

## 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

NĀ KAMA KAI

was incorporated under the laws of Hawaii on 01/25/2008 ; 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: January 23, 2026

Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs



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:** Na Kama Kai

**DBA/Trade Name:** Na Kama Kai

**Issue Date:** 01/22/2026

**Status:** **Compliant**

Hawaii Tax#: [REDACTED]  
New Hawaii Tax#: [REDACTED]  
FEIN/SSN#: [REDACTED]  
UI#: XXXXXX9846  
DCCA FILE#:

Status of Compliance for this Vendor on issue date:

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

**Status Legend:**

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



*pa'akai*

*"Hold steadfast to the knowledge of the ocean"*

January 22, 2026

Nā Kama Kai  
PO Box 1803  
Waianae, HI 96792  
808-372-2813  
www.nakamakai.org

To Whom It May Concern:

As a representative and officer of Nā Kama Kai I have read and understand section 42F-103 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Nā Kama Kai meets all the requirements of the section 42F-103 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes:

**§42F-103 Standards for the award of grants.**

(a) Grants shall be awarded only to individuals who, and organizations that:

- (1) Are 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) Comply 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) Agree not to use state funds for entertainment or lobbying activities; and
- (4) 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.

(b) In addition, a grant may be made to an organization only if the organization:

- (1) Is incorporated under the laws of the State; and



*pa'akai*

*"Hold steadfast to the knowledge of the ocean"*

- (2) 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.
- (c) Further, a grant may be awarded to a nonprofit organization only if the organization:
- (1) Has been determined and designated to be a nonprofit organization by the Internal Revenue Service; and
  - (2) Has a governing board whose members have no material conflict of interest and serve without compensation.
- (d) If a grant is used by an organization 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. This restriction shall be registered, recorded, and indexed in the bureau of conveyances or with the assistant registrar of the land court as an encumbrance on the property. Amounts received from the repayment of a grant under this subsection shall be deposited into the general fund. [L 1997, c 190, pt of §3; am L 2007, c 184, §1; am L 2014, c 96, §7]

Respectfully,

*Matthew Kauwe*

Matthew K. Kauwe  
Chief Operations Officer  
Nā Kama Kai

**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.

Nā Kama Kai

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)

*Matthew Kauwe*

(Signature)

1/22/2026

(Date)

Matthew Kauwe

(Typed Name)

Chief Operations Officer

(Title)

## Application for Grants

*If any item is not applicable to the request, the applicant should enter “not applicable”.*

### **I. Certification – Please attach immediately after cover page**

#### **1. Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate (If the Applicant is an Organization)**

If the applicant is an organization, the applicant shall submit one (1) copy of a Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate from the Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services that is dated no earlier than December 1, 2025.

Attached

#### **2. Declaration Statement**

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

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](#).

The grant will be used for public purposes.

### **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;***

Nā Kama Kai was founded in 2008 by Duane DeSoto and Mālia Ka’aihue as a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating, conducting, and supporting Hawaiian cultural-oriented, marine-based programs. Its mission is to empower youth to thrive in their communities by providing ocean safety and stewardship learning opportunities that foster self-confidence, leadership, and integrity. The organization’s programs are designed to help youth develop a deep appreciation and understanding of the ocean as an integral part of the natural world. Through guided experiences in a nurturing environment, keiki learn to be safe in the marine environment, grow physically and

emotionally through ocean interaction, and cultivate respect for nature, using the ocean as a unifying connection to all living things.

## **2.     *The goals and objectives related to the request;***

### Overall Goal

To advance the development of a permanent Nā Kama Kai Youth Ocean Center on the West Side that provides safe, consistent, and publicly accessible ocean education opportunities for youth, while establishing a long-term community asset that supports ocean safety, environmental stewardship, and youth development.

### Objective 1: Advance Readiness for a Permanent Youth Ocean Center

To complete planning, design, and/or early capital improvement activities that move Nā Kama Kai toward establishing a permanent, purpose-built facility for youth ocean education and stewardship.

- Complete site assessments, feasibility studies, and required planning activities within the grant period
- Develop conceptual or schematic designs that support safe, long-term youth ocean programming
- Identify regulatory, permitting, and infrastructure requirements necessary for future development

### Objective 2: Increase Safe and Structured Ocean Access for Youth

To expand and stabilize youth access to safe, supervised ocean education experiences through the use of improved facilities or planned infrastructure.

- Provide consistent access to ocean education programming during the grant period
- Increase the number of youth able to participate in organized, safety-focused ocean activities
- Enhance program delivery by reducing reliance on temporary or limited-use spaces

### Objective 3: Strengthen Ocean Safety and Environmental Education Outcomes

To support youth learning in ocean safety, marine awareness, and environmental stewardship through a stable and well-planned facility environment.

- Deliver ocean safety instruction and hands-on learning experiences aligned with Nā Kama Kai's mission
- Improve youth understanding of ocean conditions, safety practices, and environmental responsibility
- Support instructors and program staff with improved facilities and planning resources

### Objective 4: Establish a Sustainable Public-Serving Asset

To lay the groundwork for a long-term public facility that serves West Side communities and reduces future dependence on short-term or ad hoc program sites.

