requests, assisting 562 unduplicated children, of whom 240 identified as Hawaiian or part-Hawaiian (56%). Without Friends' assistance, these children in our East Hawaii community would likely "fall through the cracks" and miss out on opportunities or experiences their peers receive. Friends aim to improve the lives of abused children through sports, the arts, music, dance, basic needs, and more. The goal is to equip each child with the tools, experiences, and essentials they need to grow personally and educationally, while allowing them to progress at their own pace.

The Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East Hawaii believes in the power of community and collaboration to improve the lives of abused children. We believe we can work together to build a healthy community with resources that fill in the gaps for children. When victims of child abuse are supported, they grow into successful, resilient, and productive individuals throughout their lives. In turn, they become contributing members of our society, influencing all public and private sectors. By helping child victims of abuse today, the Friends aim to break the cycle of abuse tomorrow, as data shows that over 30% of child victims grow up to abuse their own children.

4. Describe the target population to be served; and

The program serves documented children from birth up to 18 years old (up to 21 years old if they are in high school and in foster care) who are documented victims of abuse or witnesses to violent crime and live in East Hawaii.

5. Describe the geographic coverage.

The Friends is the only non-profit organization that serves documented child victims of abuse in our East Hawaii service area, which includes North Hilo, South Hilo, Honokaa to Puna, and all communities such as Keaau, Kurtistown, Mountain View, Volcano, and Pahala, up to the Ka'u side of South Point Road. The Friends serve the most significant population areas geographically on Hawaii Island.

III. Service Summary and Outcomes

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

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

The Friends has a twelve-member volunteer Board, a full-time Executive Director, a full-time Executive Assistant, and seven volunteers to implement the "Special Needs, Enhancements, Support, Education and Training Program."

Through multiple grants, fundraising activities, and donations, funds are available to support abused and neglected children, operate the 24-hour emergency clothes closet, and sustain event participation and community outreach.

Special Needs Requests (SNR) forms are submitted for items and services that directly benefit abused children. These requests are approved by the Executive Director (up to \$350.00) or the Executive Assistant (up to \$225.00). Any request over \$350.00 and up to \$700.00 is approved by the Program Committee, which is made up of Board members. A majority vote of the Board is required to approve requests for \$700.00 or more. Once approved, the Friends cover the cost of the item or service. The State Judiciary vets FCJCEH staff and volunteers. The Executive Assistant is responsible for documenting all program purchases. The Board Treasurer then reconciles QuickBooks accounts with the Friends Access database and monthly financial statements.

Volunteers assist Friends staff with administrative tasks, including processing requests, attending events, and helping maintain the clothes closet. Volunteers input SNR and "Outcome Evaluation" data into the Friends Access database. Service providers report "Outcome Evaluation" data, which provides feedback from participants. The data assesses the impact of funds distributed by Friends across six (6) possible areas. Results are compiled monthly and annually and shared with board members, volunteers, and grant agencies. Outcomes are linked to each SNR request for accurate record-keeping.

Outcome Evaluation – measurable outcomes that participants report

<input type="checkbox"/> Family / Guardian / child - coping with stress, crisis and/or relationships	<input type="checkbox"/> Physical / mental health	<input type="checkbox"/> School performance
<input type="checkbox"/> Social behavior, peer relationship	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-Esteem and Confidence	<input type="checkbox"/> Safety

The twelve Board members, the Executive Director, the Executive Assistant, and seven volunteers are available to provide community education through speaking engagements, distribution of prevention and education materials, event attendance, and hosting targeted activities in the community and at our facility.

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

All data entered into our Access database can be sorted by date to generate reports for a calendar year, a fiscal year, a specific period, or semi-annual reporting. Friends operates on a calendar year. However, nearly all grants we receive, except for one, follow a fiscal year.

If awarded the Hawaii State Legislative Grant-In-Aid, the Friends will submit a report for the fiscal year from July 1st, 2026, to June 30th, 2027, including spending, outcome measures, outreach activities, statistics, and more.

