

hawaiicommunityfoundation.org







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From Disaster Response to Community Resilience: 2 Years of Maui Strong

August marks two years since the wildfires devastated our island of Maui—we continue to honor the lives lost and the heartbreak experienced by so many. At the same time, we hold close the resilience that continues to shine through in the people of Maui. Recovery is still unfolding—it is ongoing, deeply personal, and shaped by the strength of those determined to return home and rebuild.

From the beginning, the Hawai'i Community
Foundation has approached this work with humility
and a deep commitment to the people of Maui.
Our team has remained actively engaged—from
attending community meetings and walking sites with
partners to supporting efforts behind the scenes. Our
commitment is grounded in relationships, shaped by
listening, and strengthened by trust.

The Maui Strong Fund was created to meet this moment. From day one, its mission has been to move resources quickly, flexibly, and strategically to trusted local organizations. Over the past two years, the Fund has grown into a long-term engine for recovery—evolving from rapid relief into a foundation for rebuilding and stabilization. Thanks to the generosity of more than 240,000 donors across Hawai'i and around the world, the Maui Strong Fund has awarded or committed more than \$140 million to over 200 partners.

Housing remains one of the most urgent and complex challenges of this recovery. In alignment with HCF's House Maui Initiative, we have supported both immediate and long-term solutions. Hundreds of interim homes have been created to help families return and regain stability.

We also know that rebuilding a community requires more than housing. It requires wraparound supports—mental health services, youth programs, job training, and access to cultural and educational spaces where people can thrive. That broader ecosystem is essential to long-term recovery and community resilience.

As we look ahead, our work will increasingly focus on long-term systems change—supporting housing solutions, economic revitalization, and disaster resilience efforts that help ensure Maui emerges stronger and better prepared. These efforts are part of a broader commitment to building a Stronger Hawai'i—an initiative rooted in the lived experiences of local communities and informed by the lessons of this moment.

To our donors, partners, and community members—mahalo. Your support has fueled recovery and sustained hope. Your belief in the future of Maui continues to make a difference. Recovery is a journey, and we invite you to continue walking alongside us.

At HCF, we believe in the leadership of Maui's people and in a future that honors what was lost. There is still work to do, but together, we are moving forward—with aloha, with purpose, and with each other.

Me ke aloha.

Keanu Lau Hee

Kennkapli Centlee

Senior Director of the HCF Maui Recovery Effort

Executive Summary

Together We Rise

Two years after the August 2023 wildfires, Maui's recovery continues, driven by the strength of its people, shaped by trusted relationships, and guided by those rooted in community. From the earliest days of the disaster response, the Maui Strong Fund of the Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF) was activated to respond with care, move resources quickly, and partner strategically with government leaders as well as trusted local organizations working directly with people affected.

In the immediate aftermath, the Maui Strong Fund supported urgent needs including housing, food, health, and emotional care. As the community transitioned from crisis response to recovery and stabilization, HCF expanded its efforts to address deeper and longer-term recovery needs. This included supporting families to help them regain stability, working with aid organizations to expand their ability to scale services, and building stronger, more resilient systems so Maui can weather whatever comes next. Progress has been steady and grounded in what matters most to people in their daily lives.

To date, more than \$209 million has been donated to the Maui Strong Fund, including interest earned. Of that total, more than \$140 million has already been awarded or committed in grants, supporting more than 200 local organizations and community-led efforts. More than 90 percent of those funds have gone to Maui-based organizations or statewide partners with a presence on-island, supporting leaders with deep community ties and place-based expertise.



KEY AREAS OF FOCUS IN THE **SECOND YEAR INCLUDE:**

Housing

Access to stable housing remains one of the most urgent and complex challenges in Maui's recovery. Thousands of residents remain displaced, often relying on rentals, staying with extended family, or living in temporary accommodations. Many are burdened by both rental and mortgage payments while they await the next steps in rebuilding.

The need for interim housing solutions is especially critical given the high number of renters living in Lahaina prior to the fire. Without immediate, stable options, these households face the risk of permanent displacement. Interim housing not only provides a safe place to live but also serves as a vital bridge—helping to keep families in the community, maintain school and work routines, and preserve the social fabric of neighborhoods while long-term housing is rebuilt.

HCF has supported a continuum of housing solutions aligned with the phases of recovery: emergency shelter, interim options, and pathways to permanent housing. Programs have included financial assistance for rent and relocation, support for host housing arrangements, development of transitional communities, and investment in interim housing projects such as Ka La'i Ola and the rebuilding of Ka Hale A Ke Ola.

These efforts restore a sense of place, privacy, and stability for individuals and families working to regain their footing. As recovery continues, layered and adaptive housing solutions will remain



essential. Continued progress will require partnerships across sectors, flexible funding, and sustained coordination. HCF remains committed to investing in solutions that meet people where they are and support their ability to stay rooted in Maui for the long term.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

The effects of trauma can persist well beyond the initial crisis and often surface long after basic survival needs are met. In a disaster of this magnitude, emotional, psychological, and spiritual tolls can affect every part of life—from physical health and relationships to the capacity to learn, work, and feel safe again. Recovery must make space for this full human experience.

HCF has supported a broad range of programs offering care rooted in cultural values and community connection.

These programs span the full spectrum of support: clinical therapy, school-based counseling, peer mentorship, grief circles, arts and movement-based healing, and traditional practices that create space for reflection and renewal. These diverse approaches honor the different ways people process grief and rebuild strength.

Community Wellbeing

Recovery goes beyond meeting immediate needs—it requires navigating complex systems, programs, and decisions, often while managing the emotional weight of loss.

HCF has invested in navigation programs tailored to each survivor's

circumstances. These efforts provided personalized support to help families stay housed, access resources, and make informed decisions. Housing counselors, benefit navigators, and financial advisors work alongside residents to chart individualized paths forward.

By supporting these services, HCF is helping bridge the gap between large-scale recovery systems and the day-to-day needs of the people most affected.

Stabilizing Everyday Life

Recovery also means regaining a sense of rhythm, responsibility, and routine. For many, returning to work, school, and caregiving responsibilities can feel impossible without the right supports in place.

HCF has invested Maui Strong funds in the foundational building blocks that help families reestablish a sense of normalcy: funding for early childhood and childcare coordination across the island, youth enrichment programs ensuring children remain engaged and supported, even as their lives were disrupted, workforce development and small business recovery programs, which provide training, financial literacy, and micro-enterprise loans, equipping people with the tools necessary to return to their daily lives on their own terms.

While less visible than other aspects of recovery, these efforts are critical to stabilizing daily life and supporting broader recovery process. By helping families return to routines, they quietly but powerfully contribute to the foundation of a resilient and connected community.



The Strategic Role of Philanthropy in Recovery

As recovery efforts extend from immediate disaster relief to longer-range rebuilding, philanthropy continues to play a strategic and focused role. The Maui Strong Fund was established to respond early, provide flexible support, and reinforce the people and organizations leading community-centered recovery.

While philanthropy can move quickly, adapting responsively to emerging needs, and investing in innovative community-defined solutions, it cannot and should not replace the scale and responsibility of government funding. The vast majority of long-term recovery, particularly infrastructure, housing, and systems rebuilding, must be led and funded by public resources.

Philanthropic dollars are most effective when used strategically to respond quickly to community needs, leverage government dollars dedicated to recovery, catalyze promising approaches, and support coordination across community. Specifically, alignment with public investments allows philanthropy to accelerate progress, strengthen partnerships, and ensure recovery remains grounded in the priorities of the affected community.

FOUR PHASES OF RECOVERY

Guiding Maui's Path **Forward**

At HCF, we understand that recovery requires a sustained response. It is an ongoing responsibility. In the wake of the August 2023 wildfires, the Maui Strong Fund was activated within hours. That rapid mobilization was possible because of years of preparation and a guiding framework rooted in partnership, equity, and long-term commitment.

The Four Phases of Disaster framework, developed by HCF in 2019, continues to shape how resources are distributed and how progress is measured. This approach recognizes that recovery requires both immediate action and sustained investment. It reflects a deep respect for community leadership and a belief that resilience is built over time, in collaboration.

Each phase overlaps with the others and unfolds uniquely for different communities. Together, they form a comprehensive path on the journey home.

PHASE ONE:

Risk Reduction and Readiness

Ongoing

3-5 percent of Maui Strong Fund allocations

PHASE TWO:

Rapid Relief and Response

Days to weeks post-disaster 20-25 percent

DISASTER

Strong recovery begins with strong preparation. Phase One

Community Spotlight:

· Community networks such as the Maui Nui Resiliency Hui established emergency communication and power systems when others were down, highlighting the value of locally led resilience planning.

focuses on building the capac-

ity of communities to respond

supporting infrastructure that

allows for a faster, more equi-

table response when it does.

before disaster strikes and

· Ongoing investments support wildfire mitigation, decentralized response infrastructure, and preparedness planning aligned with community needs and knowledge.

Security and relief are essential in the days following a disaster. Phase Two funding prioritizes urgent needs food, shelter, healthcare, and emotional support—delivered quickly and equitably to lay the groundwork for stability and long-term recovery.