- Develop a phased plan for long-term facility use, operations, and maintenance
- Increase organizational capacity to manage and steward a permanent youth-focused ocean center
- Ensure that the facility concept aligns with community needs and public access priorities

#### Objective 5: Ensure Accountability and Effective Use of Public Funds

To implement strong oversight, evaluation, and reporting practices that ensure State funds are used responsibly and achieve the intended public benefit.

- Monitor progress against defined milestones and performance measures
- Maintain accurate financial and programmatic documentation
- Submit timely and transparent reports to the State of Hawai'i

These goals and objectives support the State's interest in youth safety, education, and long-term

### **3.     *The public purpose and need to be served;***

Nā Kama Kai is requesting support to advance its mission of empowering children by connecting keiki to the ocean and 'āina, fostering a deep sense of aloha and kuleana for their community, natural environment, and themselves. Founded by world champion surfer Duane DeSoto and headquartered in Wai'anae, Hawai'i, this 501(c)(3) nonprofit serves primarily Hawaii youth on O'ahu's West Side, an area with significant socioeconomic challenges including high rates of child abuse, poverty, and violent crime, as well as educational disparities.

The organization's goals include building organizational capacity through a permanent fee simple headquarters in Wai'anae, establishing a sustainable development pipeline, connecting youth to kupuna knowledge via a voyaging academy, and becoming a global leader in ocean education for youth. Nā Kama Kai provides culturally grounded, 100% free ocean safety, conservation, and stewardship programs that reach thousands of keiki annually, including ocean clinics, marine science curriculum, swim lessons, and workforce development.

The public purpose is to create a safe, dependable space—a pu'uhonua—for children that supports their physical, cultural, and educational development while addressing critical community needs. The geographic coverage is statewide Hawai'i, with a focus on expanding programs to all counties to serve more Hawaii keiki across the pae 'āina. This initiative aligns with broader goals of community resilience, cultural continuity, and economic stability through indigenous stewardship of ocean resources.

### **4.     *Describe the target population to be served; and***

Nā Kama Kai serves primarily Hawaii youth, focusing on underserved keiki across Hawai'i, with a particular emphasis on the West Side of O'ahu, headquartered in Wai'anae. This region has the highest percentage of Native Hawaiians in the world at 57.9%, with a significant portion of the population being children under 18 years old. The community faces economic challenges including lower per capita income, higher

unemployment rates, and a greater prevalence of families living below the federal poverty level compared to the state average.

The organization's programs are designed to empower these youth by connecting them to Hawaiian culture, ocean safety, and stewardship, fostering a deep sense of aloha and kuleana (responsibility) for their community and environment. Nā Kama Kai's services include free ocean safety and stewardship clinics, marine science education, swim lessons, mentorship, and workforce development, all delivered through culturally grounded, hands-on experiences. The target population also includes Native Hawaiian children across all Hawai'i counties as the organization plans statewide expansion to broaden its impact.

#### **5. *Describe the geographic coverage.***

The main area of impact for this request is the west side of O'ahu, specifically the Wai'anae community, which has the highest percentage of Native Hawaiians in the world at 57.9%. This area faces significant socioeconomic challenges, including a per capita income 35% lower than the state average, a civilian unemployment rate more than double that of the state, and a high housing cost burden for many families. Native Hawaiian children represent a disproportionate share of child welfare cases, including 44.9% of children in foster care and 38% of child abuse and neglect cases in Hawai'i in 2022. Additionally, Wai'anae experiences elevated rates of violent crime, with incidents occurring at twice the state rate per 1,000 residents, and gun violence disproportionately affecting youth. These factors underscore the critical need for supportive programs in this community.

Nā Kama Kai's geographic coverage extends beyond O'ahu, with plans for statewide expansion to all Hawai'i counties, including Kaua'i, Hawai'i Island, and Maui. The establishment of a permanent headquarters in Wai'anae allows Nā Kama Kai to continue extending program implementation across the state, as it has successfully demonstrated over the past three years. Having a stable home base supports more consistent operations and strengthens the organization's capacity to serve Native Hawaiian keiki throughout the Pae 'Āina (Hawaiian Islands).

### **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:

- ***Describe the scope of work, tasks and responsibilities;***

The scope of work for this request focuses on securing fee simple land and initiating the foundational development of a permanent West Side Ocean Center that serves as a public-facing cultural and educational hub aligned with Nā Kama Kai's mission.

1. Conceptual Planning and Master Design
  - Conduct comprehensive conceptual design and master planning for the ocean center, ensuring the facility supports ocean safety, education, and cultural stewardship programs.
  - Perform cultural and environmental assessments to honor Native Hawaiian values and ensure responsible stewardship of the shoreline and surrounding natural resources.
  - Evaluate site feasibility and shoreline access to identify optimal land parcels for acquisition and future development.
2. Land Acquisition Preparation
  - Engage with landowners and community stakeholders to build support and facilitate negotiations for fee simple land acquisition.
  - Conduct due diligence including title searches, zoning reviews, and environmental impact assessments to prepare for a smooth acquisition process.
  - Coordinate with relevant government agencies to ensure compliance with all regulatory requirements.
3. Early Infrastructure and Program Space Development
  - Plan and initiate the build-out of non-revenue program spaces that will serve as the foundation for Ocean Safety Clinics, educational programming, and community engagement activities.
  - Develop infrastructure that supports public access and ocean education, such as classrooms, meeting spaces, and ocean safety facilities.
4. Stakeholder Engagement and Capacity Building
  - Foster partnerships with state agencies, Hawaii organizations, non-profits, and community groups to ensure the project reflects shared values and priorities.
  - Build organizational capacity through staff training and development to effectively manage the new facility and programs.
5. Quality Assurance and Compliance
  - Implement rigorous quality assurance protocols throughout planning and initial development phases to ensure cultural integrity, environmental sustainability, and alignment with state funding guidelines.
  - Maintain transparency and accountability through regular reporting and community updates.
6. Measures of Effectiveness
  - Track progress through milestones such as completion of master planning, successful land acquisition, and initial program space development.
  - Measure community engagement and participation in ocean safety and stewardship programs hosted at the facility.
  - Monitor organizational capacity improvements and readiness to expand programming statewide.

