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.*

[X] 1) Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate (If the Applicant is an Organization)

[X] 2) Declaration Statement

[X] 3) Verify that grant shall be used for a public purpose

[X] 4) Background and Summary

[X] 5) Service Summary and Outcomes

[X] 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)

[X] 7) Experience and Capability

[X] 8) Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing
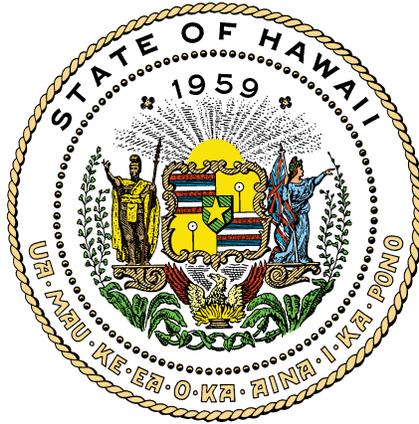
AnneLouise Caporuscio	AnneLouise Caporuscio	1/22/2026
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE	PRINT NAME AND TITLE	DATE

STATE OF HAWAII
1959
UA·MAU·KE·EA·O·KA·AINA·I·KA·PONO

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

KEKAHU FOUNDATION, INC.

was incorporated under the laws of Hawaii on 04/12/1994 ;
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: December 12, 2025

Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

FM
88.1 90.9 91.9
MOLOA'A HANALEI ISLANDWIDE

KKCR
KAUA'I COMMUNITY RADIO

STREAMING ALOHA WORLDWIDE AT KKCR.ORG

Kekahu Foundation, Inc.
KKCR-FM

PO Box 825, Hanalei, HI. 96714
4520 D Hanalei Plantation Rd., Princeville, HI. 96722
(808) 826-7774 office   (808) 826-7977 fax   kkcr@kkcr.org

DECLARATION STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE RE: Hawaii Revised Statutes, Section 42F-103

The undersigned, being the authorized representative of **Kekahu Foundation Inc.** (the "Applicant"), hereby affirms and declares that the Applicant is in full compliance with the standards for the award of grants as set forth in Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Specifically, the Applicant affirms that it:

1. 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;
2. 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;
3. Agrees not to use state funds for entertainment or lobbying activities;
4. Shall allow 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;
5. Is incorporated under the laws of the State of Hawaii (or spends at least 90% of its operating budget in the State);
6. 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
7. (If a nonprofit) Has a governing board whose members have no material conflict of interest and serve without compensation.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature: *AnneLouise Caporuscio*

Name: Anni Caporuscio

Title: Executive Director

Date: 01/17/2025

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.

2.   Declaration Statement

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

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.

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;

Kaua'i Community Radio (KKCR) is Kaua'i's #1 independent, non-commercial, listener-supported community radio station. Established in the wake of Hurricane 'Iniki in 1992, KKCR was founded to address the critical need for a reliable, island-wide emergency radio service. The Kekahu Foundation facilitates this broadcasting opportunity.

KKCR's Core Mission and Community Standing: For nearly three decades, we have evolved to become the island's cultural and civic hub. KKCR seeks to:

1) Stimulate, educate, and entertain our audience.
2) Preserve, perpetuate, and celebrate Hawaiian culture.
3) Reflect the diversity of the local and world community.
4) Disseminate factual emergency response and disaster preparedness information.

Our commitment is intensely local: 97% of our broadcast content is created on Kauaʻi, for Kauaʻi, by Kauaʻi residents. This local focus has led to wide-spread listener reach: We are consistently rated by Eastlan as the #1 non-commercial station on Kauaʻi, frequently ranking as the overall second or third most-listened-to radio station—outperforming even Hawaiʻi Public Radio (the local NPR carrier).

KKCR is not just one of many stations; it is a market leader that has seen unprecedented growth in reach and popularity in the past 2 years. According to independent Eastlan Ratings, KKCR's audience share has surged from a 5.1 share in 2023 to a 9.8 share in 2025. This means that nearly one out of every ten radio listeners on Kauai is tuned into KKCR at any given time.This represents a near doubling of our market presence in just three years. We also grew our online listeners 15% from 156K to 179K since 2024, showing that we are growing both on our terrestrial and online broadcasts. Radio remains important, valued, and a part of many resident and tourist's lives.

KKCR continues to grow in popularity because our station provides culture, community, and safety to our listeners. Some of our main contributions to Kauaʻi are as follows:

Essential Emergency and Public Safety Services: KKCR is a vital part of the island's emergency infrastructure and is a cornerstone of the Emergency Alert System (EAS). We hold the federal designation of Local Primary (LP-2). This means we serve as the official fail-safe for Kauai's emergency infrastructure. If the primary station (LP-1) suffers a power failure or technical outage during a disaster, the legal responsibility to relay life-saving Emergency Alert System (EAS) messages falls to KKCR to ensure no resident is left uninformed. This makes us an essential pillar for disaster preparedness and on-air safety communications for over one-hundred thousand people across Kauai and parts of Oahu. Since our inception, KKCR has provided 100% coverage of all major weather events and emergencies impacting Kauai. Most recently, during the July 2025 Tsunami Warning, the station shared critical real-time updates on road closures, shelter locations, and weather alerts to ensure community safety.

Music & Cultural Broadcasts: Our broadcast features over 50 unique shows, both music and special interest talk and public affairs programs. The terrestrial broadcast is available on four frequencies island wide and is also transmitted via

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the web and found at kkcr.org and on our free app. We also host a 24/7 Hawaiian Music Stream on kkcr.org, which plays non-stop music from our extensive library of Hawaiian music spanning over 100 years and 1,000 titles. 40% of our terrestrial broadcast time is dedicated to Hawaiian music and affairs, outside of this 24/7 stream.

Civic and Community Engagement: We air over a dozen weekly/monthly civic and community broadcasts that cover a wide spectrum of local issues, including public affairs, government updates, environmental issues, and nonprofit activities and discussions, specifically giving voice to under-represented community perspectives.

Educational and Special-Interest Series: We produce several special-interest broadcast series dedicated to public education and cultural preservation, including:
- Public Safety and Environment: Our "Deep Dive" series educates the public on different aspects of water safety, and our Waste Diversion Project, in conjunction with the County's OED and local access TV, informs listeners on how and where to dispose of waste locally.