Community Spotlight:

- More than \$5 million in Maui Strong Fund grants were distributed within the first 10 days, supporting more than 40 trusted organizations already serving their communities.
- Resources reached people through multiple channels—large relief efforts and smaller neighborhood-based hubs—ensuring that support was both widespread and personal.

PHASE THREE: Recovery and Stabilization Months to years post-disaster 70-85 percent PHASE FOUR: Rebuilding Resilience Ongoing 3-5 percent

Phase Three funding supports reinstating daily routines, a sense of community, and economic vitality, through funding for housing navigation, mental health and cultural care, early childhood services, workforce development, and more.

Community Spotlight:

- The Lahaina Homeowner Recovery Program provides financial support to hundreds of households, helping families stay in place as they work through complex rebuilding processes.
- Community organizations, including Family Life Center and Hui No Ke Ola Pono, continue to guide recovery efforts that are culturally rooted and grounded in trust.

Recovery is only complete when communities are stronger than before. Phase Four supports long-term resilience, with an emphasis on housing, economic security, environmental stewardship, and community-led planning.

Community Spotlight:

 The House Maui Initiative is an ongoing project to achieve affordable housing for kama'āina on Maui, partnering with state and county government, as well as private parters such as the Financial Opportunity Center, which offers individualized financial and home-buying education.

ON THE HORIZON:

Grants are supporting long-term systems that reflect the community's vision for the future. This includes the construction of permanent, volunteerbuilt homes; the development of long-term recovery organizations; and community-led planning efforts focused on housing, health, and economic well-being.

Environmental and cultural restoration also remains central, with support for efforts that reconnect people to 'āina, strengthen climate resilience, and uplift traditional ecological knowledge—reminding us that resilience is rooted not just in recovery, but in identity, place, and purpose.

These efforts are part of a broader movementone that brings together community leaders, nonprofits, philanthropy, and government in close coordination. Through shared goals and collaborative strategies, initiatives such as the Maui Recovery Funders Collaborative and Stronger Hawai'i are helping to evolve response and create frameworks that strengthen Hawai'i's capacity for resilience in the face of future crises.

IMPACT

STRONG FUND IMPACT

→ The impact of the Maui Strong Fund is reflected in the efforts of our grantees on the ground on Maui who are supporting the community through countless acts of aloha.



In 2024, the transition into Phase Three—Recovery and Stabilization—marked a shift from urgent relief to complex, long-term work of helping communities regain security, agency, and a sense of normalcy. While each survivor's path remains deeply personal, the collective focus has sharpened around a few core needs: housing, mental health, and coordinated access to services.

Insights from the Maui Recovery Survey—a collaboration between the University of Hawai'i Economic Research Organization (UHERO), the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA), and HCF—complemented what we were already hearing from community leaders and fire-affected families. The findings echoed and affirmed on-the-ground experiences, helping to validate the direction of recovery efforts and refine strategies moving forward.

The findings confirmed that displacement remained widespread, housing costs had surged, and survivors were navigating recovery while shouldering financial strain, emotional exhaustion, and instability. At the time of the survey, 80 percent of West Maui residents had been displaced, with many being displaced more than once. Average rents had increased by 43 percent, often for smaller or shared spaces, and nearly one-third of respondents identified navigating the recovery system itself as one of the greatest ongoing challenges. These insights underscored the urgency of investing not only in physical shelter, but in the wraparound supports that make housing and healing sustainable.

The emotional toll has been just as profound. According to UHERO's report and the Maui Together Wildfire Assessment, the uncertainty of the future was cited by more than half of respondents as the hardest part of recovery—surpassing even housing or income loss. More than 60 percent of fire survivors reported a decline in their mental health, pointing to frequent relocations, fractured support systems, and difficulty accessing services. Many emphasized the need for care that is not only clinically sound, but also culturally grounded and community-based.

In response, HCF updated its approach to Maui Strong Fund grantmaking to meet

the evolving set of needs. In October 2024, HCF launched targeted funding opportunities to deepen support of housing, community mental health and wellbeing, and navigation services. Each initiative was designed to fill critical gaps identified through direct community feedback and supported by data, while aligning with broader public recovery efforts. These investments are rooted in Phase Three of HCF's Four Phases of Disaster framework and are intentionally coordinated to complement government-led recovery strategies, ensuring that philanthropic dollars amplify and extend the reach of public resources, all while staying grounded in community-defined priorities.

The following sections outline Maui Strong Fund's second-year investments in these essential areas. Together, they represent a coordinated, values-driven approach to helping individuals, families, and communities in Lahaina, Kula, and across Maui recover not just their homes, but their sense of hope, connection, and agency over their future.



The Hawai'i Community Foundation is committed to transparency in our grant awards. All partners that have received Maui Strong Fund grant awards, as well as the day the grant was approved, the amount granted, and the work each partner is doing on Maui, can be found at https://hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/strengthening/maui-strong-fund



Housing

As long-term recovery continued into the second year after the fires, housing remained a central concern voiced by survivors across Maui. Stable and secure housing is a foundational need that affects every other part of the recovery journey. The Maui Strong Fund's investments in housing reflect this reality, supporting both homeowners and renters while acknowledging the distinct challenges each household faces.

While funding for temporary housing construction remains the largest investment area for the Maui Strong Fund, significant resources have also gone toward housing-related support services that help move recovery forward. These include covering costs for property surveys through Hawai'i Community Lending, financial assessments and rebuild guidance from our CDFI partners, insurance education provided by United Policyholders, and subsidies for smoke damage remediation through Red Lightning. The fund also supported dual-purpose programs like Kōkua Hale Pāpa'i at UH Maui College, which provided construction training to students who then built secure storage sheds donated to families rebuilding their homes.

Looking at the progress so far, one thing is clear: stable housing lays the groundwork for everything else. It directly shapes how individuals and families access other services, whether reconnecting to community, seeking mental health support, or planning for the future.

(Continued on page 14)



MAUI STRONG FUND HOUSING GRANTS THROUGH YEAR 2

All information reported by grantees as of June 30, 2025.

Housing Services

Housing support, housing navigation services, and housing placements in existing housing

Total granted	\$15.3M
Total families served	5,834

Maui Strong Fund Grantees Providing Housing Services

American Red Cross Arc of Maui County Boys Scouts of America, Aloha Council Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA) Grace Bible Church Maui Grassroot Institute of Hawai'i Inc. Hawai'i Community Lending Hawaiian Community Assets Housing Providers of Hawai'i Inc., dba HomeAid Hawai'i J. Walter Cameron Center Ka Hale a Ke Ola King's Cathedral & Chapels Maui Economic Opportunity (MEO) Pukalani Community Church of the Nazarene Red Lightning University of Hawai'i Maui College: Kōkua Hale Pāpa'i United Policyholders

Housing Builds

Construction of new units

Total granted	\$67.5M	
Total units to be built	723	
Units completed	408	
Units under construction	315	
Units occupied	393	

Maui Strong Fund Grantees Providing Housing Builds

Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement:

Fairways at Maui Lani and La'ikū

Family Life Center: 'Ohana Hope Village

Hoʻōla lā Mauinuiakama: Housing Re-build Program in Lahaina with Volunteer Labor

HomeAid Hawai'i: Ka La'i Ola

Ka Hale a Ke Ola Homeless Resource Center, Inc.:

Lahaina Center Rebuild & Redevelopment

Maui Health Foundation:

Housing for Healthcare ADU Program

Pukalani Community Church of the Nazarene:

Compassion Village

Hawai'i Community Foundation collaborates, coordinates, and convenes with partners across sectors for a collective response to recovery. An additional \$132 million was secured and leveraged through help from Hawai'i Community Foundation for Maui Strong Fund grantees.





Housing

(Continued from page 12)

Over the last year, HCF has been monitoring the progress of the Maui Interim Housing Plan that has been contributing to the supply of temporary housing. HCF's commitment from the Maui Strong Fund was joined by partners both public and private, including FEMA, the State of Hawai'i, the County of Maui, CNHA, Kāko'o Maui Fund, and other philanthropic organizations. HCF pledged \$50 million in Maui Strong funds toward the \$500 million collective commitment to create temporary and permanent housing projects.

In October 2024, HCF released the Maui Strong Fund Interim and Long-

Term Housing funding opportunity, which called for proposals focused on temporary housing solutions (transitional builds that can serve families for months to years); permanent housing solutions (innovative and cost effective permanent solutions); housing resources (solutions supporting the return of households to their properties); and other criteria focused on supporting the recovery of housing to fire affected areas. Through this process, the Maui Strong Fund awarded over \$11 million to five organizations providing housing solutions and resources to survivors in the rebuild phase of their journey.

Today, data from case management, case navigation, and other needs assessment surveys indicate that stable, secure housing and housing relocation resources remain some of the top priority needs for displaced residents in recovery.

The Maui Strong Fund continues to provide funding to housing solutions. To date, the Maui Strong Fund has expended \$82.8 million on housing awards, representing over 59 percent of the total funds expended so far from the fund.