- Evaluate the project's role in establishing the ocean center as a recognized public good and a permanent asset for the West Side community.

This approach aligns with the GIA funding strategy by positioning the request as an investment in a public-serving, mission-aligned ocean center foundation. It focuses on establishing political legitimacy, early capital momentum, and a strong public-sector anchor that will enable future phases of development and sustainability.

- ***Provide a projected annual timeline for accomplishing the results or outcomes of the service;***

### Projected Annual Timeline for Accomplishing Results and Outcomes

Grant Period: One Fiscal Year (12 months)

#### Months 1–2: Project Initiation and Readiness

- Execute grant agreement and finalize project management structure
- Confirm project scope, work plan, and reporting schedule
- Procure professional services as needed (e.g., planning, design, technical consultants)
- Establish data tracking and documentation systems for reporting

#### Months 3–5: Site Assessment and Planning Activities

- Conduct site feasibility, cultural, environmental, and/or shoreline assessments, as applicable
- Engage community and cultural stakeholders to inform project design and use
- Document baseline conditions related to youth access, safety, and facility readiness
- Begin preliminary design or conceptual planning for the permanent ocean center

#### Months 6–8: Design Development and Capital Readiness

- Complete conceptual or schematic design plans for the youth ocean center
- Identify required permits, approvals, and compliance steps
- Develop phased capital development and implementation plan
- Continue youth ocean education activities aligned with project scope, where applicable

#### Months 9–10: Review, Refinement, and Preparation for Implementation

- Review design and planning outputs for feasibility, safety, and long-term use
- Refine plans based on findings, partner input, and regulatory considerations
- Prepare documentation to support future capital development and funding phases
- Assess progress toward projected outcomes and address any gaps

#### Months 11–12: Project Completion and Reporting

- Finalize all grant-funded deliverables and documentation
- Evaluate project outcomes against proposed performance measures
- Prepare and submit final narrative and financial reports to the State
- Incorporate lessons learned into next-phase development planning

End-of-Year Outcomes

- Completion of planning and/or early capital improvements for a permanent Nā Kama Kai Youth Ocean Center
- Increased readiness for construction or future capital investment
- Improved stability and consistency of youth ocean education programming
- Advancement toward a long-term, publicly accessible facility serving West Side communities

This timeline demonstrates a realistic and accountable approach to achieving the project's outcomes within the grant period while advancing the long-term goal of establishing a permanent youth ocean education center.

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

#### Quality Assurance and Evaluation Plan

Nā Kama Kai will implement a structured quality assurance and evaluation process to ensure that all grant-funded activities are completed on time, within scope, and in alignment with the public purpose of establishing a permanent youth ocean education center serving West Side communities.

#### Monitoring and Oversight

Project oversight will be led by the Executive Director, with day-to-day monitoring delegated to the Project Manager. The organization will track progress against a defined project work plan that includes milestones, timelines, and deliverables tied directly to the approved scope of work. Progress will be reviewed on a monthly basis to ensure adherence to the project schedule, budget, and performance measures.

Financial oversight will be maintained through established internal controls, including segregation of duties, review of expenditures against the approved budget, and regular reconciliation of project costs. All expenditures will be documented and retained in accordance with State requirements.

#### Performance Tracking and Evaluation

Nā Kama Kai will evaluate project performance using both quantitative and qualitative measures aligned with the GIA reporting requirements. Quantitative measures may include completion of planning or design milestones, number of youth served, number of program days delivered, or completion of capital improvement phases. Qualitative feedback will be gathered from staff, partners, and participants to assess program effectiveness, safety, and accessibility.

Data will be collected using standardized tools such as attendance logs, milestone checklists, progress reports, and partner documentation. The organization will review collected data on a quarterly basis to assess progress toward intended outcomes and identify any gaps or areas needing adjustment.

## Continuous Improvement

Evaluation findings will be used to inform continuous improvement throughout the grant period. If monitoring identifies delays, barriers, or performance challenges, Nā Kama Kai will implement corrective actions such as adjusting timelines, reallocating staff capacity, or refining project activities. Lessons learned during implementation will be documented and incorporated into future phases of development and programming for the permanent ocean center.

## Reporting and Accountability

Nā Kama Kai will submit all required reports to the State of Hawai'i in a timely and accurate manner. Reports will summarize progress toward outcomes, describe completed activities, document expenditures, and explain any variances from the original plan. This transparent reporting process ensures accountability for public funds and supports informed decision-making by the State.