Friends will use a year's worth of compiled data from Special Needs requests as a benchmark to estimate projected program outcomes.

In the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the Friends' proposed outcomes are:

- Participants will receive items and resources from Friends to meet emergency, safety, and special needs
- Participants will gain a sense of safety, security, and normalcy
- Participants will report a decrease in family stress
- Participants will report an increase in well-being and an increase in the abused child's self-esteem
- Participants will report an overall increase in positive family functioning
- Participants will report a positive impact on the child's physical and mental health

Data is gathered on all services, events, and projects run by Friends and its programs to evaluate expected outcomes. Additionally, individual special needs requests include outcome data and feedback on the request.

Scheduled outreach activity:

- "Prom Project" projected outreach from January to April, with prom attire collection focus from June to October.
- "Sibling Connection," in partnership with Hi Hopes (Epic Ohana), is a gathering of foster siblings who are separated in foster care. The gathering provides for a holiday celebration held annually in December, the week of Christmas.

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

As documented on the "Special Needs Request" form, data is entered into the Friends Access database, which includes details such as gender, age, disability status, ethnicity, zip code, eligibility documentation, contact information for the requestor, item or service requested, vendor, request amount, outcome evaluation or comments, and more. The request is signed by both the requestor and the requestor's supervisor. The collected data can be adjusted to generate reports that monitor and evaluate the progress of projected outcomes and trends.

Grant award spending is tracked to prevent overspending, ensure accurate balances, and facilitate timely reporting. Figures entered into the Access database are reconciled monthly by the Board Treasurer with QuickBooks and the Friends' monthly financial statements.

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, the measure(s) of effectiveness will need to be updated and transmitted to the expending agency.**

- Abused children have experienced trauma, and their self-image has suffered. By utilizing funds, children who benefit from these resources will gain a sense of normalcy and positive self-worth, leading to a healthier overall self-image. The child or caregiver will report to their worker that FCJCEH funds positively impacted the child's self-esteem, confidence, physical and mental health, and helped reduce family stress. Semi-annual and annual data from compiled "Outcome Evaluation" responses will be used as benchmarks to measure program success.
- Victims of child abuse will receive items and services to address their immediate and developmental needs. Collected data will be used to identify the number of requests, unduplicated children served, types of requests, and more.
- Community members will gain education about child abuse prevention. The Friends Board, Staff, and volunteers will provide education about child abuse prevention and safety at community events, outreach events, and speaking events. A community event log will document overall annual participation.

IV. Financial
Budget

1. **The applicant shall submit a budget utilizing the enclosed budget forms as applicable, to detail the cost of the request.**
 - a. Budget request by source of funds ([Link](#))
 - b. Personnel salaries and wages ([Link](#))
 - c. Equipment and motor vehicles ([Link](#))
 - d. Capital project details ([Link](#))
 - e. Government contracts, grants, and grants in aid ([Link](#))

Attached

2. **The applicant shall provide its anticipated quarterly funding requests for the fiscal year 2027.**

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total Grant
12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	50,000

3. **The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are seeking for fiscal year 2027.**

Amount to be Requested	Funding Source
35,000.00	County of Hawaii
50,000.00	Teresa Hughes Foundation
50,000.00	Geist Foundation

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.**

No tax credits applied for nor received

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 2027 for program funding.**

07-01-23 to 06-30-24	County of Hawaii Waiwai Grant	\$15,000.00
07-01-24 to 06-30-25	County Contingency Funds Grant	\$29,950.00
07-01-25 to 06-30-26	County of Hawaii Waiwai Grant	\$30,000.00
07-01-25 to 06-30-26	State of Hawaii GIA	\$40,000.00

6. **The applicant shall provide the balance of its unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2025** \$92,472.59

V. Experience and Capability

1. Necessary Skills and Experience

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

The Friends has a twelve-member, active, skilled volunteer Board with diverse backgrounds and experience. Please see the Board's organizational chart, which details the Board's professional affiliations. The Friends employ two professional staff members and rely on seven volunteers. The Executive Director has a background in health and human services, while the Executive Assistant comes from a medical background and has experience working with children. All board members, staff, and volunteers pass the background checks through the State Judiciary and Child Welfare Service systems.