Spotlight On Housing



Temporary Housing by HomeAid Hawaiii

Ka La'i Ola, meaning "the place of peaceful recovery," is a neighborhood designed to offer families a stable, supportive home during a time of deep transition. Located in West Maui, it is part of the broader Maui Interim Housing Plan, an effort launched in January 2024 to provide thousands of transitional homes for displaced residents.

Through the Maui Strong Fund, HCF played a significant role in helping bring Ka La'i Ola to life by committing early philanthropic support to accelerated construction so families could move in as quickly as possible.

Since breaking ground in spring 2024, Ka La'i Ola has steadily welcomed families home. By spring 2025, more than 260 families had moved into newly completed modular homes. Each home is equipped with a full kitchen, a bathroom, and a living space that offers privacy, comfort, and a sense of stability. The community continues to grow in response to ongoing need, with new homes opening on a rolling basis.

At full buildout, Ka La'i Ola will include approximately 450 modular homes in a mix of studio, one-, two-, and three-bedroom layouts. The neighborhood includes playgrounds and shared spaces that support daily life and create opportunities for connection among neighbors. Through partnerships with local organizations, residents are also supported with navigation and recovery services that help guide their next steps toward long-term housing.

Ka La'i Ola reflects the power of coordinated recovery, where public, private, and community partners come together with urgency and care to meet people where they are and help them move forward.

Housing and Culturally Grounded Support from CNHA

With support from the Maui Strong Fund, CNHA constructed and delivered 66 homes to displaced survivors. These two-bedroom, one-bathroom units provided families with safe, stable housing during a critical period of transition, helping them remain connected to their communities while navigating the long road to recovery.

All 66 units have now been completed, with 16 in Lahaina (La'ikū) and 50 at Maui Lani (Ke Ao Maluhia) currently housing fire-affected families. Each home is fully furnished and includes a kitchen, a bathroom, and comfortable living space. Families pay affordable rent, made possible in part through coordinated support and access to recovery navigation resources. These homes offer stability, comfort, and a foundation from which residents can begin planning their next steps.

CNHA's commitment to culturally grounded solutions extends beyond building homes. The organization has also launched a host housing program, providing financial support to families who welcomed displaced loved ones into their homes. By recognizing and strengthening existing care networks, the program helped keep 'ohana together while reducing strain on formal housing systems.

Wraparound supports remain central to CNHA's approach. Residents benefit from financial literacy workshops through the organization's expanded HUD-certified counseling program, and regular fresh food distributions are available through partnerships with community providers. These resources help families rebuild daily routines, strengthen financial resilience, and access tools to support long-term stability.

Stories from residents underscore the program's impact. The Leal 'ohana, for example, returned to Maui after off-island cancer treatment and moved into a safe, furnished home within a week. Their daughter and her family soon joined them in the same neighborhood, reuniting generations just a few doors apart. Their experience is one of seven extended families brought back together through this project, reinforcing the importance of community-led housing in preserving the ties that define home in Hawai'i.



Mental Health



Photo: Mana Maoli

Mental health resources have continued to be a priority since the fires of 2023. By Year 2 of the recovery, the Maui Strong Fund provided a cumulative of \$6.1 million in mental health resources across a spectrum of access points and practices with a priority to adapt to survivors' individual circumstances in their respective recovery.

In October 2024, HCF released the Maui Strong Fund Community Mental Health and Wellbeing funding opportunity, to fund programs that were already meeting existing needs around mental health and wellbeing, actively serving the fire-affected community, and were seeing increased demand for services. Clinical therapy was one important option, but the fund also supported a broader spectrum of supports, including cultural practices, stress-reduction programs, and peer- or community-based approaches, to ensure people had access to care that felt safe, relevant, and responsive to their lived experiences.

In November 2024, HCF awarded more than \$2 million in Maui Strong Fund grants to

24 organizations. These programs are ongoing and provide a diverse range of services including programs for children, young adults, culture-specific practice, clinical therapy, art therapy, movement-based practice, music therapy, mental health referrals, trauma-informed training, and family-focused support.

In the second year, HCF continued working with the Hawai'i State Office of Wellness and Resilience, which hosts a weekly mental health call with Maui-based providers, to ensure alignment with the evolving needs of their patients in fire-impacted communities. Surveys from the Maui Wildfire Exposure Study (WES) and the Maui Together study—both supported by the Maui Strong Fund—continue to inform resource needs to keep behavioral health programs consistent and stable.

Looking ahead, it's clear that mental health support will be a part of the long-term recovery, including the known impacts of stable and secure housing on the mental, emotional, and physical needs of individuals and households in recovery on Maui.

Spotlight on Mental Health Grantees

Ho'oikaika Partnership Strengthens Families

An organization focused on preventing child abuse and neglect and promoting the well-being of families in Maui County, the Ho'oikaika Partnership has been strengthening families to support mental health needs and prevent incidences of domestic violence and substance use. It provides direct services to families, sustains the mental health of service providers, and offers education and training to support family resilience. Through January 2025, the organization hosted 11 monthly meetings seeing 254 unduplicated attendees. served 459 families with resource navigation services, distributed over \$30,000 in gift cards, hosted 13 community events serving 1,221 families, reached over 115 providers at Healing the Healers sessions, and engaged 93 participants in protective factors trainings. The organization is in Year 2 of an additional Maui Strong Fund award and will continue these services through Spring 2026.

MAUI STRONG FUND MENTAL HEALTH GRANTS THROUGH YEAR 2

All information reported by grantees as of June 30, 2025.

Mental Health Programs

Services provided include mental health therapy, trauma and grief counseling, outreach and education, training/conferences in healing and trauma informed care, Native Hawaiian culture-based healing, art and music therapy, peer support groups.

Total granted	\$6.1M*
Total number of grantees	53
Total number of grants	64
Total number of individuals served	17,210
Children/Youth served	7,376
First responders served	285
Adults served	9,834
Number of events	93
Number of individuals served through events	29,378

^{*}In addition to \$1.3M secured from other fund sources to leverage Maui Strong Fund dollars

Maui Strong Fund Grantees Providing Mental Health Programs

All information reported by grantees as of June 30, 2025.

50th State F.O.O.L.S.

Accessurf Hawai'i. Inc.

'Aha Pūnana Leo

Aloft

Boys & Girls Clubs of Maui, Inc.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i

Child and Family Service

Consortium for Hawai'i Ecological Engineering Education

dba Mālama 'Āina Foundation

Family Hui Hawai'i

Family Violence and Sexual Assault Institute (IVAT)

Float Research Collective

For Children to Flourish

Friends of Hawai'i Technology Academy

Haku Baldwin Center

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hana Arts

Hawai'i Association for Infant Mental Health

Hawai'i Behavioral Health Connection

Hawai'i Psychological Association, fiscal sponsor (FS):

Hawai'i Behavioral Health Connection

Hawai'i Pet Network, Inc. dba Hawai'i Animal Rescue Foundation

Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Hawai'i

Ho'ohanu

Hoʻoikaika Partnership, FS: Maui Family Support Services

Hospice Hawai'i dba Navian Hawai'i

Hospice Maui

Hui No'eau

Imua Family Services

Island Mind Therapy LLC

Ka'ehu

Kaibigan Ng Lahaina

Ke Kula o Pi'ilani

Kids Hurt Too Hawai'i

Lahaina Arts Guild

Lines for Life

Mālama Nā Mākua A Keiki dba Mālama Family Recovery Center

Mana Maoli

Maui Access to Mindful Movement

Maui Health Foundation

Maui Preparatory Academy

Mental Health America of Hawai'i

Nā Keiki o Emalia

National Alliance on Mental Illness Hawai'i (NAMI Maui)

Native Hawaiian Philanthropy

Pacific Birth Collective Incorporated

Pacific Survivor Center

Parents and Children Together

Piha Wellness and Healing

Project Koa Yoga, LLC, FS: Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies

Rebuild Maui.Org

Teran James Young Foundation Inc.

The Spirit Horse Ranch

Wisdom Circles Oceania



Recovery Pathways

Long-term recovery goes beyond support for individuals and requires building systems that sustain communitywide healing. The Maui Strong Fund invested in systems improvements by supporting navigation programs that connect residents to recovery services, ensuring household needs are identified and matched with available resources from multiple funders and programs. Thanks to the efforts of Maui-based nonprofits and statewide partners, many of which hired local, fireimpacted staff and established offices on Maui, residents now have access to support from trusted community members through coordinated pathways to recovery.

Government programs, like the State of Hawai'i's Disaster Case Management Program (DCMP), have contracted providers on Maui to provide case managers for survivors. Through community feedback, HCF learned there was support needed for individuals not engaged with the program. In response, HCF funded several organizations offering supplemental navigation support—especially for populations facing severe

challenges—to ensure long-term needs are met. These programs provided a range of services and often partnered with CNHA's Kākoʻo Maui resource hubs, where many Maui Strong Fund grantees shared material resources and conducted direct community outreach.

Why is this important? Case management and resource navigation programs play a vital role in tracking household needs throughout the recovery process. These services collect real-time data directly from households in recovery affected by the fires-people who have experienced loss, displacement, or major disruption. This information helps funders like the Maui Strong Fund and our partners allocate resources more effectively, ensuring support reaches where it's needed most. Case management is designed as a long-term commitment, recognizing that each survivor's recovery journey is unique and evolving. HCF strongly encourages households with ongoing needs to engage in case management, because not only will it aid in their journey, but the data gathered will shape long-term recovery priorities and help move the entire community forward.