- Hawaiian Cultural Expansion Project: This initiative includes the daily "Hawaiian Word of the Day," our Hawaiian music archival project, and upcoming free ʻŌlelo Hawaiʻi classes for our volunteer DJs to deepen their connection to the culture they promote and our ongoing "Talk Story" series which highlights Native Hawaiian storytellers.

Our talk shows range from handling pets in the tropics to gardening, from localized community groups to issues surrounding death and dying. KKCR's work reflects our community's diversity, provides a shared platform for connection, cultural practice, civic participation, and offers essential public services to Kauaʻi and beyond.

2.   The goals and objectives related to the request;

The *Amplify the Signal* project is a strategic expansion of our current stabilization efforts. Building upon the foundation of Act 310, SLH 2025, which protected our core personnel, this request is designed to move KKCR from a "preservation" phase to a final "public launch" phase in 2026/2027.

While those emergency funds are currently in the state release process—with a primary focus on stabilizing core personnel through salary support—this new request is designed to build upon that foundation. By recognizing that the State has already moved to protect our human capital (salaries) and utilities to *Sustain the Signal,* we are now seeking to Amplify the Signal by investing in the critical infrastructure, cultural preservation, and professional development needed to sustain our surging 9.8 market share.

Our goals for this request are focused on capacity-building—we want to *amplify* our impact with a concentrated period of growth:

I. Hawaiian Music Archival Completion (Goal 1)

Objective: Finalizing the preservation and digital broadcast of over an estimated 1,000 at-risk Hawaiian music recordings.

Context & Urgency: KKCR houses one of the largest and most significant collections of native Hawaiian music in the state and thus the world. However, this irreplaceable cultural treasure is under constant threat. Due to Kauai's high humidity and the increasing frequency of major storms, our analog archives (vintage vinyl, cassettes, and cds) are facing rapid physical degradation from moisture and mold "rot."

Proven Progress & Funding Gap: This goal is to complete this preservation project. We successfully launched this preservation initiative in 2025 supported by a grant from the Atherton Family Foundation. While those funds allowed us to digitize the first portion of the library, the Atherton funds will be fully depleted by the end of this fiscal year and we still have at least half of the effort left to complete. Additionally, even the portion that has been digitized has not been properly backed-up and the storage room needs proper treatment or the physical copies will all degrade. This GIA request is essential to complete the digitization of the remaining 1,000+ titles and stabilize our storage environment in order to preserve these rare and unique Hawaiiana titles.

The Three-Step Preservation Strategy:

Digitization: Museum-grade digital transfers led by our Archival Specialist (kūpuna, cultural practitioner and long time broadcaster Leilani Kalilimoku Kaleiohi) to ensure historical and metadata accuracy.

Storage and backup (The 3-2-1 Method): To ensure this music survives future natural disasters, we follow the professional 3-2-1 Standard: 3 copies of the data, on 2 different media types, with 1 copy stored off-site.

Public Integration: Integrating the library into a modernized, 24/7 ad-free Hawaiian music stream, ensuring these cultural assets are accessible to the public globally.

Resource Allocation for Goal 1:

- **Labor and Preservation:** Includes the Archival Specialist, industrial dehumidifiers, and Govee WiFi Data Loggers for 24/7 humidity tracking.
- **Digital Preservation and Hardware:** Includes a Glyph Blackbox PRO master drive and Backblaze B2 Cloud Storage.
- **Operations and Outreach:** Includes project leadership by the Executive Director, media relations by the Outreach Director, technical integration by the Program Director, and compliance support by Kōlea Data Communications.

- **Rent and Utilities:** Proportional share of facility overhead to maintain a stable 24/7 archival environment. Our rent and utilities are usually over $50,000 a year.

II. Digital Improvements and Diversifying Funding (Goal 2)

Objective: To expand business operations and digital infrastructure to match our growth and ensure long-term financial independence. We are currently looking towards local and state support more than we usually do. This is because federal funding for broadcast media has been slashed, and competition for national private foundations has become exponentially more complicated and competitive as many other non-profits look elsewhere for funds. We ask the state to continue to support us during this unusual time, but have long-term plans to diversify our funding more with a variety of funders outside of local government. Our priorities to ensure long-term sustainability include:

1) **Remaking our app and website:** Hire a technical consultant to overhaul the website and app to improve User Experience (UX) while cutting annual app costs and improving backend maintenance requirements. Better digital experiences mean more listeners and engagement.

2) **New Digital Home for Hawaiian Archival Project:** Converting our current database scheduler (Megaseg) that hosts the Hawaiian Archival Project to Rivendell, an open-source database and scheduler. This lowers costs and keeps us using the most modern technical solutions.

3) **Funding & Data Management:** Fund consultants to apply for at least one grant a month to diversify income through federal/private grants and manage GIA-mandated reporting.

Context & Urgency: To sustain our current growth, we need to modernize our digital tools and diversify our revenue streams to move beyond a reliance on emergency state aid–which has been necessary given a sudden stop to federal funds. Our current website and app have many costly features that drain our budget. We want to streamline the website and app to be more user-friendly and with less costly features that are not used. These improvements will make website and app maintenance an easier process for staff and a better experience for listeners. GIA funds towards development with a grant consultant will help us achieve more long-term stability and sustainability. We already have a relationship with a grant writer and these funds would allow us to continue to fund their work throughout the upcoming fiscal year.

Proven Progress: Through aggressive community outreach and strategic management, the Executive Director has already increased online listenership by 25,000 unique users per year, boosted volunteer participation by 22%, and grown donations by 30%. This rapid expansion has solidified KKCR's position as a dominant voice on Kaua'i. This request allows us to apply that same operational success to our digital channels and professional development.

Resource Allocation for Goal 2:

- **Digital Channel Overhaul:** Comprehensive redesign of the KKCR mobile app and website by a technical consultant. Includes professional UX design, website hosting, and webcasting expenses. We have already selected a consultant to do this (Creek LLC).
- **Archive Migration:** Technical engagement of specialist to lead the conversion to Rivendell (Linux) to stabilize the 24/7 Hawaiian Music Archive stream. Provided by Lex White LLC.
- **Strategic Grant Writing, Data Tracking & Outreach:** Provided by Kōlea Data Communications. This is a dedicated investment in the station's long-term financial independence. This effort covers the pursuit of at least one new federal or private foundation grant per month. These efforts are focused on diversifying our revenue streams beyond state aid, ensuring that our infrastructure and programming growth remain sustainable.