Every member of the Friends team is passionate about the welfare and well-being of children, which is reflected in the services provided to our community, including administrative work, project and event planning, fundraising, attending events, and maintaining the facility.

The Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East Hawaii is a private nonprofit organization founded in 1990 by concerned community members. Friends exist to help children who are sexually, physically, and emotionally abused or neglected. We do this by meeting their immediate and life-enhancing needs and by fulfilling their requests for items and services that other community resources or programs cannot provide. The Friends also host and participate in many community events throughout the year to raise awareness about child abuse prevention and the importance of reporting child abuse.

For 36 years, Friends has been a respected resource in our East Hawaii community. We work directly with public and private agencies that assist abused children and their families. (e.g., Child Welfare Services, The Children's Justice Center of East Hawaii, Child and Family Services, Parents Inc., The Department of Education, The Department of Health, Epic Ohana, The Salvation Army, private therapists, Guardians Ad Litem, foster parents, etc.) Partner agencies serve as Friends' "eyes and ears" in assessing the needs of abused children. They turn to Friends when their agency or other community programs cannot meet a particular need. Friends often serve as a last resort to fulfill that specific need. Through grant funding, our fundraising efforts, and donations, Friends is able to provide necessities, enhancement items, and emergency resources.

The Friends take the lead in reaching out to our partner organizations and community businesses to schedule either Zoom or in-person meetings. The goal is to educate their staff about "who the Friends are" and our role in the community. We start developing relationships that foster community partnerships for various special Friends projects throughout the year. For businesses that work directly with children and families, we train their staff on how to submit a special needs request to access resources for children who have been documented as abused and neglected.

In December 2025, Friends reached out on social media to the public, Rotary clubs, local banks, and businesses for holiday gift donations for abused children. The Friends then distributed the donated items to youth shelters, therapists, and the "Sibling Connection" (a holiday event that brings together foster siblings separated in foster care).

The Friends host annual "Prom Project Events" for various public and private schools, as well as for special needs groups. Throughout the year, Friends collect prom attire, accessories, and footwear from our community to distribute at these events. Prom events are scheduled in the spring before prom season, giving students an opportunity to find something to wear for prom. The event is free for attending students and includes an educational segment from a guest speaker. In previous years, the Salvation Army's "Sexual Assault Support Services Specialist" gave a talk on healthy relationships and

teen domestic issues and violence. In 2024, Ho'ōla Nā Pua presented an informative talk on child sex trafficking, recognizing the signs and how to reach out for help. In 2025, the Children's Justice Center Director spoke on personal safety and safe dating practices. By educating youth in our community, the Friends hope to raise awareness of potential problems that may adversely affect their lives and to provide resource materials.

The Friends attend a community quarterly meeting hosted by EPIC Ohana. EPIC Ohana is a neutral nonprofit dedicated to family conferencing, training, and program development. EPIC Ohana manages the HI HOPES initiative. This initiative helps young people who have experienced foster care (mainly those aged 14 to 26) build the relationships, resources, and opportunities they need for success. The HI HOPES Boards are made up of young people who serve as the voice of foster youth. The board advocates, collaborates, and educates youth in care. The EPIC Ohana meeting concentrates on the East Hawaii foster youth population involved in the HI HOPES program and preparing for transition as they age out of foster care.

The FCJCEH participates with an educational booth at the HI HOPES Teen Day event, where Friends talk to teens about their work and how they can help. Friends also work with the HI HOPES signature "Siblings Connections" event, a holiday party for foster siblings placed in different foster homes. The Friends run a general store where siblings can shop for each other, exchange wrapped gifts, and enjoy a photo booth, food, Santa, gifts for Santa, activities, door prizes, and more. This event acts as a social gathering that reunites separated siblings, positively impacting a child's mental health and healing process while helping them create positive memories. "Siblings Connections" started in 2019, paused during COVID, resumed in 2022, and has been held every December since. Data shows attendance and participation increase each year. Coordinating timely communication between Child Welfare Services, foster parents, and the HI HOPES organizer requires significant effort. In 2025, about 120 youth, caregivers, workers, and volunteers attended the event, and it is projected to have 150 in December 2026.