Spotlight on Recovery Pathways Grantees

Free Legal Services from PONO Legal

Pro bono Organization for Native 'Ohana (PONO Legal) has been providing legal referral services to fire impacted households and individuals through intake partnerships stationed at local hub spaces where fire affected communities are located. The organization conducted nearly 200 intakes, assisted over 500 individuals with free legal services and attended dozens of community events.

Financial Planning from Hawaiian Community Assets

Hawaiian Community Assets has been supporting households in recovery through Disaster Recovery Housing Counselors on their Maui team. HCA's staff engage fire survivors directly through personalized one-on-one counseling, financial assessment, and a six-month sustainability plan tailored to clients' needs. Funds were also provided to help address essential financial gaps. A total of 96 individuals have received financial support through this program.

Translation and Services Support from Kaibigan Ng Lahaina

Kaibigan Ng Lahaina operates its Community Resource Navigation program out of the Lahaina Office of Recovery three days a week and spends the other two days working out of the Kāko'o Maui Resource Center. Staff complete initial assessments, offer translations services for clients, and assist with the completion of other resource applications. The program has made more than 1,200 contacts in its survivor database and it is currently operating a case load of more than 300 families through case navigation.

Support from Hoʻōla lā Mauiakama Disaster Long Term Recovery Group

Maui's Long-Term Recovery Group is a coalition of local leaders from organizations directly providing recovery services in the wake of the 2023 fires. They strengthen the recovery landscape by fostering alignment, trust, and coordination among partners connecting those closest to the work to improve how systems function together.



Community Wellbeing

The Maui Strong Fund fills gaps in recovery where other agency and government funding are not as available. By focusing on under-resourced systems through targeted funding, impact has been made through consistent investments into supporting services for children and their families, vulnerable populations facing health disparities, unique recovery solutions related to 'āina, and long-term investments into data.



Photo: Maui Medic Healers Hui and Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Hawai'i

Spotlight on Community Wellbeing Grantees

Health Care from Maui Medic Healers Hui

The Maui Medic Healers Hui activated its network of providers and practitioners immediately after the fires, and is still providing services through the Lahaina Community Health Center. Serving over 500 people per month with one-on-one treatments focused on health, wellness. and basic first aid care, the organization continues to provide trauma-informed, comprehensive and holistic healing protocols to ensure fire survivors are treated with humanity, respect, dignity, and compassion.

Aloha House Supports Mental Health

Aloha House has provided emotional support and mental health related services through Outreach Specialists throughout the first and second year of the recovery. Staff provided these services to a total of 1,005 individuals in the first year of funding and engaged hundreds of families in other engagement activities (youth events, care coordination, and FEMA/Red Cross assistance) in the community. In 2025, Aloha House is actively building 12 substance-use treatment beds in an expanded dormitory to meet the needs of fire survivors in recovery and in need of safe, secure treatment and housing.



Photo: Aloha House breaks ground on a new dormitory to support fire survivors in recovery.

UVSC Backs Cancer Fighters

In Year 1, UVSC, a Maui-based nonprofit focused on supporting cancer patients, worked with 8 families (28 individuals who were directly impacted by the fires) with its financial assistance program, covering out-of-pocket cancer treatment expenses and other related costs for medical treatment, including transportation to appointments. UVSC was funded for a second year and seeks to support 10 cancer fighters impacted by the fires and their family members (estimated 25-35 individuals) with unique support to ensure continuity of cancer treatment and to move their post-fire recovery forward.



Children, Youth, and Families

Long term, young people continue to carry the emotional weight of disruption and uncertainty. Supporting their recovery means investing in programs that foster stability, connection, and wellbeing so they have safe spaces to learn and express while their families rebuild. This included support for in-school programming and extra-curricular opportunities emphasizing personal development and leadership skills building. Specific resources toward Lahaina young adults include nearly \$400,000 in financial assistance for the class of 2024 students attending college outside of Hawai'i facilitated by Downtown Athletic Club; the <u>Lahainaluna Poʻokela</u> program in partnership with ClimbHI focusing on Youth CERT and disaster training; and the Maui Hero Project, administered by Aloft, providing disaster readiness and skills building opportunities for impacted youth in need of pro-social programming. Two reading programs were funded, Book Trust and the Always Dream Foundation, as strategic supplemental resources for elementary and middle schools in West Maui that are educating students who are actively in recovery.

Long-term support for children, youth and families will be provided in Lahaina through the Maui YMCA's West Maui Child & Family Resource Hub, which will house nearly two dozen nonprofit programs providing services for those in recovery. This project supports children, youth, families, and the elderly. Maui YMCA also provided its intersession camps to ensure continuity of coverage for parents and families who use these resources to enrich their children's recovery.

Spotlight on Children, Youth, and Families Grantees

Maui Family YMCA Engages Keiki to Küpuna

Maui Strong funding supported the organization's West Side Youth Summer program to offer extra-curricular and intercession activities supporting families in recovery. In the first year after the fires, the organization enrolled 500 children for nine weeks, including a weekly art instruction/ therapy and two weekly music lessons. In the second year, it hosted Spring Break Intercession Camps for Lahaina elementary-age students, serving more than 70 families at no cost. With support from the Maui Strong Fund and other funders, the organization is also launching its 6,000 square foot West Maui YMCA Resource Center, which is partnering with over 20 nonprofits that will provide accessible, comprehensive resources to families with children and kūpuna affected by the fires. The Lahaina space will provide childcare, mental health support, wraparound services, and kūpuna programming.

Kids Hurt Too Mobile Unit

At the request of elementary schools that were taking in displaced young people, Kids Hurt Too Hawai'i brought its unique grief and trauma counseling services for youth to Maui in 2023. In the first year after the fires, the organization provided direct peer support group services to 316 youth, trained 670 individuals on their services related to working with individuals and families impacted by the fires, trained over 400 individuals on unique needs of youth and families as it relates to mental health for recovery, performed crisis interventions for over 30 unique individuals, hosted at least 15 mentoring activities for over 200 individuals, served over 200 hot meals at group meetings, and launched a Mobile Unit for Maui. In the second year since the fires, the organization's mobile unit brought its programs and services directly to temporary housing communities and other community spaces, removing transportation barriers and ensuring greater access to fire recovery resources.





Natural Resources

The Upcountry fires impacted the Kula **community,** including dozens of homes and over 1,000 acres, including the 600 acres in the 2024 fires. Communityled recovery efforts are focused on restoring the land by replanting native species to restore damaged soil, prevent erosion during heavy rains, and reduce future fire risk by lowering the fuel load. Mālama Kula is also contributing to fire prevention through a program that removes hazardous fuel sources, such as dry branches and overgrown bushes, from around homes. The nonprofit supports its neighborhood by providing green waste bins, helping residents dispose of debris safely, especially those unable to manage removal themselves. The program also returns safe mulch to the community to encourage replanting and the regrowth of native vegetation, reinforcing both environmental restoration and proactive fire prevention.

The Maui Strong Fund supports UH Maui College's three-pronged approach that contributes to Maui's long-term recovery, centered on natural resource restoration and resilience through a variety of initiatives across Maui. Engaging student interns in diverse data collection and analysis efforts aimed at informing decisions that shape the island's recovery, these initiatives empower Maui students to take part in building long-term solutions. By involving the next generation in this work, UH Maui College is helping to ensure that recovery efforts are both informed and sustainable.



Spotlight on Natural Resources Grantees

Restoring Vital Ecosystems with Kula Community Watershed Alliance

The Kula Community Watershed Alliance has been working to recover 110 acres of watershed devastated by the fires, making significant progress in ecosystem restoration focused on all 71 fire-affected properties in Upcountry Maui. The group completed a survey of the entire burn scar, implemented erosion control and stabilization methods, removed fire fuels, hosted seed collection and propagation workshops and has launched a nursery to grow seeds that will be replanted in the affected neighborhood. The organi-

zation removed 21+ acres of eucalyptus and wattle trees, stabilized 8 acres of burned land, removed 40+ acres of invasive species regrowing in the burn scar, and supported fenced-in planting zones on 22 properties creating recovery kipuka among the homes in various stages of rebuilding.

Mālama Kula Removes Green Waste

Mālama Kula is also supporting the Kula community impacted by the fires through its Kula Community Green Waste Program, which operates a green waste bin deployed in the neighborhoods bordering the Kula burn zone. The program has now deployed 36 bins across Upper Kula to facilitate the collection and removal of 1,300 cubic yards of green waste that is a potential fuel load hazard. The expanded Kūpuna Curbside Pick-up Program ensures the coordination of volunteers to clear and collect green waste for those who cannot do it themselves. In addition, the organization is safely distributing wood chips back into the community to stabilize more than eight acres of land, minimizing erosion and the threat of landslides or mudslides. The program has a goal of supporting 100 more Kula properties to continue fire fuel reduction activities through 2026.