III. Fortify Primary Emergency Communications Infrastructure (Goal 3)

Objective: To stabilize KKCR's critical infrastructure and optimize signal reach, ensuring our ability to serve as a Primary Local Source (LP-2) for the Emergency Alert System (EAS) 24/7.

Context & Urgency: As one of only two designated LP-2 sources on Kauaʻi, KKCR is the backbone of the island's disaster preparedness. Our electricity and transmission costs have increased in just two years, and will continue to rise. Because an LP-2 station must remain powered 24/7 to satisfy federal safety mandates, these costs are unavoidable. Furthermore, rural communities like Haena and others leave residents vulnerable during tsunamis or floods if our signal is not optimized to reach rural areas terrestrially. Working with an engineer will also improve our overall broadcast capabilities, ensuring we can properly handle emergency situations and remain within FCC compliance requirements.

Resource Allocation for Goal 3:

- **Broadcast Engineering Audit:** Provided by Skywaves Technology (Dave Doherty). Covers FCC legal compliance, equipment calibration, and technical signal optimization and expansion.
- **Critical Utility Overhead:** Allocation toward electricity and transmission facility costs to ensure the LP-2 signal remains uninterrupted.

IV. Program Implementation & Operational Oversight (Goal 4)

Objective: To manage and sustain a 15% growth in online listenership and a near-doubling of terrestrial market share.

Context & Urgency: KKCR has evolved into a global Hawaiian cultural hub with over 179,000 unique online listeners annually. However, while our reach has

expanded, our staff size has remained at only four individuals. We must fund the specific labor hours required to oversee these growth initiatives while maintaining our commitment to 97% Kauaʻi-created content.

The Foundation for Sustainability: Unlike the archival-specific costs in Goal 1, this allocation provides General Operating Support. These funds secure the labor hours required for our leadership team to manage foundational operations. By supporting these core salaries, the State provides the stability necessary for KKCR to build from its current success into a self-sustaining institution.

Resource Allocation for Goal 4 (General Operating Support):

- **Executive Leadership:** Foundational support for the Executive Director to manage daily operations, lead growth strategy, and ensure all State GIA compliance and fiscal reporting standards are met.
- **Program & Cultural Oversight:** Supports the Program Director in managing the 24/7 broadcast schedule, supervising volunteer DJs, and ensuring community programming maintains alignment with station mission. PD also ensures reporting for licenses are submitted in a timely and complete manner.
- **Technical & Operations Management:** Supports the Operations Director in maintaining studio facilities and managing the technical demands of the global web stream, mobile app, and transmitter sites.
- Outreach & Development: Supports the Outreach Director in capacity building—converting market share into a diversified funding base through underwriting and donor engagement.

At its heart, this request is about ensuring that Kauaʻi's community radio station has the modern tools necessary to match the vital role it plays on our island. KKCR is more than just a broadcast; it is a community platform where our local culture is kept alive and where our neighbors turn for connection and safety. This project allows us to finally finish preserving our irreplaceable Hawaiian music collection and bring it to a global audience. By improving our FM broadcasts, stepping up our grant writing, and modernizing our website and app, we are building a professional foundation that matches our growth. This investment stabilizes our core salaries and provides the tools we need to keep serving our small island as a self-reliant, community-driven voice for years to come. Bottom line—we stay rooted here. But we need these tools and investments to keep the station strong and the music playing for generations. These improvements will make sure KKCR stays "The Voice of Kauaʻi" from Haʻena to Kekaha.

3.   The public purpose and need to be served;

Kekahu Foundation (KKCR) serves a dual public purpose: acting as one of Kauaʻi's primary emergency broadcast lifelines and serving as one of the world's largest digital repositories for Hawaiian music and culture. While commercial media continues to consolidate, KKCR remains the only non-commercial, hyper-local media outlet on Kauaʻi that is 100% community-driven. The Amplify the Signal project addresses the

urgent need to modernize our technical infrastructure and finalize the preservation of our cultural archives to meet the demands of a rapidly expanding global listenership.

1. Critical Need: Preservation of At-Risk Cultural Heritage

- **The Need:** KKCR holds a massive, one-of-a-kind collection of over 12K Hawaiian music titles, many of which exist only on fragile vintage formats like vinyl and cassette. These physical assets are currently threatened by Kaua'i's high humidity and mold "rot." While a $5,000 grant from the Atherton Family Foundation allowed us to begin this rescue mission in 2025, those funds will be depleted by the end of this fiscal year, leaving the last portion of this irreplaceable collection at risk of permanent loss.
- **The Impact**: By completing this final digitization phase, we transition from "storing" history to "sharing" it. We will implement the professional 3-2-1 Backup Standard (three copies, two media types, one off-site) to ensure this music survives future natural disasters. This project ensures rare recordings are protected in perpetuity and integrated into a modernized 24/7 ad-free digital stream, making Hawaiian heritage accessible to the 179,000+ annual listeners who rely on us as their cultural connection to the islands.

2. Critical Need: Resilient Emergency Communications & Technical Stability

- **The Need:** As a primary Local Primary Source (LP-2) for the Emergency Alert System (EAS), KKCR provides one of the only reliable communication links during major weather events when internet and cell towers fail. However, our reliance on expensive, proprietary software and aging transmitter tuning creates vulnerabilities in our "Lifeline" service.
- **The Impact:** This project serves the public need for omni-channel safety and technical resilience.
  - **Transmission Improvement:** We will engage a broadcast engineer to perform critical antenna tuning across our four transmitter sites, increasing reach to rural areas and improving overall transmission quality and reach.
  - **Improved Database:** We will migrate our current database for the Hawaiian Archival Project to Rivendell, an open-source Linux system. This transition provides the stability required to automate the Hawaiian Music Archive while eliminating expensive licensing fees, redirecting those savings back into community service.
  - **Mobile Accessibility:** We will overhaul our mobile app and website, migrating to a stable platform that reduces annual costs by 63% while ensuring the stream remains active and accessible on smartphones during high-traffic emergencies.

3. Critical Need: Cultivating Civic Participation and Future Leaders

- **The Need:** There is a diminishing number of platforms where local nonprofits, students, and under-represented voices can speak directly to the community without a commercial paywall. As KKCR's market share has surged to 9.8, the

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responsibility to provide a "town square" has grown, requiring more robust operational support to manage this increased public engagement.