The Friends program has significantly expanded since its founding in 1990. Originally, Friends was established to meet the needs of children visiting the Children's Justice Center for interviews. Today, the program supports all documented children of abuse, aged 0 to 17, living in our East Hawaii service area. Children may be in foster care with Child Welfare Services or living with a non-abusive caregiver. Below is a two-year summary of data and outcomes, showing the number of undocumented children served and the number of requests fulfilled for 2024 and 2025. Outcome percentages highlight our program's impact on children and families. These figures reflect only children served through requests submitted via the special needs request process. Additionally, the number of child abuse victims who visit the Children's Justice Center for interviews and those who access the 24-hour emergency closet also increases our service statistics.

The information below is a reflection of the 2024/2025 collected data of filled requests.

HEALTH/ WELLNESS SUPPORT

noise canceling headphones
hygiene items
mental health-related requests
safety-related requests
therapeutic supplies
watch Fitbit / Apple
therapeutic art/craft supplies
basic needs
clothing and footwear
earbuds
health-related requests
sibling connection event

EDUCATION SUPPORT

computers/laptops/tablets
computer accessories
education-related expenses
educational tools
electronics
prom expenses
school fees, school supplies
school uniforms
toys/educational
Winners Camp

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY SUPPORT

Baseball-related expenses
bikes/helmets
boxing
dance classes
exercise-related requests
football-related requests
gym membership
skateboards
Soccer-related expenses
scooters/helmets
swimming
trampolines
volleyball-related expenses
wrestling-related expenses

HOBBY/ ENRICHMENT SUPPORT

birthday presents.
summer and intersession programs

Christmas gifts
knitting supplies
sewing classes
musical instruments

BASIC NEEDS / SAFETY / BABY NEEDS

baby needs
beds/bedding
booster seats
car seats
cribs
dresser drawers
storage bins
strollers
Highchairs
luggage
plastic drawers
playpens

TRANSITION INTO ADULTHOOD

prepaid cell phones for safety
transition into adulthood expenses

Year	# Children Served	# of request
2025	562	1174
2024	502	1202

Impact of Funding Received – Outcome Evaluations

Outcome Evaluation	2025	2024
Family/Guardian/Child - coping with stress/crisis/relationships	18%	17%
Physical / Mental Health	20%	19%
Safety	14%	12%
School Performance	11%	13%
Self-Esteem and Confidence	20%	21%
Social behavior, Peer relationship	17%	18%

Please note that we also connect with the general community and youth through community events and fairs. During these events, we offer activities that attract children, and as they participate, we engage with parents and distribute educational materials.

In 2025, Friends had the opportunity to host "Prom Project" events, one for the Hawaii Academy of Arts & Science Public Charter School and the other for a special needs youth group, as part of their annual "Night to Shine" project. Both events included a

guest speaker discussing personal safety and safe dating practices. Friends distributed approximately one hundred prom dresses, young men's dress attire, and outreach materials at these events.

2025 Community Outreach Activities:

Hosted By Friends

- Hosted the "Justice for Children Gala" fundraising event, which markets the Friends program and benefits child abuse victims
- Phantom non-event fundraiser mailout, with over 300 invitations for donation, which markets the Friends program and benefits child abuse victims

Speaking Events

- Various speaking events, including Rotary Clubs, Exchange Clubs, Child Welfare Services, Parents Inc.