UH Maui College Empowers Student Conservation

The University of Hawai'i Maui College's programs seek to hold a strategic role in the recovery, rebuilding and resilience efforts for Maui following the fires. Through three fellowship programs, Pu'uhonua Kauluwehi, Hulihia Center for Sustainable Systems, and the UHMC Water Quality Laboratory, students participate in data collection, program development, and stakeholder engagement to bring solutions and observation to important areas of fire recovery. Long-term outcomes of these programs include the banking, propagation, and distribution of native and fire-resistant plants for agriculture and landscaping; collecting and analysis of data to identify and track critical elements of community revitalization through systems modeling; and maintaining and sustaining water quality and reef health through dynamic monitoring, community engagement, knowledge exchange, and ongoing management efforts that can be shared with state and federal agencies with environmental health mandates.



Photo: Kula Community Watershed Alliance





IMPACT

FINANCIALS

STRONG FINANCIALS

Two years after the fires, more than two thirds of the total fund's contributions have been distributed out to nonprofit partners assisting the people and places of Maui.

The Maui Strong Fund consists of contributions available to programs of 501(c)(3)s aligned to strategic activities focused on the immediate and long-term recovery needs, as informed by Maui's affected community, available and relevant recovery data, and official recovery planning documents.

Total Combined Contributions:	\$209,350,131
Year 2 Total Contributions:	\$14,414,333
Year 2 Interest*:	\$4,129,301
Contributions in Year 2:	\$10,285,032
Year 1 Total Contributions:	\$194,935,798
Year 1 Interest*:	\$5,197,145
Contributions in Year 1:	\$189,738,653

^{*}All interest earned is reinvested into the Maui Strong Fund. HCF does not collect a fee for donations to the Maui Strong Fund.

Contributions

242,209 Donors, 5000+ Corporate Donors, 78 different countries

FUNDING GRANTED

Lodging and Shelter	\$71,331,317.00
Direct Financial Assistance	\$25,104,592.00
Children and Family	\$7,931,947.29
Mental Health and Grief Counseling	\$6,128,025.80
Food and Supplies	\$5,717,012.50
Health Care	\$5,161,000.00
Immigrant Services	\$5,012,231.00
Multi-faceted	\$3,725,528.00
Workforce Development	\$3,156,915.20
Navigation Services	\$2,434,649.00
Communications, Logistics, and Transportation	\$1,878,510.00
Natural and Cultural Resources	\$1,701,349.00
Animal Welfare	\$715,000.00
Baby and Maternal Care	\$520,000.00
Childcare	\$451,884.00

\$140,969,960.49

August 9, 2023 - June 1, 2025

Grand Total



Financial Transparency

At HCF, we understand that transparency, strong governance, and independent oversight are essential to maintain trust—especially in the wake of crisis. To support this, we engaged Moss Adams LLP, an independent third-party firm, to conduct a review of the Maui Strong Fund's oversight structure and operating framework. Its assessment focused on governance, review and decision-making processes, and operational systems, benchmarking our practices against sector standards and philanthropic best practices.

With a Phase I report submitted in March 2024, and a second Phase Il report submitted in March 2025, Moss Adams confirmed that HCF has established a sound governance model and grantmaking framework to steward the Fund. It validated that our processes for oversight, conflict of interest management, fund allocation, and documentation are operating effectively. It also offered recommendations to enhance clarity and consistency, including formalizing our approach to grantee monitoring, improving documentation of collaborative funder strategies, and strengthening communication to keep stakeholders informed about our overall strategy, decision-making, and evolving approach. These insights are helping us strengthen internal systems and ensure that our practices remain responsive to the evolving needs of our community. Independent verification and validation is an essential practice for HCF to uphold accountability, demonstrate integrity, and continue maintaining the trust of donors while honoring our responsibility to the survivors and all the people of Maui.

[•] Some grants have been re-classified since the 2024 report for accuracy.

Sub-categories span the four recovery functions of housing, health & social services, natural & cultural environment, and economics.

PROFILES IN GENEROSITY

→ The amazing work being accomplished with the support of the Maui Strong Fund has only been made possible through the generous contributions of thousands of donors around the world.



In the two years since the fires, something extraordinary has unfolded. Heartfelt messages, memories, prayers, and stories of deep connection to this island and its people have poured in alongside donations from every corner of the world.

Together, these thousands of messages formed a powerful narrative of compassion, resilience, and unwavering love for the people and places of Maui. They came from those who once called Maui home, from visitors who carry it in their hearts, and from people moved by the spirit of aloha.

In this section, we share a few of the inspiring voices behind the generosity—donors who shared their resources, heartfelt reflections and words of support.

The generosity and kindness for Maui is proof that aloha is alive and well here in the islands, and around the world. It's how we care for one another. It's how we rebuild, together. And because of the power of the world's aloha for Maui, hope continues to rise—we are united in recovery.



Honoring Home in Lahaina

Started on the sun-drenched shores of Lahaina, sunglasses manufacturer Maui Jim has always carried the spirit of aloha in everything it does. So, when the wildfires devastated Lahaina in 2023, it hit home.

Moved by compassion and kuleana, Maui Jim's parent company Kering Eyewear acted quickly with a significant donation to the Maui Strong Fund, helping to provide urgent relief to the people and places impacted by the fires. Two years later, as Maui continues to recover, that commitment has grown even stronger.

With another recent donation to the Maui Strong Fund, Kering Eyewear is committed to supporting Lahaina's long-term recovery. This generosity speaks volumes about the company's gratitude for the community that shaped it—and its belief in a brighter future for Maui.

In tandem with this latest gift, Kering Eyewear is also investing in Maui's recovery through the opening of two new retail stores—one in Wailea and one in Kāʻanapali. Designed in collaboration with local contractors and artisans, the new locations are tangible symbols of resilience, partnership, and the shared work of rebuilding.

"Lahaina is, and always will be, Maui Jim's home. We owe so much to this community, and it is our privilege to give back," says Roberto Vedovotto, the founder, president, and CEO of Kering Eyewear. "These store openings and this new donation reflect our heartfelt respect for Maui and our long-term commitment to helping its people and culture thrive for generations."

This deepened commitment is also part of a broader initiative launched in 2024, where 10 percent of proceeds from select sunglasses are directed to the Maui Strong Fund.

We are profoundly grateful to Kering Eyewear, through Maui Jim, for standing with Maui in its time of greatest need. 66

The islands and her people have healed me, my heart and spirit with my visits and it is an honor and in gratitude that I contribute and will continue whenever I can."

a Maui StrongFund supporter





A Recipe for Aloha

Every month, a familiar crew arrives at HCF's door: a warm, in-person visit from the Genki Sushi team. With each visit, they leave a donation, demonstrating their continued support on Maui's path to recovery.

With its latest gift, Genki Sushi has now contributed more than \$100,000 to the Maui Strong Fund—a milestone marking the company's compassion, generosity, and unwavering commitment to the people and places impacted by the wildfires.

Typical of the fan-favorite brand's heart and creative spirit, the support takes a unique form. Through a series of special menus, Genki Sushi donates a portion of sales directly to the Maui Strong Fund, inviting its customers to take part in giving

back and turning each meal into a moment of shared impact.

With every joyful drop-off, Genki's monthly visits have become a recurring reminder for the HCF team of the spirit of community that makes Hawai'i so special. Their ongoing partnership is a powerful example of what it means to lead with heart and stand by a community when it is needed most. Genki Sushi stepped forward with aloha, inspiration and compassion-embodying the generosity and resilience that we have seen time and time again from donors right here in the islands, and around the world. We are deeply honored to be your partners in this journey. Mahalo for continuing to uplift the people, places, and spirit of Maui.

56

I only wish
I could do
much more.
Noho koʻu
puʻuwai i
Hawaiʻi."

a Maui StrongFund supporter



Uplifting Maui Through Compassion and Action



For more than 25 years, Meg Obenauf has helped families on Maui prepare for the future through her practice, Obenauf Law Group, creating wills, trusts, and guardianships to protect family assets and plans. When the fires happened, Meg's work became more urgent than ever.

In the days that followed the disaster, Meg donated to the Maui Strong Fund and also volunteered her services at food distribution centers. She sat with survivors at the Lahaina Civic Center, offering free legal counsel through the Legal Aid booth, and answered calls on the Hawai'i State Bar Association hotline—listening with care and guiding people through their first steps toward recovery.

One story that stays with her is that of a 90-year-old woman who escaped the fire with her adult son, who uses a wheelchair. "It was nothing short of miraculous," Meg recalls. Her firm guided them through their urgent legal needs—establishing guardianship and completing estate planning documents—and helped them connect

with FEMA to secure ADA-compliant housing.

Two years later, Meg continues to serve survivors—handling complex probate cases and helping families regain stability, one step at a time. She's still doing what she's always done: helping people prepare, protect, and care for what matters most.

Meg's story is a reflection of so many people on Maui who leaped into action to offer their skills, resources, and support when their neighbors needed it. Their generosity and care for their community will power Maui's recovery until the job is done.

We are profoundly grateful to Meg and all those who continue to stand with Maui.