Through consistent monitoring, clear evaluation metrics, and a commitment to continuous improvement, Nā Kama Kai will ensure that the GIA-funded project delivers meaningful public benefit and advances the long-term goal of a safe, permanent youth ocean education center.

- ***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.***

Nā Kama Kai will report the following measures of effectiveness to the State agency to assess progress related to the planning, acquisition, and development of a permanent Nā Kama Kai Youth Ocean Center:

### 1. Capital & Project Readiness Measures

- Completion of a site feasibility and readiness assessment for a West Side Youth Ocean Center
- Completion of architectural and/or conceptual design plans for a permanent ocean education facility
- Completion of required environmental, cultural, or shoreline assessments
- Number of permits, approvals, or entitlements secured toward development
- Development of a phased capital development plan for a permanent center

### 2. Youth Access & Participation Measures

- Number of youth served annually through ocean-based education programs at the center
- Percentage of participants from West Side communities

- Number of program days or sessions delivered annually at the site
- Increase in safe, supervised ocean access hours for youth
- Number of schools, community groups, or partners utilizing the facility

### 3. Ocean Safety & Education Outcomes

- Number of youth receiving ocean safety instruction (e.g., currents, tides, reef awareness)
- Number of youth participating in hands-on marine education or stewardship activities
- Increase in youth knowledge of safe ocean practices (pre/post assessment)
- Number of trained instructors or certified staff supported by the facility

### 4. Community & Public Use Measures

- Number of community events, workshops, or gatherings hosted annually
- Number of community members accessing the facility for educational or cultural purposes
- Hours of public or community access provided per year
- Number of formal partnerships (schools, nonprofits, cultural practitioners) using the site

### 5. Long-Term Stewardship & Sustainability Indicators

- Establishment of a long-term operations and maintenance plan
- Adoption of a facility stewardship or mālama ‘āina plan
- Reduction in reliance on temporary or leased program spaces
- Demonstrated ability to maintain the facility without ongoing State operating support

### 6. Workforce & Local Impact Measures

- Number of local jobs supported through construction or implementation
- Number of youth instructors, mentors, or program staff engaged
- Percentage of staff from West Side communities

## **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
24,562.50	1,024,562.50	274,562.50	274,562.50	1,548,250.00

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

Bill Healy Foundation, Portland, OR  
 Ama OluKai Foundation, Honolulu, HI  
 Atherton Family Foundation, Honolulu, HI  
 Hawaiian Electric, Honolulu, HI  
 Hawaiian Airlines, Honolulu, HI  
 Abigail Kawanana Koa Foundation, Honolulu, HI  
 McPhail Family Trust, Kona, HI  
 Hawaiian Native Corporation, Honolulu, HI  
 Nike  
 Atherton Family Foundation, Honolulu, HI  
 City & County of Honolulu, Hawai'i  
 Matson Foundation, Honolulu, HI  
 Pamela K. Omidyar Trust, Honolulu, HI  
 Kamehameha Schools, Honolulu, HI  
 First Hawaiian Bank, Honolulu, HI  
 James & Abigail Campbell Family Foundation, Honolulu, HI  
 VF Services, Irvine, CA  
 Patagonia, Ventura, CA  
 Harry and Jeanette Weinberg 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.**

Nā Kama Kai has not received any state or federal tax credits within the prior three years nor is it in the process of applying or has applied for any.

**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.**

City and County of Hawaii GIA 2022, 2023 and 2025  
 State of Hawaii GIA 2023, 2024, 2025

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

Total unrestricted assets as of 12/31/2025 is \$504,271.69.

## **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.***

Nā Kama Kai (NKK) possesses extensive skills, abilities, and knowledge in ocean education, Hawaiian culture, and youth empowerment, making it highly appropriate to provide the services proposed in this application. Founded by World Champion and Waterman Hall of Fame professional surfer Duane DeSoto, NKK is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to teaching Hawaiian culture-based ocean safety, conservation, and stewardship. The organization focuses on serving underserved youth statewide, with headquarters in Waianae, O‘ahu.

NKK’s mission is to empower children by connecting keiki to the kai and ‘āina to nurture a deeper sense of aloha and kuleana for their community, natural environment, and themselves. This mission is supported by a strong foundation of cultural values including ‘Ike (Knowledge), Maka‘ala (Presence), Kilo (Observant), Kuleana (Responsibility), and Mākaukau (Readiness).

Over the past three years, NKK has demonstrated its capacity and impact through a variety of programs and initiatives:

- Daily ocean programming for youth in Hawai‘i for 3 consecutive years and monthly ocean programs for 17 consecutive years, serving over 55,000 keiki since 2008.
- Ocean Academy Curriculum implemented in Department of Education classrooms through professional development courses for teachers, with 84 teachers trained in 2024 alone, educating more than 1,600 4th graders.
- Jr. Lifeguard Certification Program for 14 Hawai‘i high schools.
- Hālau Nā Kama Kai Youth Ocean Center at Pōka‘i Bay, providing daily services including meals, tutoring, mentorship, ocean training, and lifeguard certification.
- Kūmau Voyaging Academy and annual keiki surf contests focused on cultural and ocean stewardship.
- Workforce development programs such as the Alaka‘i Youth Mentorship Program.

- Expansion efforts including free monthly ocean safety and stewardship clinics at 7 O‘ahu locations and annual neighbor island free ocean clinics.