Event Participation as a Beneficiary

- Participation at the Hilo Brewfest as a beneficiary, marketing Friends programs for child abuse victims
- Participation and resource distribution at a basic needs collection hosted by Waiakea Water
- Participation in the "Keiki Blanket Drive" hosted by Discount Fabric Warehouse

Public Event Participation / Child Abuse Prevention Awareness

- Participation in the child mental health awareness event "Malama the Mind"
- Participation in the Visitor Industry Charity Walk
- Participation in the" Hawaii Island United Way Partner Agency events
- Participation in the HI HOPES Teen Day and the "Siblings Connection" holiday party.
- Participation in "Ka'u Ohana" emergency closet awareness event
- Participation and attendance at meetings/events in 2025 sponsored by the "Community Hui" and Epic Ohana, for East Hawaii HI Hopes activities
- Participation in the Children's Justice Center training event on mandatory reporting
- Participation in the Kiwani's community "Keiki Day" Event
- Participation in the YWCA "Trunk and Treat" community Halloween event
- Participation in the "Fall Community Resource Fair" at Keaukaha Elementary School

At these 2025 community outreach activities and events, Friends raised awareness about our mission to serve child victims of abuse, highlighted our impact on the community, and provided education on child abuse prevention and reporting.

2. Facilities

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

The Friends of the Children's Justices Center of East Hawaii purchased a half-acre fee simple property with a dwelling at 498 Laukapu St. in Hilo, Hawaii, in September 2022, financed through a mortgage. The 1938 two-story house now serves as the location of our nonprofit office. The site is centrally located and easily accessible to all partner agencies and law enforcement. This property allows Friends to expand programs for child abuse victims, conduct public outreach, and pursue new opportunities aligned with societal trends.

Donors and the public can visit our office and 24-hour emergency closet during business hours to tour the facility and drop off donations. Meanwhile, Friends educate donors about child abuse prevention. Additionally, Friends open our facility as a gathering space for meetings, small projects, and prom attire distribution, all with the goal of positively impacting the lives of abused and neglected children.

Since our facility is an older plantation-style home, the Friends enlisted the help of Lions Clubs and local Rotary Clubs to restore it to its former glory. The Friends purchased materials, and the Clubs provided free labor. Windows have been replaced, new floors have been installed in the kitchen and bathroom, a new lavatory sink has been added in the bathroom, and new siding and doors have been installed in the basement area downstairs. Interior and exterior painting has been completed, and all safety issues addressed, making the facility functional as an office and gathering space. There is an accessible, locked ground-level area (almost 6 ft high) that matches the size of the living area, where we have a drop-off box, bathroom, and laundry sink—much-needed storage for prom dresses, program and activity supplies, archived items, and more. This area is easily accessible from our driveway, allowing community members to drive up and drop off donations to the office staff.

Another benefit of having this space is that we have a physical address for mailing. This is a major advantage for our organization since we often receive items for youth, like bunk beds, shipped by FedEx and UPS. We can also accept mail at our street mailbox and our post office box.

In 2025, Friends finished the interior design of our 24-hour emergency clothes closet, which opened on July 15, 2025. The closet is the only one on Hawaii Island that serves the public for children of abuse, around the clock, year-round. It is accessible to law enforcement, Child Welfare Services, and all providers who assist child victims in urgent need. The closet keeps a sign-out log, emergency "to-go bags" (prepacked with basic needs), organized clothing of all sizes, footwear, hygiene items, comfort items, duffel bags, backpacks, and more.

Our long-term plan for the back of our property is to serve our community by constructing another building. Partner agencies and law enforcement can utilize the extra space for their staff, meetings, workspace related to child abuse cases, or direct services for child abuse victims. The purpose is to lessen the burden and inconvenience on children, families, law enforcement, and partner agencies by offering a shared area for meetings and services.

VI. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

1. Proposed Staffing, Staff Qualifications, Supervision and Training

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

Friends will continue to employ a full-time Executive Director and Executive Assistant to achieve its goals and objectives. However, in 2026, Friends will evaluate the possible need to hire an additional part-time staff member, based on program demand, to manage and support the newly created 24-hour emergency clothes closet. Staff members and volunteers are cleared through the State Judiciary and Child Welfare background checks. Seven volunteers will assist paid staff with administrative tasks, event planning and participation, facility organization, cleaning, and database management. All staff and volunteers receive proper training in administrative duties, facility maintenance, operations, event responsibilities, and safety procedures, as directed by the Executive Director and Executive Assistant. The Friends emphasize each team member's strengths in their assigned roles and offer additional support as needed. Respect, good stewardship, and a positive attitude are highly valued at the Friends office.