- **The Impact:** KKCR serves as a digital and terrestrial "town square" by providing airtime to mission-driven programs that foster informed and engaged citizens:
  - **Elevating Grassroots Movements:** Programs like *"Hawaii Rising"* provide a direct platform for community organizers at the forefront of justice movements.
  - **Public Safety & Environmental Literacy:** The *"Talk Story Series"* hosts "Deep Dive into Water Safety" and "Stay Safe Kauaʻi," providing life-saving expert education.
  - **Youth Empowerment:** We support *"KRAD - Kauaʻi High Radio,"* curated by English Learner (EL) students. This partnership provides immigrant youth with professional training and a public voice.
  - **Support for Local Nonprofits:** We offer regular segments for organizations like PAL Kauaʻi (Permanently Affordable Living), Mālama Kauaʻi, and Makai Watch, allowing them to recruit volunteers and share successes without the burden of advertising costs.

4. Describe the target population to be served;

1. Kauaʻi Residents and Vulnerable Communities

Our station's services provide the greatest benefit to Kauaʻi residents, offering a critical, highly localized platform for the community. With 97% of our content created for Kauaʻi, by Kauaʻi, residents rely on KKCR to stay informed about neighborhood happenings, civic elections, and local stewardship.

- **The Expanded Experience**: By engaging a broadcast engineer for signal optimization, we are targeting residents in remote areas—such as the North Shore valleys and West Side highlands and other isolated pockets—where cell and internet service are often non-existent. Strengthening our FM signal ensures these remote populations are not left behind during emergencies.
- **Emergency Resilience:** Through the overhaul of our mobile app and digital stream, we are serving the next generation of Kauaʻi residents who prefer digital-first communication. The new streamlined User Experience on our website ensures that life-saving emergency alerts are easily accessible, even for users with limited technical literacy or older smartphones.

2. Global Seekers of Hawaiian Culture and Music

Beyond our local residents, KKCR has become a global ambassador for Hawaiian music and culture. Currently, 51% of our online donations come from out-of-state listeners who use our stream to reconnect with the islands, our music, and culture. This is a powerful statistic that expands our role from simply preserving music and culture to being a primary transmitter of said music and culture.

- **The Archival Impact:** Through the Hawaiian Music Archival Project, we are serving everyone from local keiki to international ethnomusicologists. By saving over 1,000 at-risk titles and bringing them to a free 24/7 online stream, we ensure that the voices and melodies of past generations remain a living, breathing part of the global broadcast rotation rather than being lost to physical decay.
- **The Digital Connection:** Our digital modernization goal directly serves this population by providing a high-fidelity, ad-free listening experience. This removes commercial barriers and provides a "direct-from-source" connection to authentic Hawaiian culture that commercial mainland stations cannot replicate.

3. Organizational Stability: Preserving Local Expertise

The most critical population served by this grant is the station's specialized leadership team. The success of KKCR is entirely dependent on a small group of experts who manage complex FCC compliance, cultural archives, and emergency broadcast systems.

- **The Crisis of Affordability**: Hawaiʻi remains the most expensive state in the nation, and Kauaʻi has seen an unprecedented surge in the cost of living. Since 2021, the cost of housing, utilities, and basic necessities on the island has increased by an estimated 20–30%.
- The Impact of Salary Support: By providing General Operating Support (Goal 4), we are directly addressing the economic pressure on our staff. These funds ensure we can retain the institutional knowledge of our four-person team while we navigate the changes to the landscape of federal funding. Without this salary stabilization, the station risks losing the human infrastructure required to keep our transmitters on the air and our cultural archives protected. Supporting these salaries is not just an administrative cost; it is an investment in the "human backbone" of Kauaʻi's emergency and cultural landscape.

4.   **Describe the geographic coverage:**

- Kauai (approximately ~98% coverage with ~103K residents and tourists at any given time)
- Oahu (approximately 60% coverage with ~500K residents and tourists at any given time) This will be wound down end of 2025/mid 2026.
- Listeners: Though it is difficult to accurately report, we have from 1,000 - 8,500 terrestrial listeners at any given time (Eastlan reporting, 2024).
- Our worldwide digital streams are as follows:
  - 24/7 Broadcast Stream: Streams the current on-air programming live, 24/7 on kkcr.org. Averages around 100 listeners at any given time, 179K a year.
  - 24/7 Hawaiian Music Stream: Streams music from our extensive Hawaiian music library 24/7 on kkcr.org with over 25 listeners at any given time.

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 *Amplify the Signal* project is about making KKCR a stronger, more independent station that fulfills its mission of Hawaiian cultural preservation, providing quality music and cultural content to our listeners, and that simply costs less to run. Right now, we are at a crossroads: we have one of the world's most important collections of Hawaiian music, but it is at risk for physical deterioration. We have completed some of our Hawaiian Music Archival Project, but it is frozen and incomplete without additional outside support. Additionally, a lot of our technology is expensive and outdated, and we must modernize during a time where traditional funding streams have rapidly changed.

This project uses a one-time investment to address these issues. By hiring experts to move us to cheaper, better technology and setting up a professional grant-writing and development system, we are ensuring that KKCR won't have to keep coming back to the state for emergency help. We are spending this money on projects that pay for themselves—saving us on monthly fees and building a future where we can stand on our own two feet.

Goal 1: Hawaiian Music Archival Project Completion

- **Tasks:**
    - **Saving the Physical Recordings:** Delicate hand-cleaning and preparation of the remaining 1,000+ at-risk recordings (vintage vinyl, cassettes, and cds) to ensure they are stable for high-fidelity digital transfer.
    - **Creating the Digital Master:** Converting analog recordings into museum-grade digital files (WAV/FLAC) that will never degrade.
    - **Encoding the History (MegaSeg):** Kumu Leilani Kalilimoku Kaleiohi ("Sistah Lei") will save the "story" of every song—including artist lineages and historical context—directly into the MegaSeg cataloging platform.
    - **Stopping the Rot (Climate Control):** Installation of two (2) industrial dehumidifiers and Govee WiFi sensors. Operations Director Dean Rogers will monitor this data 24/7 via mobile app to maintain a 40-50% humidity safety threshold.