LOOKING AHEAD

Two years after the disaster, recovery continues and much work lies ahead. We're committed to standing with Maui's people and places to support healing, rebuilding, and a resilient future for all.



Maui's recovery continues to evolve in complexity, reflecting the deeply personal and varied paths that survivors must navigate. As the needs of the community shift, so too must the strategies that support it. HCF's work through the Maui Strong Fund has laid essential groundwork: investing early, building trust, and helping stabilize the foundations of long-term recovery.

To sustain and strengthen this work, HCF co-founded and now helps lead the Maui Recovery Funders Collaborative (MRFC), a network of aligned philanthropic partners working through shared strategy and a coordinated application process. This collaboration allows funders to act together—and in alignment with public agencies—to ensure resources reach those best positioned to meet community needs. As one example of our evolved response, this represents a shift from siloed giving toward a more unified, strategic approach to recovery.

The journey ahead is still unfolding. Yet the relationships, infrastructure, and momentum established over the past two years offer a steady foundation to carry Maui forward with com-

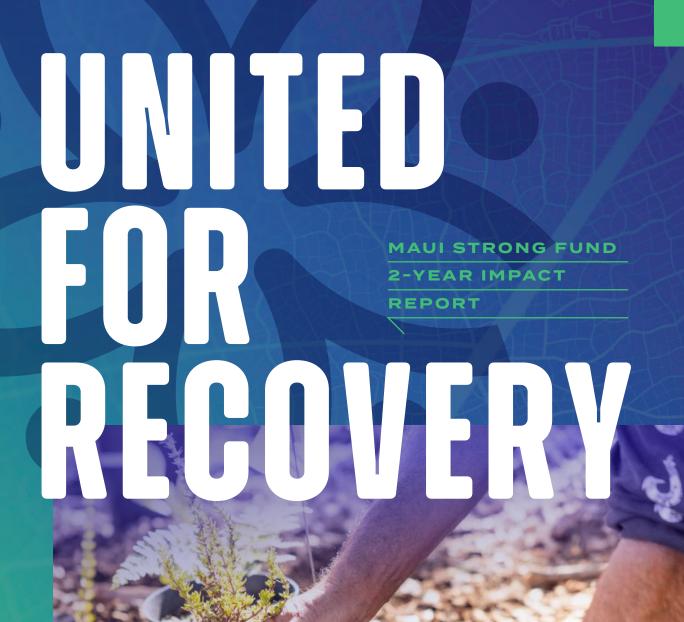
passion, collaboration, and resilience. HCF remains committed to stewarding resources with care, amplifying community leadership, and building systems that can serve as a model for disaster response across Hawai'i.

As we look forward, recovery will require sustained focus and continued investment in long-term solutions that reflect the diverse realities of Maui's people. Together, through the lessons of today and the vision for tomorrow, we are helping build a stronger Hawai'i.

UNITED FOR RECOVERY

MAUI STRONG FUND 2-YEAR IMPACT REPORT





hawaiicommunityfoundation.org







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From Disaster Response to Community Resilience: 2 Years of Maui Strong

August marks two years since the wildfires devastated our island of Maui—we continue to honor the lives lost and the heartbreak experienced by so many. At the same time, we hold close the resilience that continues to shine through in the people of Maui. Recovery is still unfolding—it is ongoing, deeply personal, and shaped by the strength of those determined to return home and rebuild.

From the beginning, the Hawai'i Community
Foundation has approached this work with humility
and a deep commitment to the people of Maui.
Our team has remained actively engaged—from
attending community meetings and walking sites with
partners to supporting efforts behind the scenes. Our
commitment is grounded in relationships, shaped by
listening, and strengthened by trust.

The Maui Strong Fund was created to meet this moment. From day one, its mission has been to move resources quickly, flexibly, and strategically to trusted local organizations. Over the past two years, the Fund has grown into a long-term engine for recovery—evolving from rapid relief into a foundation for rebuilding and stabilization. Thanks to the generosity of more than 240,000 donors across Hawai'i and around the world, the Maui Strong Fund has awarded or committed more than \$140 million to over 200 partners.

Housing remains one of the most urgent and complex challenges of this recovery. In alignment with HCF's House Maui Initiative, we have supported both immediate and long-term solutions. Hundreds of interim homes have been created to help families return and regain stability.

We also know that rebuilding a community requires more than housing. It requires wraparound supports—mental health services, youth programs, job training, and access to cultural and educational spaces where people can thrive. That broader ecosystem is essential to long-term recovery and community resilience.

As we look ahead, our work will increasingly focus on long-term systems change—supporting housing solutions, economic revitalization, and disaster resilience efforts that help ensure Maui emerges stronger and better prepared. These efforts are part of a broader commitment to building a Stronger Hawai'i—an initiative rooted in the lived experiences of local communities and informed by the lessons of this moment.

To our donors, partners, and community members—mahalo. Your support has fueled recovery and sustained hope. Your belief in the future of Maui continues to make a difference. Recovery is a journey, and we invite you to continue walking alongside us.

At HCF, we believe in the leadership of Maui's people and in a future that honors what was lost. There is still work to do, but together, we are moving forward—with aloha, with purpose, and with each other.

Me ke aloha.

Keanu Lau Hee

Kennkapli Centlee

Senior Director of the HCF Maui Recovery Effort

Executive Summary

Together We Rise

Two years after the August 2023 wildfires, Maui's recovery continues, driven by the strength of its people, shaped by trusted relationships, and guided by those rooted in community. From the earliest days of the disaster response, the Maui Strong Fund of the Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF) was activated to respond with care, move resources quickly, and partner strategically with government leaders as well as trusted local organizations working directly with people affected.

In the immediate aftermath, the Maui Strong Fund supported urgent needs including housing, food, health, and emotional care. As the community transitioned from crisis response to recovery and stabilization, HCF expanded its efforts to address deeper and longer-term recovery needs. This included supporting families to help them regain stability, working with aid organizations to expand their ability to scale services, and building stronger, more resilient systems so Maui can weather whatever comes next. Progress has been steady and grounded in what matters most to people in their daily lives.

To date, more than \$209 million has been donated to the Maui Strong Fund, including interest earned. Of that total, more than \$140 million has already been awarded or committed in grants, supporting more than 200 local organizations and community-led efforts. More than 90 percent of those funds have gone to Maui-based organizations or statewide partners with a presence on-island, supporting leaders with deep community ties and place-based expertise.



KEY AREAS OF FOCUS IN THE **SECOND YEAR INCLUDE:**

Housing

Access to stable housing remains one of the most urgent and complex challenges in Maui's recovery. Thousands of residents remain displaced, often relying on rentals, staying with extended family, or living in temporary accommodations. Many are burdened by both rental and mortgage payments while they await the next steps in rebuilding.

The need for interim housing solutions is especially critical given the high number of renters living in Lahaina prior to the fire. Without immediate, stable options, these households face the risk of permanent displacement. Interim housing not only provides a safe place to live but also serves as a vital bridge—helping to keep families in the community, maintain school and work routines, and preserve the social fabric of neighborhoods while long-term housing is rebuilt.

HCF has supported a continuum of housing solutions aligned with the phases of recovery: emergency shelter, interim options, and pathways to permanent housing. Programs have included financial assistance for rent and relocation, support for host housing arrangements, development of transitional communities, and investment in interim housing projects such as Ka La'i Ola and the rebuilding of Ka Hale A Ke Ola.

These efforts restore a sense of place, privacy, and stability for individuals and families working to regain their footing. As recovery continues, layered and adaptive housing solutions will remain



essential. Continued progress will require partnerships across sectors, flexible funding, and sustained coordination. HCF remains committed to investing in solutions that meet people where they are and support their ability to stay rooted in Maui for the long term.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

The effects of trauma can persist well beyond the initial crisis and often surface long after basic survival needs are met. In a disaster of this magnitude, emotional, psychological, and spiritual tolls can affect every part of life—from physical health and relationships to the capacity to learn, work, and feel safe again. Recovery must make space for this full human experience.

HCF has supported a broad range of programs offering care rooted in cultural values and community connection.

These programs span the full spectrum of support: clinical therapy, school-based counseling, peer mentorship, grief circles, arts and movement-based healing, and traditional practices that create space for reflection and renewal. These diverse approaches honor the different ways people process grief and rebuild strength.

Community Wellbeing

Recovery goes beyond meeting immediate needs—it requires navigating complex systems, programs, and decisions, often while managing the emotional weight of loss.

HCF has invested in navigation programs tailored to each survivor's

circumstances. These efforts provided personalized support to help families stay housed, access resources, and make informed decisions. Housing counselors, benefit navigators, and financial advisors work alongside residents to chart individualized paths forward.

By supporting these services, HCF is helping bridge the gap between large-scale recovery systems and the day-to-day needs of the people most affected.

Stabilizing Everyday Life

Recovery also means regaining a sense of rhythm, responsibility, and routine. For many, returning to work, school, and caregiving responsibilities can feel impossible without the right supports in place.