Executive Director Responsibilities

- Adhere to reporting deadlines for monthly, quarterly, and annual reports, preparing, and submitting timely reports
- Communicate with grant administrators regarding reports, changes in criteria or forms, etc., as needed
- Attend presentations and meetings regarding the grants, including United Way and Hawaii County, working with Board members for formal presentations
- Keep the treasurer, program committee, and finance committee informed of the grant status
- Research additional grant and funding sources, prepare grant proposals, and submit them, keeping the Board and committees updated.

Volunteers:

- Recruit, train, and supervise a pool of regular Friends volunteers to process the SNR requests and provide other assistance as needed
- Coordinate volunteer schedules and organize volunteer activities
- Conduct monthly volunteer/staff meetings
- Prepare and distribute minutes of the volunteer monthly meeting
- Recruit and supervise or work with Board members to use volunteer groups (high schools, colleges, clubs, organizations, etc.) to provide one-time or short-term service projects, such as the clothes closet, community educational events and holiday activities

Board Support:

- Attend Board and committee meetings, serving as secretary/note-taker
- Work with the Board officers and committee chairs to notify members of meetings/activities and ensure timely communication is maintained of upcoming meetings, activities, or events using email and phone calls
- Prepare and distribute meeting agendas, materials, and minutes to the Board, Childrens Justice Center Director, and volunteers
- Prepare and distribute current Board contact information and new member handbook, as needed

Board fundraising:

- Receive and process Phantom / Gala donations, registrations, documenting money received, etc.
- Assist fund-raising efforts by maintaining a donor database for use in the Phantom / Gala and other events
- Handle correspondence, including thank you letters to donors that meet the IRS codes for not-for-profit organizations

Board prevention/education:

- Assist the Board at community events that provide information about the Friends
- Assist the Board and Children's Justice Center in planning and implementing awareness activities
- Arrange public speaking for community groups and businesses

Bookkeeping, secretarial, and financial support:

- Record and acknowledge all donors in writing, be it money or in-kind
- Maintain a list of donations and segregate funds to ensure the GET obligations are accurate
- Ensure that all bills and invoices are paid on time
- Maintain the petty cash fund
- Deliver all checks, monthly program accounting data, and bank statements to the accountant promptly
- Make bank deposits
- Receive and respond to calls, mail, and email, and handle inquiries regarding the FCJC-EH programs, referring to the Board as appropriate

- Run errands as necessary, including banking and post office
- Maintain office operations and functions, i.e., ordering supplies, etc.

Friends and Judiciary Childrens Justice Center partnership:

- Maintain the public/private partnership by working cooperatively with CJC-EH staff
- Meet regularly with the Children's Justice Center East Hawaii Program Director and Secretary to coordinate upcoming events and training needs

Office files:

- Maintain the official Friends files and records of activities, including Board and committee minutes, correspondence, and financial records supporting the receipt, expenditures, and reports of funds received

Attending pertinent training seminars for professional development.

Comply with any other requests or directives from the Board.

Transportation during work hours- as required- with proof of car insurance and driver's license. [to run errands, attend meetings, and transport items for events] Flexibility to occasionally attend after-hour/weekend events or meetings.

Skills and Attributes:

Experienced in the social services field
Grant management experience, including report writing
Experienced with standard bookkeeping and accounting procedures
Experienced with database programs.

- Able to work cooperatively and independently with others as a team member.
- Demonstrate successful people skills (interpersonal skills) in interactions with various people, including agency professionals and a diversity of volunteers.
- Apply writing skills to reports and written documents, including the ability to proof one's work.
- Organized, able to handle multiple tasks simultaneously, and consistently meeting deadlines.
- Motivated, reliable, trustworthy, and flexible
- Committed to ongoing learning and new skill development

Executive Assistant

Assist and support Executive Director duties as assigned, supervise volunteers, handle office functions, and perform facility maintenance. Oversee all special need requests submitted, ensuring timely processing, data entry, and accounting. Lead in event preparation, supply management, and clothes closet inventory.