## **Nā Kama Kai Program History & Results (2008–2026)**

### 2008–Present | Organizational Overview

- Established in May 2008
- Served approximately 55,000 keiki through Ocean Safety and Stewardship programs over 17 years
- Delivered culturally grounded, place-based ocean safety education across O‘ahu, neighbor islands, and internationally (Brazil, Tahiti, Japan, California)
- Conducted to date:
  - 171+ Ocean Safety & Stewardship Awareness Ocean Clinics
  - 22 Alaka‘i Mentorship Instructional Camps
- Demand for programs consistently exceeds capacity, despite primarily word-of-mouth outreach
- Projected 2026 Reach: Approximately 12,000 keiki, based on current enrollment trends

## **Program Implementation & Outcomes by Year**

### 2026 (Projected)

- Approximately 12,000 keiki served
- Continued delivery of:
  - Ocean Safety & Stewardship Awareness Ocean Clinics
  - Hālau Nā Kama Kai after-school and summer programming
  - Alaka‘i Mentorship Program
  - Wa‘a Kūmau canoe-based ocean education
  - Ocean swim lessons for HIDOE students

### 2025

- Ocean Safety & Stewardship Awareness Ocean Clinics
  - 11 clinics
  - 676 keiki served
  - 6 locations on O‘ahu
  - Supported by:
    - 2,158 adult volunteer hours
    - 1,664 Alaka‘i teen volunteer hours
- Hālau Nā Kama Kai Programs
  - 3,904 keiki engaged through after-school and summer programs
  - 217 days of meals provided
- Wa‘a Kūmau (Double-Hulled Canoe Program)
  - 4,837 keiki participated
  - 37 events statewide

- First channel crossings sailing Kūmau our 30ft double hull sailing canoe to Hanalei for a HIDOE Ho'ākea event.
- Swim Lessons
  - 438 HIDOE 4th graders served (West O'ahu) at 7 Elementary Schools
  - Each child received 5 ocean swim lessons over the course of 5 days at Pōka'i Bay
- Keiki Surf Kontest at Mākaha
  - 133 keiki served for free
  - 450 meals distributed
  - \$15,000+ in prizes and surf equipment distributed to keiki

## 2024

- Ocean Safety & Stewardship Awareness Ocean Clinics
  - 14 clinics conducted
  - 750 keiki served
  - Supported by:
    - 1,975 total volunteer hours
    - 999 Alaka'i teen volunteer hours
- Hālau Nā Kama Kai Programs
  - 2,100 keiki engaged
  - 200 days of meals provided
- Wa'a Kūmau Program
  - 1,900 keiki engaged in canoe-based ocean education
  - Kūmau sailed in Lahaina for Ho'ulu Lahaina Community Gathering March
- Keiki Surf Kontest at Mākaha
  - 88 keiki served for free
  - 450 meals distributed
  - \$12,000+ in prizes and surf equipment distributed to keiki

## 2023

- Ocean Safety & Stewardship Awareness Ocean Clinics
  - 15 clinics conducted
  - 1,045 keiki served
  - Supported by:
    - 1,970 total volunteer hours
    - 792 Alaka'i teen volunteer hours
- Hālau Nā Kama Kai Programs
  - 236 days of meals provided
  - 1,831 keiki engaged
- Wa'a Kūmau Program
  - 1,094 keiki engaged
- Keiki Surf Kontest at Mākaha
  - 84 keiki served for free
  - 450 meals distributed
  - \$10,000+ in prizes and surf equipment distributed to keiki

## 2022

- Ocean Safety & Stewardship Awareness Ocean Clinics
  - 10 clinics conducted
  - 758 keiki served
- Hālau Nā Kama Kai Programs
  - 156 keiki served in after-school programming
  - 60 days of meals provided
- Wa'a Kūmau Program
  - Completed and Launched Kūmau in October
- Keiki Surf Kontest at Mākaha
  - 76 keiki served for free
  - 450 meals distributed
  - \$8,000+ in prizes and surf equipment distributed to keiki

## 2021 (COVID-19 Program Innovation)

- Pivoted from in-person programming to educational media and curriculum development:
  - Maka'ala Bay: Lessons from the Sea (five-part animated series)
  - Children of the Sea educational music album featuring Kimié Miner and Paula Fuga
  - Partnership with Education Incubator to develop ocean safety curriculum and a PDE3 professional development course for teachers
- Expanded organizational expertise in:
  - Formal education standards
  - Curriculum design
  - Teacher professional development
- Keiki Surf Kontest at Mākaha
  - 90 keiki served for free
  - 300 meals distributed
  - \$5,000+ in prizes and surf equipment distributed to keiki

## 2020 (COVID-19 Emergency Response)

- Partnered with Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center
- Distributed tens of thousands of meals and pantry bags to keiki affected by school closures
- Delivered culturally based programming:
- Traditional Hawaiian surfboard-making for Alaka'i participants
- Original educational music aligned with Ocean Clinic learning objectives

## 2019

- Ocean Safety & Stewardship Awareness Ocean Clinics
  - 12 clinics conducted
  - 735 keiki served
  - 6 locations on O'ahu
- Secured a 1.25-acre home base **at** Pīlila'au Army Recreation Center (Wai'anae)

- Led an international cultural exchange with Brazil, culminating in a documentary film
- Keiki Surf Kontest at Mākaha
  - 113 keiki served for free
  - 300 meals distributed
  - \$5,000+ in prizes and surf equipment distributed to keiki

NKK's experience is further validated by its strategic planning and organizational development goals outlined in its 2026 vision, including building permanent facilities, staff training, and establishing a sustainable financial development pipeline. The organization has successfully managed 26-50 grants and operates with a budget between \$1M and \$5M, demonstrating strong grant management and fiscal responsibility.