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- ○ **Digital Security (The 3-2-1 Standard):** Implementing a "Triple-Redundant" backup system (On-site Master, Glyph 12TB Mirror, and Backblaze Cloud) to protect the collection from natural disasters. Dean will be the technical lead on securing the back-up system.
  - ○ **Integration into a new ad-free stream:** Add the newly digitized pieces into the 24/7 Hawaiian Music Stream.
- ● **Responsibilities:**
  - ○ **Sistah lei:** Lead Archival Specialist. Hands-on cleaning, digitization, and cultural cataloging.
  - ○ **Anni Caporuscio:** Manages the scheduling of the archivist, overall guidance and tracking of the program, managing outcomes, organizing media plan.
  - ○ **Dean Rogers (Operations Director):** Technical Guardian. Installation of equipment, analysis of moisture data logs, and management of digital backups.
  - ○ **Andrew Crawford (Program Director):** Management of the integration into the 24/7 stream, running the streams and managing the implementation of the project and FCC compliance.
  - ○ **Rodwin Pabello (Outreach Director):** Implementation of the media blitz, contacting media, reaching out to mainland sister stations, administering the listener survey and organizing responses.

II. Digital Infrastructure & Organizational Capacity (Goal 2)

- ● **Tasks:**
  - ○ **Website and App Re-design:** Engaging a technical consultant to redesign the website and mobile app. This involves simplifying the interface for our 179,000+ annual users and migrating to a platform that reduces annual overhead by 63%.
  - ○ **Archival Database Migration:** Moving broadcast architecture to open-source Rivendell Linux systems to eliminate proprietary licensing fees and provide the stability required to automate the 12,000+ titles from our Hawaiian Music Archive.
  - ○ **Funding Diversification:** Aggressive pursuit of at least one federal or private grant per month to ensure long-term independence from state aid.
- ● **Responsibilities:**
  - ○ **Technical Consultant:** Execution of the website/app redesign and UX optimization (Creek LLC).
  - ○ **Lex White (Technical Specialist):** Lead for the Rivendell Linux automation migration.
  - ○ **Kōlea Data Communications:** Lead for strategic grant writing and private, local, and federal funding pursuit.
  - ○ **Dean Rogers (Operations Director):** Lead on monitoring the database migration and management of consultants.
  - ○ **Anni Caporuscio (ED):** Manages the website and app redesign, works with consultant to decide on final plan and design choices, implements payments and tracks work completed.

- ○ **Kōlea Data Communications:** Implements the user satisfaction survey after website and app launch, applies for at least 1 new grant a month.

III. Emergency Infrastructure & Utility Management (Goal 3)

- **Tasks:**
  - ○ **24/7 Transmission Stability:** Maintaining continuous power and maintenance for four transmitter sites to satisfy Federal and State LP-2 (Emergency Alert System) mandates.
  - ○ **Signal Optimization:** Engaging a broadcast engineer to tune antennas and improve broadcast and reach of FM transmission.
  - ○ **Disaster Readiness:** Ensuring all systems are primed for the immediate broadcast of IPAWS alerts (tsunami, fire, floods) across Kauaʻi.
- **Responsibilities:**
  - ○ **Dave Doherty (Skywaves Technology):** Lead Broadcast Engineer for signal optimization and FCC compliance.
  - ○ **Anni Caporuscio (ED):** Managing the hiring of Skywaves, scheduling of servicing, and tracking of outcomes and proof of increased service.

IV. Program Implementation & Operational Oversight (Goal 4)

- **Tasks:**
  - ○ **Growth Objective:** Increasing unique digital listeners by 50,000, split between the main stream and the dedicated 24/7 Hawaiian music stream.
  - ○ **Operational Foundation:** Providing general operating support for core salaries to retain the specialized expertise required to manage a high-output station in the nation's most expensive state.
  - ○ **Marketing & Promotion:** Launching a "Marketing Blitz" to promote the expanded Hawaiian music stream to local and mainland audiences.
  - ○ **Project Management:** Directing the total budget to ensure all milestones are met on time and ensuring 100% GIA compliance and audit-readiness.
- **Responsibilities:**
  - ○ **Anni Caporuscio (Executive Director):** Overall project management, fiscal oversight, and GIA compliance.
  - ○ **Andrew Crawford (Program Director):** Oversight of the 24/7 broadcast flow and quality control.
  - ○ **Rodwin Pabello (Outreach Director):** Lead for news media relations and donor engagement.
  - ○ **Kōlea Data Communications:** Administrative management of grant reporting and data tracking.

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

Phase 1: Stabilization & Technical Launch (July 2026 – September 2026)

- **July 2026:**
  - **Salary Foundation:** Initiate foundational salary support for the core leadership team. This secures our "human infrastructure," ensuring our experts can manage high-level consultants and growth projects without the threat of being priced out of the local economy.
  - **KPI & Data Setup:** Kōlea Data Communications builds a custom tracking dashboard. This ensures every listener, donation, and signal improvement is measured with precision from day one.
- **August 2026:**
  - **Engineering Audit: Dave Doherty (Skywaves)** performs a technical audit of the four transmitter sites to test power output and signal integrity for total island coverage.
  - **Climate Control:** Installation of industrial dehumidifiers and Govee WiFi sensors to stop the physical decay of the music library.
- **September 2026:**
  - **Archival Rescue: Kumu Lei** begins hand-cleaning and prepping the first 250 vinyl and reel-to-reel recordings.
  - **Grant Pipeline:** Kōlea Data Communications submits the first of twelve monthly grant applications, targeting a $100,000 funding goal for the next fiscal year.

Phase 2: Reducing Costs & Signal Optimization (October 2026 – December 2026)

- **October 2026:**
  - **App/Web Overhaul:** Technical consultant begins redesigning the mobile app and website, stripping away expensive features to reach a 63% cost reduction.
- **November 2026:**
  - **Antenna Tuning:** Based on the audit, the engineer performs physical antenna and transmitter tuning to maximize broadcast reach in topographically shielded areas.
- **December 2026:**
  - **Rivendell Migration:** Lex White moves the library to Rivendell (Linux). This platform uses a professional SQL database to handle massive archives without crashing and provides "lossless" audio storage while eliminating proprietary software fees.
  - **Mid-Year Milestone:** Sistah Lei completes the second batch of 250 recordings (500 total) and encodes cultural metadata into the system.

Phase 3: Preservation & The "Media Blitz" (January 2027 – March 2027)

- **January 2027:**

- ○ **Ad-Free Transition:** The dedicated Hawaiian music stream transitions to a premium Ad-Free model, offering a world-class, uninterrupted listening experience.
- **February 2027:**
  - ○ **Digital Launch:** The streamlined, low-cost mobile app and website go live, featuring the new ad-free Hawaiian stream as the centerpiece.
- **March 2027:**
  - ○ **The Media Blitz: Rodwin Pabello (Outreach)** launches a nationwide campaign. We leverage the archival rescue story to grow our audience by 50,000 unique listeners (25k on the main channel and 25k on the Hawaiian stream).