HCF has invested Maui Strong funds in the foundational building blocks that help families reestablish a sense of normalcy: funding for early childhood and childcare coordination across the island, youth enrichment programs ensuring children remain engaged and supported, even as their lives were disrupted, workforce development and small business recovery programs, which provide training, financial literacy, and micro-enterprise loans, equipping people with the tools necessary to return to their daily lives on their own terms.

While less visible than other aspects of recovery, these efforts are critical to stabilizing daily life and supporting broader recovery process. By helping families return to routines, they quietly but powerfully contribute to the foundation of a resilient and connected community.



The Strategic Role of Philanthropy in Recovery

As recovery efforts extend from immediate disaster relief to longer-range rebuilding, philanthropy continues to play a strategic and focused role. The Maui Strong Fund was established to respond early, provide flexible support, and reinforce the people and organizations leading community-centered recovery.

While philanthropy can move quickly, adapting responsively to emerging needs, and investing in innovative community-defined solutions, it cannot and should not replace the scale and responsibility of government funding. The vast majority of long-term recovery, particularly infrastructure, housing, and systems rebuilding, must be led and funded by public resources.

Philanthropic dollars are most effective when used strategically to respond quickly to community needs, leverage government dollars dedicated to recovery, catalyze promising approaches, and support coordination across community. Specifically, alignment with public investments allows philanthropy to accelerate progress, strengthen partnerships, and ensure recovery remains grounded in the priorities of the affected community.

FOUR PHASES OF RECOVERY

Guiding Maui's Path **Forward**

At HCF, we understand that recovery requires a sustained response. It is an ongoing responsibility. In the wake of the August 2023 wildfires, the Maui Strong Fund was activated within hours. That rapid mobilization was possible because of years of preparation and a guiding framework rooted in partnership, equity, and long-term commitment.

The Four Phases of Disaster framework, developed by HCF in 2019, continues to shape how resources are distributed and how progress is measured. This approach recognizes that recovery requires both immediate action and sustained investment. It reflects a deep respect for community leadership and a belief that resilience is built over time, in collaboration.

Each phase overlaps with the others and unfolds uniquely for different communities. Together, they form a comprehensive path on the journey home.

PHASE ONE:

Risk Reduction and Readiness

Ongoing

3-5 percent of Maui Strong Fund allocations

PHASE TWO:

Rapid Relief and Response

Days to weeks post-disaster 20-25 percent

DISASTER

Strong recovery begins with strong preparation. Phase One

Community Spotlight:

· Community networks such as the Maui Nui Resiliency Hui established emergency communication and power systems when others were down, highlighting the value of locally led resilience planning.

focuses on building the capac-

ity of communities to respond

supporting infrastructure that

allows for a faster, more equi-

table response when it does.

before disaster strikes and

· Ongoing investments support wildfire mitigation, decentralized response infrastructure, and preparedness planning aligned with community needs and knowledge.

Security and relief are essential in the days following a disaster. Phase Two funding prioritizes urgent needs food, shelter, healthcare, and emotional support—delivered quickly and equitably to lay the groundwork for stability and long-term recovery.

Community Spotlight:

- More than \$5 million in Maui Strong Fund grants were distributed within the first 10 days, supporting more than 40 trusted organizations already serving their communities.
- Resources reached people through multiple channels—large relief efforts and smaller neighborhood-based hubs—ensuring that support was both widespread and personal.

PHASE THREE: Recovery and Stabilization Months to years post-disaster 70-85 percent PHASE FOUR: Rebuilding Resilience Ongoing 3-5 percent

Phase Three funding supports reinstating daily routines, a sense of community, and economic vitality, through funding for housing navigation, mental health and cultural care, early childhood services, workforce development, and more.

Community Spotlight:

- The Lahaina Homeowner Recovery Program provides financial support to hundreds of households, helping families stay in place as they work through complex rebuilding processes.
- Community organizations, including Family Life Center and Hui No Ke Ola Pono, continue to guide recovery efforts that are culturally rooted and grounded in trust.

Recovery is only complete when communities are stronger than before. Phase Four supports long-term resilience, with an emphasis on housing, economic security, environmental stewardship, and community-led planning.

Community Spotlight:

 The House Maui Initiative is an ongoing project to achieve affordable housing for kama'āina on Maui, partnering with state and county government, as well as private parters such as the Financial Opportunity Center, which offers individualized financial and home-buying education.

ON THE HORIZON:

Grants are supporting long-term systems that reflect the community's vision for the future. This includes the construction of permanent, volunteerbuilt homes; the development of long-term recovery organizations; and community-led planning efforts focused on housing, health, and economic well-being.

Environmental and cultural restoration also remains central, with support for efforts that reconnect people to 'āina, strengthen climate resilience, and uplift traditional ecological knowledge—reminding us that resilience is rooted not just in recovery, but in identity, place, and purpose.

These efforts are part of a broader movementone that brings together community leaders, nonprofits, philanthropy, and government in close coordination. Through shared goals and collaborative strategies, initiatives such as the Maui Recovery Funders Collaborative and Stronger Hawai'i are helping to evolve response and create frameworks that strengthen Hawai'i's capacity for resilience in the face of future crises.

IMPACT

STRONG FUND IMPACT

→ The impact of the Maui Strong Fund is reflected in the efforts of our grantees on the ground on Maui who are supporting the community through countless acts of aloha.



In 2024, the transition into Phase Three—Recovery and Stabilization—marked a shift from urgent relief to complex, long-term work of helping communities regain security, agency, and a sense of normalcy. While each survivor's path remains deeply personal, the collective focus has sharpened around a few core needs: housing, mental health, and coordinated access to services.

Insights from the Maui Recovery Survey—a collaboration between the University of Hawai'i Economic Research Organization (UHERO), the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA), and HCF—complemented what we were already hearing from community leaders and fire-affected families. The findings echoed and affirmed on-the-ground experiences, helping to validate the direction of recovery efforts and refine strategies moving forward.

The findings confirmed that displacement remained widespread, housing costs had surged, and survivors were navigating recovery while shouldering financial strain, emotional exhaustion, and instability. At the time of the survey, 80 percent of West Maui residents had been displaced, with many being displaced more than once. Average rents had increased by 43 percent, often for smaller or shared spaces, and nearly one-third of respondents identified navigating the recovery system itself as one of the greatest ongoing challenges. These insights underscored the urgency of investing not only in physical shelter, but in the wraparound supports that make housing and healing sustainable.

The emotional toll has been just as profound. According to UHERO's report and the Maui Together Wildfire Assessment, the uncertainty of the future was cited by more than half of respondents as the hardest part of recovery—surpassing even housing or income loss. More than 60 percent of fire survivors reported a decline in their mental health, pointing to frequent relocations, fractured support systems, and difficulty accessing services. Many emphasized the need for care that is not only clinically sound, but also culturally grounded and community-based.

In response, HCF updated its approach to Maui Strong Fund grantmaking to meet

the evolving set of needs. In October 2024, HCF launched targeted funding opportunities to deepen support of housing, community mental health and wellbeing, and navigation services. Each initiative was designed to fill critical gaps identified through direct community feedback and supported by data, while aligning with broader public recovery efforts. These investments are rooted in Phase Three of HCF's Four Phases of Disaster framework and are intentionally coordinated to complement government-led recovery strategies, ensuring that philanthropic dollars amplify and extend the reach of public resources, all while staying grounded in community-defined priorities.

The following sections outline Maui Strong Fund's second-year investments in these essential areas. Together, they represent a coordinated, values-driven approach to helping individuals, families, and communities in Lahaina, Kula, and across Maui recover not just their homes, but their sense of hope, connection, and agency over their future.



The Hawai'i Community Foundation is committed to transparency in our grant awards. All partners that have received Maui Strong Fund grant awards, as well as the day the grant was approved, the amount granted, and the work each partner is doing on Maui, can be found at https://hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/strengthening/maui-strong-fund



Housing

As long-term recovery continued into the second year after the fires, housing remained a central concern voiced by survivors across Maui. Stable and secure housing is a foundational need that affects every other part of the recovery journey. The Maui Strong Fund's investments in housing reflect this reality, supporting both homeowners and renters while acknowledging the distinct challenges each household faces.

While funding for temporary housing construction remains the largest investment area for the Maui Strong Fund, significant resources have also gone toward housing-related support services that help move recovery forward. These include covering costs for property surveys through Hawai'i Community Lending, financial assessments and rebuild guidance from our CDFI partners, insurance education provided by United Policyholders, and subsidies for smoke damage remediation through Red Lightning. The fund also supported dual-purpose programs like Kōkua Hale Pāpa'i at UH Maui College, which provided construction training to students who then built secure storage sheds donated to families rebuilding their homes.

Looking at the progress so far, one thing is clear: stable housing lays the groundwork for everything else. It directly shapes how individuals and families access other services, whether reconnecting to community, seeking mental health support, or planning for the future.

(Continued on page 14)



MAUI STRONG FUND HOUSING GRANTS THROUGH YEAR 2

All information reported by grantees as of June 30, 2025.