This combination of cultural expertise, educational programming, community engagement, and organizational capacity positions Nā Kama Kai as a highly qualified and experienced applicant to deliver the services proposed in this request.

## 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.***

Nā Kama Kai is currently headquartered in Wai'anae, O'ahu, operating on a 1.25-acre shore-side parcel of land at the Pili'au Army Recreation Center under a lease provided by USAG-HI. This site serves as the central hub for its ocean safety, stewardship, and stewardship programs focused on Hawaii youth. The organization operates daily ocean programming, and a safe, dependable space called a Pu'u'honua, which provides meals, tutoring, mentorship, ocean training, surfing, and lifeguard certification. These existing facilities support Nā Kama Kai's mission to connect keiki to the ocean and Hawaiian culture.

Looking ahead, Nā Kama Kai has a strategic plan to secure a permanent fee simple property in Wai'anae to establish a dedicated Headquarters and a multi-use facility known as Hālau Nā Kama Kai. This expansion will include a community resilience hub and ocean-centered cultural and educational spaces. The plan involves acquiring specific parcels of land (TMK 850110200000 and TMK 850110260000) and constructing a facility that supports both programmatic and mission-aligned commercial activities, ensuring long-term operational sustainability.

This facility will be designed to meet the needs of the community and the organization's goals, including workforce development, ocean safety education, and cultural grounding and 'āina stewardship. The development is supported by a carefully integrated funding strategy leveraging State of Hawai'i Grants-in-Aid for early capital momentum and planning, and OHA Capital Improvement Project grants for vertical construction and major improvements. This approach ensures the facility will be adequate, culturally aligned, and sustainable to serve Nā Kama Kai's expanding programs and the broader Native Hawaiian community for generations to come.

## **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.***

Nā Kama Kai proposes a comprehensive staffing pattern to ensure the successful implementation and sustainability of the project. The staffing includes key leadership, program management, coordination, and specialized instructional roles, with appropriate full-time equivalents (FTE) and funding allocations to support the program's viability.

#### **Proposed Staffing and Responsibilities:**

- **CEO (1 position, 1.0 FTE, 25% funded):** Responsible for contract oversight, securing partners for land acquisition, sourcing land to acquire, design and development, budget approval and management, completion of reporting requirements, and designing safety protocols.  
*Qualifications:* Duane DeSoto, CEO and Co-founder, is Red Cross Lifeguard, CPR, AED, First Aid certified and Kanalu 38 Ocean Rescue/ PWC Water Safety Certified. He is a professional surfer with extensive experience leading Nā Kama Kai.
- **COO (1 position, 1.0 FTE, 25% funded):** Responsible for contract execution, project planning, design and development, budget design and management, reporting, and day-to-day operations.  
*Qualifications:* Matthew Kauwe holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, is CPR, First Aid, and Red Cross Lifeguard, CPR, AED, First Aid certified and Kanalu 38 Ocean Rescue/ PWC Water Safety Certified, with 26 years of business operations experience and 30 years of surfing.

#### **Supervision Structure:**

Nā Kama Kai employs a clear chain of command to ensure effective supervision and program quality. The CEO supervises the COO, who in turn supervises Program Manager and supports Program Coordinators. Program Manager oversees Coordinators, Contract Instructors and Program Assistant Instructors. The CEO reports to the Board of Directors. An "Open Door Policy" encourages open communication at all levels. Monthly feedback and mentorship sessions are conducted to support continuous improvement and staff development.

#### **Training:**

Safety is the highest priority. Nā Kama Kai mandates that all instructors and staff are certified Red Cross Lifeguard, CPR/AED and First Aid. The organization actively facilitates access to Lifeguard, CPR/AED and First Aid training for staff and instructors, ensuring all team members are prepared to respond to emergencies. Training also includes pre-clinic safety briefings, ocean safety protocols, environmental awareness, and risk management to maintain a safe and supportive environment for all participants.

This staffing pattern, combined with the qualifications, supervision, and training protocols, ensures Nā Kama Kai's capacity to deliver high-quality, culturally grounded ocean safety education and swim instruction effectively and safely.

## 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.***

Visual Organization Chart included in attachments

Board of Directors

- Duane DeSoto CEO
  - Matthew Kauwe COO
    - Maleko Lorenzo NKK Program Manager
    - Micah Liana Program Coordinator
    - Anthony Aurely Program Coordinator
    - Dean Marzol Program Assistant
    - Laura-Ann Ka'aihue Program Assistant

## 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.***

CEO: \$110,000.00

COO: \$105,000.00

NKK Program Manager: \$82,000.00

## 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.***

Nā Kama Kai is not involved in any current or pending litigation and does not have any outstanding judgments against the organization.