Phase 4: Mission Completion & Sustainability (April 2027 – June 2027)

- **April 2027:**
  - ○ **Archive Completion:** Final 250 recordings are digitized and cataloged (1,000+ total). Kumu Lei completes the cultural metadata project.
- **May 2027:**
  - ○ **Final Signal Test: Skywaves** performs final verification to ensure the signal tuning has maximized the station's footprint across the island.
- **June 2027:**
  - ○ **GIA Compliance & Performance Tracking: Kōlea Data Communications** compiles final KPI data. We document the 50k listener growth and the lowered monthly overhead to prove the project's success.
  - ○ **Fiscal Reporting:** Anni Caporuscio documents the increased "cash in hand" and the $100,000 in new grant applications secured for the 2027-2028 fiscal year.

Measurable Outcomes by June 30, 2027:

1. **Lower Bills:** Monthly overhead for the app and software is permanently reduced.
2. **Culture Preserved:** 1,000+ at-risk songs are digitized and protected using the 3-2-1 Standard in data backup. Storage area is stabilized and monitored for museum-grade preservation.
3. **Maximum Reach:** The FM signal is optimized for clarity, ensuring a safer community during emergencies and a broader reach to remote communities.
4. **$100,000 Funding Pipeline:** A regular grant-writing rhythm is established, with $100k in new funding is secured to ensure the station never relies solely on state aid.
5. **Precision KPI Tracking:** We now have professional-grade analytics to prove our impact to donors and the legislature, making impact reporting and grant reporting more easy.
6. **Improved Customer Experience in the app and website:** User survey shows increased satisfaction with app and website, Android and Iphone ratings increase.

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

KKCR ensures this project is successful by tracking four specific pillars: Is the cultural collection preserved and accessible? Is the FM signal optimized and extended? Are we saving money while streamlining our digital platforms? And do we have the stable team and data needed to win more funding?

- **Verifying the Music Rescue:** This is a two-stage process. First, we digitize and catalog all physical media into our current database. Second, we migrate that catalog to Rivendell (Linux). Success is measured by accessibility: staff and volunteers will use the database to provide song history on-air, and the public will see artist information via our online stream—making this music available in a way it has never been before. We can measure how many songs are now in the database as an outcome.
- **The 3-2-1 Standard & Environmental Control:** We will verify that every file follows the 3-2-1 Standard (3 copies, 2 media types, 1 off-site). To protect the original physical media, we use Govee WiFi sensors to produce data logs showing a stable, year-long 40–50% humidity environment.
- **FM Signal Optimization and Extension:** Working with Skywaves Technology, we will measure the clarity and reach of our FM signal. The goal is to maximize the signal for high-fidelity audio and extend reliable coverage into remote areas like Haʻena, Wainiha, Kokeʻe, and the valleys of the West Side. This will be verified through engineering field tests measuring Signal-to-Noise ratios.
- **Monitoring and Improving Results (Listener Surveys & Store Ratings):** The station maintains a continuous practice of hosting and reviewing listener surveys on kkcr.org. Under this GIA, we will issue a Targeted User Survey specifically about the website and app redesign to adjust features based on listener feedback. Furthermore, we will monitor our App Store and Google Play ratings as a direct measure of quality. Our goal is to use technical optimizations to drive our Android rating from 4.4 to 4.6 and our iOS rating from 4.7 to 4.9.
- **Streamlining, Savings, and Staff Stability:** Our goal is to make our digital tools cheaper to run. We will prove this by showing our bills: the new system must be 63% cheaper than the old one. We are also measuring the success of our Salary Support by our team's ability to hit every technical deadline in this project while simultaneously bringing in $100,000 in new funding.
- **Data Tracking and Growth: Kōlea Data Communications** will monitor monthly snapshots of our listener counts and KPI data. This ensures we have the hard numbers needed to prove our impact to the State and future grantors.

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.

Metric	Baseline (July 2026)	Goal (June 2027)	Verification Method
Hawaiian Music Preservation	1,000+ at-risk songs	**100% Digitized & Cataloged**	Database audit & public web stream metadata
Preservation Standards	1 hard drive	**3-2-1 Backup Standard met**	Data log of 3 separate storage locations
Archive Environment	Unstable/At-risk	**40-50% Humidity Consistency**	Govee Cloud data logs (12-month report)
Market Share (Eastlan)	9.8% Share	**11.3% Share (15% Increase)**	Eastlan Radio Ratings reports
New Digital Listeners	Current Base	**+50,000 Total New Users**	25k on Main Stream / 25k on Hawaiian Stream
Operational Savings	Current App/Web fees	**63% Reduction in Tech Costs**	Comparison of new bills vs. old bills
App Quality (Android)	4.4 Stars	**4.6 Stars**	Google Play Store analytics
App Quality (iOS)	4.7 Stars	**4.9 Stars**	Apple App Store analytics

Signal Reach & Quality	Inconsistent in remote areas	**Clear audio in Ha'ena/Wainiha**	Skywaves Engineering Field Test results
User Improvement	48 Survey Responses	**100+ Responses / Positive UX**	Post-launch Listener Survey Data
Financial Independence	Limited grant pipeline	**$100,000 in new grants won**	Grant Award Letters and Submission Log

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)

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
$25,000	$25,000	$25,000	$25,000	$25,000

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

Park Foundation Grant

County of Kauai Culture Grant (Applied for a 2026 PSA project, waiting to hear back)

Atherton Grant

Cooke Foundation

Dorcy Foundation

Ama OluKai Grant

Looking Out Foundation

CLIR - Recordings at Risk

McInerney Foundation

Amateur Radio Digital Communications

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.**

N/A

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.**

6. The applicant shall provide the balance of its unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2025.

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.

KKCR has over 30 years of experience as Kauaʻi's primary independent broadcaster. Our leadership team has a proven track record of managing diverse funding sources—from County environmental grants to private cultural foundations—with 100% compliance and an unblemished record of fiscal accountability.