2. Organization Chart

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

Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East Hawaii
BOARD OF DIRECTORS January 2025

NAME	TITLE	Length of Service	PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION
Doreen Friberg	President	Since 2017	President/General Manager, Small Business Owner, Retired
Kathy Romero	Vice-President	Since 2016	Elementary School Principal, Retired
Cathy Ogino-Williams	Secretary	Since 2021	Retired Child Welfare Services Worker
Jill Jacunski	Treasurer	Since 2008	Family Business, Vice-President
Marcia Prose	Director	Since 1989	Grafix Advertising, Owner
Phoebe Lambeth	Director	Since 2016	Registered Nurse / Hospital Administrator, Retired
Andrey Simonov	Director	Since 2020	Professor of Accounting – UH Hilo
Michelle Leite	Director	Since 2022	VP, Branch Manager HomeStreet Bank- Hilo Branch
Mary Begier	Director	Since 2023	Mary Begier Realty-Principal Broker Owner
Ashley Mejia	Director	Since 2023	Executive Officer-Hawaii Island Realtors
Ann Usagawa	Director	Since 2023	Retired- Hilo Medical Center Social Worker
Tracey-Leigh Brosnahan	Director	Since 2025	Accounting Professional /Director of the Bank Reconciliation Center of Excellence

The Executive Director reports to the Board of Directors, with the Board President acting as the main supervisor of daily operations. The Executive Director oversees the Executive Assistant.

Robin Benedict (Executive Director) has been with Friends since August 2011. Mrs. Benedict brings over 20 years of experience in education and management with the

Department of Human Services Self-Sufficiency Programs. She partnered with Child Welfare Service in Hawaii and Oregon. Mrs. Benedict manages the "Special Needs and Enhancements" program and handles grant writing, database management, reporting, fundraising assistance, donation tracking, community education events, administrative support, and supervises the Executive Assistant (Nicole Chase) and seven volunteers. The volunteers—Deb Koval (since 2009), Drucy Casburn (since 2014), Geoff Casburn (since 2015), Louann Kimura (since 2022), Amy Quan (since 2022), Marlene Kufrovich (since 2023), and Lee Watanabe (since 2023)—assist with processing Special Needs Requests, facility organization, and maintenance.

Nicole Chase (Executive Assistant) has been employed with Friends since March 2022. Mrs. Chase has over 14 years of medical experience and has worked directly with children. Her expertise, knowledge, and administrative and computer skills have become a valuable asset to the Friends' operations. Mrs. Chase is responsible for ensuring the timely processing of all special needs requests submitted, providing backup to the Executive Director, and leading in event planning and office organization. Mrs. Chase continues to grow and learn as an assistant to the Executive Director.

3. Compensation

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

Executive Director – \$54,000.00 - \$57,000.00

Executive Assistant - \$39,000.00 - \$42,000.00

VII. Other

1. Litigation

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

The Friends is not currently a part of any pending or active litigation.

2. Licensure or Accreditation

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

Not applicable

3. Private Educational Institutions

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

Not applicable

4. Future Sustainability Plan

The applicant shall provide a plan for sustaining after fiscal year 2027 the activity funded by the grant if the grant of this application is:

- (a) Received by the applicant for fiscal year 2027, but**
- (b) Not received by the applicant thereafter.**

Funding received in 2026-2027 will enable Friends to keep two full-time staff members, expand public access hours, support the maintenance of the "24/7 Friends Emergency Clothes Closet," and train staff to speak at public events. It will also allow staff to attend community events, organize more public speaking and training sessions, and devote more time to developing new programs and expanding current ones. With this funding, the Friends will be better equipped to meet growing community needs, follow public trends, connect with local businesses, serve child abuse victims, and raise awareness about the importance of child abuse prevention—recognizing that abuse harms children's health and impacts our community as a whole.