## **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.

Nā Kama Kai staff hold essential certifications to ensure the highest standards of safety and professionalism in delivering the swim lessons and ocean safety education program. All staff are certified in Red Cross Lifeguard CPR/AED and First Aid. Additionally, key personnel possess Kanalu 38 Personal Water Craft (PWC) Rescue Operator certifications to provide effective water rescue capabilities. All swim instructors engaged in the program are Certified Federation of Swim Instructors (CFSI) certified, ensuring expert swim instruction aligned with recognized industry standards. Detailed license and accreditation by staff member is listed in the staff section of this grant application.

## **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.

DOES NOT APPLY TO NĀ KAMA KAI.

## **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.

Upon receiving the Grant in Aid funding for fiscal year 2027, Nā Kama Kai will continue to strengthen its programs and fund development strategies through five key components: the annual Pa‘akai Gala fundraiser, merchandise sales, individual donor cultivation, major gifts, and grants.

The Pa‘akai Gala, an annual fundraising concert and dinner, has demonstrated significant growth and success. The 2025 Pa‘akai Gala achieved a total revenue of \$369,704, with \$210,226 from tables sold, \$136,162 in donations, \$20,985 from the

silent auction, and \$2,331 from merchandise sales. After expenses of \$88,145, the net impact was \$281,559, which is \$73,000 more than the previous year. This event continues to be a cornerstone of Nā Kama Kai's fundraising efforts.

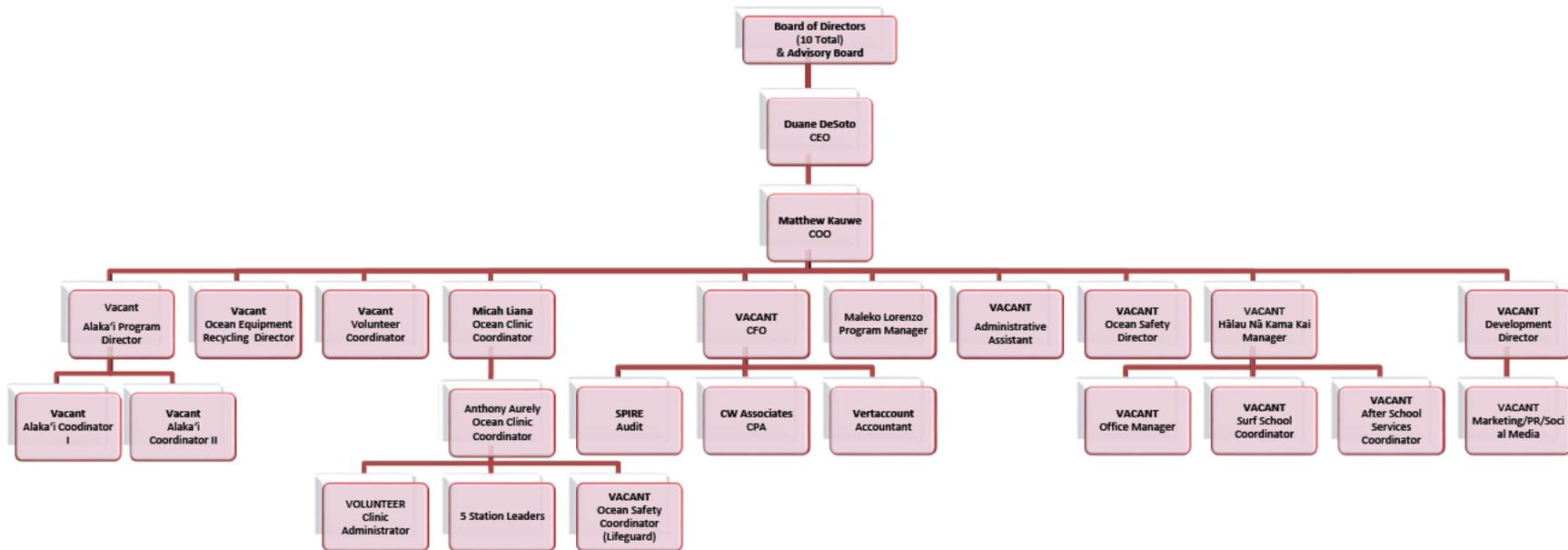
Merchandise sales are a growing part of Nā Kama Kai's fundraising and marketing strategy. Since expanding merchandise offerings on the website in 2021, the organization plans to continue growing this revenue stream, reaching national and international markets in addition to sales at events.

Cultivating individual donors is critical for future success. While nonprofit organizations nationwide receive approximately 60% of their funding from individual donors, Nā Kama Kai currently receives less than 10%, indicating significant potential for growth. The organization has also experienced some success with major gifts and believes its mission's authenticity can attract more substantial contributions.

Grants remain a vital source of funding for expanding services. Grant in Aid funding helps demonstrate credibility to other funders by showing diverse support from state, private, and federal sectors. This grant is essential for funding full-time positions, which enhances capacity to secure additional program-focused grants, thereby improving and expanding services for Hawai'i's keiki.

If Grant in Aid funding were not received after fiscal year 2027, Nā Kama Kai would leverage the knowledge and experience gained from prior support to seek replacement funding. The organization would execute its fundraising programs as planned to maintain financial stability and sustain current service levels. Program structure would be reviewed to ensure consistency, with growth limited until new funding sources are secured. Nā Kama Kai remains actively engaged in pursuing grants and private funding opportunities.