Proposed Staffing and Qualifications:

- **Anni Caporuscio, Executive Director (ED):** 15 years of entrepreneurial and fiscal management. Anni directs the *Amplify the Signal* vision and has successfully managed programming and compliance for County, Federal, and Foundation projects.
- **Andrew Crawford, Program Director (PD):** An educator by trade, Andrew manages the daily "sound" of KKCR and oversees the training of our 83+ volunteer DJs, ensuring the transition to the new archive system is seamless.
- **Rodwin Pabello, Outreach Director:** A multi-media artist and former health-tech client manager. He is the lead on our website and app overhaul, focusing on reducing monthly costs and improving listener experience.
- **Dean Rogers, Operations Director:** A veteran of KKCR since 1997, Dean manages our FM signal health and EAS emergency infrastructure, ensuring our technical bridge from legacy equipment to digital is stable.

Advanced Professional Consultants:

- **Kōlea Data Communications (Dr. Jeanette Vaquer):** Led by Dr. Vaquer, who holds a PhD in Social Psychology with 15+ years of non-profit research in Hawaiʻi. She provides the data-driven strategy needed for our long-term sustainability and grant acquisition.
- **Skywaves (Dave Doherty):** A premier broadcast engineering expert with decades of experience in FM/TV system design. Dave provides the technical expertise for signal optimization and high-power transmission.
- **Archival Kumu (Leilani Kalilimoku Kaleiohi):** A deeply respected cultural practitioner, Kumu Leilani ensures that the *moʻolelo* and metadata of our Hawaiian Music Archive are handled with cultural accuracy. Her expertise is vital in preserving the integrity of our 1,000+ title collection for future generations.

2. Verifiable Experience (Past 3 Years) KKCR has maintained 100% compliance on all recent contracts, with all programs managed professionally and all reporting submitted on time:

- **Atherton Family Foundation (2025):** Successfully executed the first phase of the Hawaiian Music Archival Project, digitizing the initial portion of at-risk media to museum standards.
- **County of Kauaʻi Waste Management (Know Your ʻŌpala):** Managed the "Know Your ʻŌpala" program, a high-visibility educational initiative for waste

reduction. This project was completed with full reporting compliance and met all community outreach goals.

- **Ama OluKai Foundation:** Managed the "Hawaiian Word of the Day" program and provided Hawaiian language training for all KKCR DJs, demonstrating our ability to integrate cultural education into daily operations.
- **Listening Post Collective/NFCB:** Conducted an island-wide survey and series of listening sessions about Kauaʻiʻs Information Landscape in regards to local news and information, ensuring that there is community support for efforts in public affairs and news programming.

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.

KKCR operates with a main broadcast facility and several transmitters and repeaters to ensure island-wide coverage across Kauaʻi and parts of Oʻahu. The KKCR system includes:

Main Transmitter Sites (2):
- Princeville (Co-located with the main KKCR 90.9 FM studio).
- Kalepa Ridge (The site for the KAQA 91.9 FM transmitter, which rebroadcasts KKCR's programming).

Translators and Boosters (3): These repeaters extend the signal, primarily from the KAQA frequency, to hard to-reach areas:
- KAQA-FM1 (91.9 FM booster) on Nihoku in Kīlauea
- K224CQ (92.7 FM in Anahola, a repeater for KAQA)
- K205FM (88.9 FM in Honolulu, Oʻahu, a repeater for KAQA, planned to wind down in the next fiscal year)

In total, KKCR's broadcast network uses at least five distinct transmitting sites/facilities to cover its broadcast area, but this will be reduced to 4 in order to streamline operations.

Our Main broadcast facility is situated in Princeville, specifically at 4520 D Hanalei Plantation Road. This location is strategically high on a hill, above the Hanalei village, placing it out of the flood zone.

Structure: The current studio was established in a building that was originally a garage for Kauaʻi Cablevision. After a three-month renovation in 1997, it was transformed into a broadcast facility.

Infrastructure: The main KKCR 90.9 FM transmitter is co-located with the studio in Princeville. This site also includes a 50-foot self-supporting tower with an antenna. Hurricane

Preparedness: The studio building was selected and reinforced due to its resilience; the original structure was undamaged during Hurricane Iniki in 1992. During its renovation, extra hardware was added to withstand sustained winds of 125 mph, and a generator was later installed to ensure extended operation when commercial power fails. The station is able to sustain operations for 10 days without electricity.

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.

1. **Proposed Staffing and Service Capacity** Our staffing pattern is built for lean efficiency. We use a core team of four directors to supervise a massive workforce of 83+ DJs and volunteers. This structure allows us to maintain 24/7 service across Kauaʻi with very low overhead. This project, *Amplify the Signal*, utilizes our staff's specific strengths to oversee the transition from analog to digital while maintaining our cultural mission.

2. **Supervision, Training, and Administrative Direction** KKCR has a professional system in place to ensure that a decentralized team of volunteers meets professional broadcast standards:

- **Administrative Supervision:** The ED provides direct oversight of department heads. We use a "collective review" process where milestones are checked weekly against the GIA timeline.
- **Volunteer Training:** The Program Director (Andrew Crawford) manages a rigorous training program. For this request, training will focus on moving DJs onto the Rivendell platform and teaching them how to use the Hawaiian Music Archive without technical errors.
- **Technical & Cultural Direction:** The Operations Director supervises the engineering audit by Dave Doherty. Simultaneously, the Archival Kumu provides cultural direction to staff and volunteers, ensuring the station's "voice" remains authentic while handling the new digital library.
- **Workflow Management:** We use professional project management tools to track the *Amplify the Signal* tasks. This allows the ED to manage high-level consultants while the PD and Outreach Director keep the day-to-day volunteer operations running smoothly.

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.

Anni Caporuscio	Executive Director
Andrew Crawford	Program Director
Rodwin Pabello	Outreach Director
Dean Rogers	Operations 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, <u>not employee name.</u>

Executive Director: $50,000 -$60,00.00

Program Director: $40,000 -$50,00.00

Outreach Director: $40,000 -$50,00.00

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.

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.

Licensed by the Federal Communications Commission:

- Kekahu Foundation, FCC Registration Number: 0005743372, call sign WPZF270, KKCR, original signal from Princeville, HI, area of operation, County of Kauaʻi
- Kekahu Foundation, FRN: 0005743372, call sign KCQA, City: Moloaʻa, Puʻu Auʻau
- Kekahu Foundation, FRN: 0005743372, call sign KAQA, City: Kīlauea, Crater Hill

Electronic Site:
- Kekahu Foundation, FRN: 0005743372, call sign KAQA, City: Hanamaulu, Kalepa Electronic SiteKekahu Foundation, FRN: 0005743372, call sign K205FM, Oahu, Mauna Kapu Electronic Site

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.

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.