Without state funding, operations will continue, but there will be no opportunity to grow our programs for abused children in critical need or to better equip our community with tools to respond to child abuse.

With support from local businesses and concerned community members, the Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East Hawaii has been assisting child victims of abuse since 1990. The Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East Hawaii is a respected organization and an essential resource for our East Hawaii community.

The Friends do not charge fees for any of our services. We are constantly seeking new grant opportunities, encouraging community donations, increasing contributions from our Phantom non-event fundraiser/mailout, and enhancing participation and attendance at our annual "Gala" fundraising dinner. The Friends share updates on social media, and our website includes a donation button for visitors to contribute.

Our active board members, staff, and volunteers build community relationships, embrace networking opportunities, and continue educating the community about child abuse, child abuse prevention, and the importance of reporting it. The Friends team

looks for every opportunity to promote positive change that improves the health and welfare of our community.

The Friends will stay active and maintain strong relationships with both public and private donors and grant funders. The Friends will process applications and report in a timely manner to ensure continued grant support for programs.

The Friends will continue seeking assistance from Rotary Clubs, Lions Clubs, local businesses, and community members for skilled labor, expertise in facility upgrades, and supply donations.

The Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East Hawaii will continue leading efforts to connect with local businesses, partner agencies, and community members, offering resources and organizing speaking engagements to promote child abuse prevention. The Friends recognize that increasing program awareness creates opportunities for community involvement and donations.

The Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East Hawaii will continue to responsibly manage all financial grants and donations, recognizing each donor's contribution and its impact on Friends programs and our community.

BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

Applicant: Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East 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	28,640			66,360
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments	2,900			7,600
3. Fringe Benefits	6,960			10,440
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	38,500			84,400
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Airfare, Inter-Island				600
2. Insurance	3,500			500
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment				
4. Lease/Rental of Space				
5. Staff Training				
6. Supplies	3,000		1,000	
7. Telecommunication				
8. Utilities	2,000			2,000
9. Accounting	2,000		2,000	1,000
10. Center Support			1,500	
11. Community Relations			3,500	500
12. Dues & Subscriptions				2,350
13. Mileage				700
14. Mortgage Interest				18,000
15. Maintenance - facility	1,000			4,000
16. Repairs				500
17. Special Needs (Program)			12,500	96,000
18. Clothes Closet (Program)			14,500	4,350
19. Volunteer Recognition				1,100
20.				
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	11,500		35,000	131,600
C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES				
D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES				
E. CAPITAL				
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	50,000		35,000	216,000
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	50,000	Jill Jacunski 808-935-8755		
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested	0	Name (Please type or print) Phone		
(c) Total County Funds Requested	35,000	<i>Jill Jacunski</i> 01-20-2026		
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested	216,000	Signature of Authorized Official Date		
TOTAL BUDGET	301,000	Jill Jacunski, Treasurer		
		Name and Title (Please type or print)		

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS

Period: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

Applicant: Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East Hawaii, Inc.

NOT APPLICABLE

		FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED					
		ALL SOURCES OF FUNDS RECEIVED IN PRIOR YEARS		STATE FUNDS REQUESTED	OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS REQUESTED	FUNDING REQUIRED IN SUCCEEDING YEARS	
		FY:2024-2025	FY:2025-2026	FY:2026-2027	FY:2026-2027	FY:2027-2028	FY:2028-2029
TOTAL PROJECT COST							
PLANS							
LAND ACQUISITION							
DESIGN							
CONSTRUCTION							
EQUIPMENT							
TOTAL:							
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:							

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID

Applicant: Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East Hawaii, Inc.

Contracts Total:

70,000

CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)	CONTRACT VALUE
1 County of Hawaii- Waiwai (restricted to Program	07-01-25 to 06-30-26	County of Hawaii	Hawaii County	30,000
2 State of Hawaii	07-01-25 to 06-30-26	Dept of Human Services	State of Hawaii	40,000
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