With humble beginnings and significant success, Nā Kama Kai is committed to positioning itself as a lasting legacy for Hawai'i's keiki, ensuring its programs continue to thrive with or without Grant in Aid funding.



# BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

BUDGET CATEGORIES	Total State Funds Requested (a)	Total Federal Funds Requested (b)	Total County Funds Requested (c)	Total Private/Other Funds Requested (d)
<b>A. PERSONNEL COST</b>				
1. Salaries	53,750			
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments	6,100			
3. Fringe Benefits	3,400			
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL COST</b>	<b>63,250</b>			
<b>B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES</b>				
1. Legal Fees	15,000			
2. Community Engagement Meetings	5,000			
3. Graphic Design and Printing Costs	10,000			
4. Project Video/Photo Documentation	5,000			
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<b>TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES</b>	<b>35,000</b>			
<b>C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES</b>				
<b>D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES</b>				
<b>E. CAPITAL</b>	<b>1,450,000</b>			
<b>TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)</b>	<b>1,548,250</b>			
<b>SOURCES OF FUNDING</b>		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	1,548,250	Matthew Kauwe	808-372-2813	
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested		Name (Please type or print) <span style="float: right;">Phone</span>		
(c) Total County Funds Requested				
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested		Signature of Authorized Official <span style="float: right;">Date</span>		
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>1,548,250</b>	Matthew Kauwe, Chief Operations Officer Name and Title (Please type or print)		

## BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - PERSONNEL SALARIES AND WAGES

Period: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

Applicant: NĀ KAMA KAI

POSITION TITLE	FULL TIME EQUIVALENT	ANNUAL SALARY A	% OF TIME ALLOCATED TO GRANT REQUEST B	TOTAL STATE FUNDS REQUESTED (A x B)
CEO		\$110,000.00	25.00%	\$ 27,500.00
COO		\$105,000.00	25.00%	\$ 26,250.00
				\$ -
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>53,750.00</b>

**JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:** CEO and COO accountalbe for planning, acquisition, desing and construction of a permanent youth ocean center in Wai'anae.

## BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Period: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ NĀ KAMA KAI \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
NONE			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
<b>TOTAL:</b>				

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
NONE			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
<b>TOTAL:</b>				

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

## BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS

Period: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

Applicant:     NĀ KAMA KAI    

<b>FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED</b>						
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COST</b>	<b>ALL SOURCES OF FUNDS RECEIVED IN PRIOR YEARS</b>		<b>STATE FUNDS REQUESTED</b>	<b>OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS REQUESTED</b>	<b>FUNDING REQUIRED IN SUCCEEDING YEARS</b>	
	<b>FY:2024-2025</b>	<b>FY:2025-2026</b>	<b>FY:2026-2027</b>	<b>FY:2026-2027</b>	<b>FY:2027-2028</b>	<b>FY:2028-2029</b>
PLANS			150,000			
LAND ACQUISITION			<b>1,000,000</b>			
DESIGN			300,000			
CONSTRUCTION					3,750,000	
EQUIPMENT					250,000	
<b>TOTAL:</b>			<b>1,450,000</b>		<b>4,000,000</b>	
<b>JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:</b>						
<p>The proposed budget reflects the essential costs required to establish a permanent Nā Kama Kai Youth Ocean Center that provides safe, publicly accessible ocean education for West Side youth. Planning and design funds support feasibility, site assessment, architectural and engineering services, and permitting to ensure the facility is safe, compliant, and appropriate for long-term use. Land acquisition secures a permanent site and protects the State’s investment by reducing reliance on temporary facilities. Construction costs reflect prevailing O’ahu market conditions and include durable building and site improvements necessary to support youth programs. Equipment funds provide essential instructional and safety resources needed to deliver high-quality ocean education and stewardship programming.</p>						

**GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID**

Applicant:     NĀ KAMA KAI    

Contracts Total: 1,254,490

	<b>CONTRACT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATES</b>	<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)</b>	<b>CONTRACT VALUE</b>
1	Nā Kama Kai Ocean Safety PDE3 Course FY25	awaiting contract	Office of Community Services	State of Hawai'i	150,000
2	Nā Kama Kai Ocean Safety PDE3 Course FY24	6/1/2024-5/30/2025	Office of Community Services	State of Hawai'i	250,000
3	Nā Kama Kai Ocean Safety PDE3 Course FY23	5/1/2023-4/30/2024	Office of Community Services	State of Hawai'i	257,500
4	Hālau Nā Kama Kai Youth Community Center	10/15/2025-10/14/2	Department of Community Services	Honolulu	150,000
5	Hālau Nā Kama Kai Youth Community Center	10/1/2023-9/30/2024	Department of Community Services	Honolulu	200,000
6	Hālau Nā Kama Kai Youth Community Center	10/1/2022-9/30/2023	Department of Community Services	Honolulu	199,590
7	CARES Act Funding for small businesses	FY 2020	Office of the Mayor	C&C of Honolulu	20,000
8	Awareness Clinics to Teach and Disseminate Information about the Status, Natural History and Conservation of the Critically Endangered Hawaiian Monk Seal	09/01/2019-08/31/2020	NOAA	U.S. Dept of Commerce	11,000
9	Sustainable Fishing Practices - Lawai'a Pono	10/1/21-9/30/22	NOAA	U.S. Dept of Commerce	16,400
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