If the *Amplify the Signal* project is funded for FY 2027 but not received thereafter, KKCR has a clear strategy to ensure the station remains a permanent, self-reliant fixture on Kauaʻi.

1. Lowering Overhead through Digital Modernization The overhaul of our website and app is a core part of our survival plan. Currently, we are burdened by "bloated" digital platforms with high monthly fees for features our community doesn't use.

- **Cutting the Waste:** By streamlining our website and app to be lean and efficient, we permanently lower our monthly operating costs. We move from "renting" expensive, generic platforms to owning a custom, streamlined digital presence.
- **Growing the Base:** A more user-friendly app makes it easier for the *ohana* to listen and—more importantly—easier to donate. By removing the friction from our digital tools, we expect a direct increase in our recurring "Sustaining Member" base, providing a steady stream of local income that stays on-island.

2. Ownership over Licensing (The Rivendell Move) By migrating our massive music database from MegaSeg to Rivendell (open-source), we eliminate

recurring licensing fees. Once this transition is complete in FY 2027, the station will own its entire broadcast architecture. This "one-time" move secures our ability to play the Hawaiian Music Archive 24/7 without being hit with software price hikes in the future.

3. Diversified Revenue via Professional Grant Acquisition With the expertise of Dr. Jeanette Vaquer, we are building a professional grant-seeking pipeline that looks beyond the state level.

- **Targeting New Funds:** We are moving to secure federal (CPB, NEA) and private foundation grants that specifically support cultural preservation and rural emergency services.
- **The Safety Net:** By the end of FY 2027, our goal is to have multiple multi-year grant applications in the works, ensuring that the loss of GIA funding does not result in a loss of service.

4. Long-Term Infrastructure Health The engineering audit by Dave Doherty ensures our FM signal is optimized for the next decade. By catching and fixing "fringe" transmission issues now, we avoid the catastrophic repair costs that often bankrupt small community stations. Once the signal is tuned and the equipment is audited, our annual maintenance becomes predictable and affordable.

Bottom Line: This GIA request is an investment in independence. Independence is especially needful with the closure of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the former safety net we relied on. We are using these funds to strip away the waste, fix the signal, and build the tools we need to grow our own donor base. By the time this grant ends, KKCR will be a leaner, more professional operation that can stand on its own two feet, keeping the music playing for the next generation.

DECLARATION STATEMENT OF
APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS PURSUANT TO
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAI'I 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, 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.

_____AnneLouise Caporuscio___ _____
(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)

_____AnneLouise Caporuscio_____   ___1/20/2026_____
(Signature)   (Date)

AnneLouise Caporuscio_____   Executive Director_____
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BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

App   Kekahu Foundation Inc., LLC

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	44,200		2,800	100,000
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments				
3. Fringe Benefits				
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	**44,200**		**3,480**	**100,000**
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Airfare, Inter-Island				
2. Insurance				
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment				
4. Lease/Rental of Space	4,893			
5. Staff Training				
6. Supplies				
7. Telecommunication (BlackBlaze Cloud)	360			
8. Utilities	4,500			
9. Engineering (Skywaves)	5,000			
10. Data and Grant Writing Consultant	12,000			
11. Web and App Redesign Consultant	5,000			
12. Rivendell Database Conversion	3,000			
13. Archival Consultant	1,500			
14. GIA Grant Management	1,080			
15. Production of PSAs for a proporsed project with County of Kauai (not yet approved)			7,200	
16. Markeing and communications consultant for PSA campaign			3,000	
17.				
18.				
19.				
20.				
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	**37,333**		**10,200**	

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C.	EQUIPMENT PURCHASES (Dehumidifiers ($1,362), Glyph Drive ($525), Sensors ($70))	1,967			
D.	MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES				
E.	CAPITAL				
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)		**83,500**		**13,680**	**100,000**

SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:
(a) Total State Funds Requested	83,500	Annie Caporuscio 1/22/2026
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested		Name (Please type or print) Phone
(c) Total County Funds Requested		Anni Caporuscio 1/22/2026
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested		Signature of Authorized Official Date
TOTAL BUDGET	**83,500**	*AnneLouise Caporuscio* _____ Name and Title (Please type or print)

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - PERSONNEL SALARIES AND WAGES

Period: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

Applicant: ____Kekahu Foundation 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	$59,425.00	31.22%	$13,800.00
Program Director	0.75	$47,840.00	25.34%	$11,200.00
Outreach Director	0.75	$47,840.00	20.81%	$9,200.00
Operations Director	0.75	$42,300.00	22.62%	$10,000.00
				$ -
				$ -
				$ -
				$ -
				$ -
				$ -
				$ -
				$ -

Application for Grants

				$ -
				$ -
TOTAL:				44,200.00

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS: These funds secure project leadership for the FY 2026-2027 period. Following the stabilization provided by Act 310 (FY25-26), this request covers the labor hours required to transition from preservation to public launch.

ED: Project compliance, GIA reporting, and lead oversight of Hawaiian Archical Project, Grant Administration and reporting laison with consultant, Database migration, website and app overhaul, and all general staffing and budget duties (Goals 1-4).

Program: Oversight of Hawaiian Music Archive integration, managing day-to-day operations of 24/7 streams and broadcasts (Goal 1 &4).

Operations: Technical Guardian. Installation of equipment, analysis of moisture data logs, and management of digital backups. (Goal 1 & 4).

Application for Grants

Applicant: _____Kekahu Foundation Inc.___

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
Andte 190 Pints Inidutrial Dehumidifier	2.00	$686.00	$ 1,372.00	1372
Glyph Blackbox Pro Hard drive	1	$525.00	$ 525.00	525
Govee Humidity Sensors - Pack of 2	1	$70.00	$ 70.00	70
			$ -	
			$ -	
TOTAL:	4		$ 1,967.00	1,967

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS: The humidifier and govee sensors will allow us to provide a stable environment for our

hawaiian music archives, and the harddrive will provide us with secure storage and backup

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
			$ -	
			$ -	
			$ -	
			$ -	
			$ -	
TOTAL:				

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID

App   Kekahu Foundation Inc.   Contracts Total: $98,000.00

	CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)	CONTRACT VALUE
1	Act 310 Nonprofit Grant (SLH 2025)	07/01/2025 - 6/30/2026	Office of Community Services	State of Hawaii	$83,000.00
2	County of Kauai's Office of Economic Development	07/01/2025 - 6/30/2026	Office of Economic Development	County of Kaua'i	$15,000.00
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Application for Grants

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