Housing Services

Housing support, housing navigation services, and housing placements in existing housing

Total granted	\$15.3M
Total families served	5,834

Maui Strong Fund Grantees Providing Housing Services

American Red Cross Arc of Maui County Boys Scouts of America, Aloha Council Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA) Grace Bible Church Maui Grassroot Institute of Hawai'i Inc. Hawai'i Community Lending Hawaiian Community Assets Housing Providers of Hawai'i Inc., dba HomeAid Hawai'i J. Walter Cameron Center Ka Hale a Ke Ola King's Cathedral & Chapels Maui Economic Opportunity (MEO) Pukalani Community Church of the Nazarene Red Lightning University of Hawai'i Maui College: Kōkua Hale Pāpa'i United Policyholders

Housing Builds

Construction of new units

Total granted	\$67.5M	
Total units to be built	723	
Units completed	408	
Units under construction	315	
Units occupied	393	

Maui Strong Fund Grantees Providing Housing Builds

Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement:

Fairways at Maui Lani and La'ikū

Family Life Center: 'Ohana Hope Village

Hoʻōla lā Mauinuiakama: Housing Re-build Program in Lahaina with Volunteer Labor

HomeAid Hawai'i: Ka La'i Ola

Ka Hale a Ke Ola Homeless Resource Center, Inc.:

Lahaina Center Rebuild & Redevelopment

Maui Health Foundation:

Housing for Healthcare ADU Program

Pukalani Community Church of the Nazarene:

Compassion Village

Hawai'i Community Foundation collaborates, coordinates, and convenes with partners across sectors for a collective response to recovery. An additional \$132 million was secured and leveraged through help from Hawai'i Community Foundation for Maui Strong Fund grantees.





Housing

(Continued from page 12)

Over the last year, HCF has been monitoring the progress of the Maui Interim Housing Plan that has been contributing to the supply of temporary housing. HCF's commitment from the Maui Strong Fund was joined by partners both public and private, including FEMA, the State of Hawai'i, the County of Maui, CNHA, Kāko'o Maui Fund, and other philanthropic organizations. HCF pledged \$50 million in Maui Strong funds toward the \$500 million collective commitment to create temporary and permanent housing projects.

In October 2024, HCF released the Maui Strong Fund Interim and Long-

Term Housing funding opportunity, which called for proposals focused on temporary housing solutions (transitional builds that can serve families for months to years); permanent housing solutions (innovative and cost effective permanent solutions); housing resources (solutions supporting the return of households to their properties); and other criteria focused on supporting the recovery of housing to fire affected areas. Through this process, the Maui Strong Fund awarded over \$11 million to five organizations providing housing solutions and resources to survivors in the rebuild phase of their journey.

Today, data from case management, case navigation, and other needs assessment surveys indicate that stable, secure housing and housing relocation resources remain some of the top priority needs for displaced residents in recovery.

The Maui Strong Fund continues to provide funding to housing solutions. To date, the Maui Strong Fund has expended \$82.8 million on housing awards, representing over 59 percent of the total funds expended so far from the fund.

Spotlight On Housing



Temporary Housing by HomeAid Hawaiii

Ka La'i Ola, meaning "the place of peaceful recovery," is a neighborhood designed to offer families a stable, supportive home during a time of deep transition. Located in West Maui, it is part of the broader Maui Interim Housing Plan, an effort launched in January 2024 to provide thousands of transitional homes for displaced residents.

Through the Maui Strong Fund, HCF played a significant role in helping bring Ka La'i Ola to life by committing early philanthropic support to accelerated construction so families could move in as quickly as possible.

Since breaking ground in spring 2024, Ka La'i Ola has steadily welcomed families home. By spring 2025, more than 260 families had moved into newly completed modular homes. Each home is equipped with a full kitchen, a bathroom, and a living space that offers privacy, comfort, and a sense of stability. The community continues to grow in response to ongoing need, with new homes opening on a rolling basis.

At full buildout, Ka La'i Ola will include approximately 450 modular homes in a mix of studio, one-, two-, and three-bedroom layouts. The neighborhood includes playgrounds and shared spaces that support daily life and create opportunities for connection among neighbors. Through partnerships with local organizations, residents are also supported with navigation and recovery services that help guide their next steps toward long-term housing.

Ka La'i Ola reflects the power of coordinated recovery, where public, private, and community partners come together with urgency and care to meet people where they are and help them move forward.

Housing and Culturally Grounded Support from CNHA

With support from the Maui Strong Fund, CNHA constructed and delivered 66 homes to displaced survivors. These two-bedroom, one-bathroom units provided families with safe, stable housing during a critical period of transition, helping them remain connected to their communities while navigating the long road to recovery.

All 66 units have now been completed, with 16 in Lahaina (La'ikū) and 50 at Maui Lani (Ke Ao Maluhia) currently housing fire-affected families. Each home is fully furnished and includes a kitchen, a bathroom, and comfortable living space. Families pay affordable rent, made possible in part through coordinated support and access to recovery navigation resources. These homes offer stability, comfort, and a foundation from which residents can begin planning their next steps.

CNHA's commitment to culturally grounded solutions extends beyond building homes. The organization has also launched a host housing program, providing financial support to families who welcomed displaced loved ones into their homes. By recognizing and strengthening existing care networks, the program helped keep 'ohana together while reducing strain on formal housing systems.

Wraparound supports remain central to CNHA's approach. Residents benefit from financial literacy workshops through the organization's expanded HUD-certified counseling program, and regular fresh food distributions are available through partnerships with community providers. These resources help families rebuild daily routines, strengthen financial resilience, and access tools to support long-term stability.

Stories from residents underscore the program's impact. The Leal 'ohana, for example, returned to Maui after off-island cancer treatment and moved into a safe, furnished home within a week. Their daughter and her family soon joined them in the same neighborhood, reuniting generations just a few doors apart. Their experience is one of seven extended families brought back together through this project, reinforcing the importance of community-led housing in preserving the ties that define home in Hawai'i.



Mental Health



Photo: Mana Maoli

Mental health resources have continued to be a priority since the fires of 2023. By Year 2 of the recovery, the Maui Strong Fund provided a cumulative of \$6.1 million in mental health resources across a spectrum of access points and practices with a priority to adapt to survivors' individual circumstances in their respective recovery.

In October 2024, HCF released the Maui Strong Fund Community Mental Health and Wellbeing funding opportunity, to fund programs that were already meeting existing needs around mental health and wellbeing, actively serving the fire-affected community, and were seeing increased demand for services. Clinical therapy was one important option, but the fund also supported a broader spectrum of supports, including cultural practices, stress-reduction programs, and peer- or community-based approaches, to ensure people had access to care that felt safe, relevant, and responsive to their lived experiences.

In November 2024, HCF awarded more than \$2 million in Maui Strong Fund grants to

24 organizations. These programs are ongoing and provide a diverse range of services including programs for children, young adults, culture-specific practice, clinical therapy, art therapy, movement-based practice, music therapy, mental health referrals, trauma-informed training, and family-focused support.

In the second year, HCF continued working with the Hawai'i State Office of Wellness and Resilience, which hosts a weekly mental health call with Maui-based providers, to ensure alignment with the evolving needs of their patients in fire-impacted communities. Surveys from the Maui Wildfire Exposure Study (WES) and the Maui Together study—both supported by the Maui Strong Fund—continue to inform resource needs to keep behavioral health programs consistent and stable.

Looking ahead, it's clear that mental health support will be a part of the long-term recovery, including the known impacts of stable and secure housing on the mental, emotional, and physical needs of individuals and households in recovery on Maui.

Spotlight on Mental Health Grantees

Ho'oikaika Partnership Strengthens Families

An organization focused on preventing child abuse and neglect and promoting the well-being of families in Maui County, the Ho'oikaika Partnership has been strengthening families to support mental health needs and prevent incidences of domestic violence and substance use. It provides direct services to families, sustains the mental health of service providers, and offers education and training to support family resilience. Through January 2025, the organization hosted 11 monthly meetings seeing 254 unduplicated attendees. served 459 families with resource navigation services, distributed over \$30,000 in gift cards, hosted 13 community events serving 1,221 families, reached over 115 providers at Healing the Healers sessions, and engaged 93 participants in protective factors trainings. The organization is in Year 2 of an additional Maui Strong Fund award and will continue these services through Spring 2026.

MAUI STRONG FUND MENTAL HEALTH GRANTS THROUGH YEAR 2

All information reported by grantees as of June 30, 2025.

Mental Health Programs

Services provided include mental health therapy, trauma and grief counseling, outreach and education, training/conferences in healing and trauma informed care, Native Hawaiian culture-based healing, art and music therapy, peer support groups.

Total granted	\$6.1M*
Total number of grantees	53
Total number of grants	64
Total number of individuals served	17,210
Children/Youth served	7,376
First responders served	285
Adults served	9,834
Number of events	93
Number of individuals served through events	29,378

^{*}In addition to \$1.3M secured from other fund sources to leverage Maui Strong Fund dollars

Maui Strong Fund Grantees Providing Mental Health Programs

All information reported by grantees as of June 30, 2025.

50th State F.O.O.L.S.

Accessurf Hawai'i. Inc.

'Aha Pūnana Leo

Aloft

Boys & Girls Clubs of Maui, Inc.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i

Child and Family Service

Consortium for Hawai'i Ecological Engineering Education

dba Mālama 'Āina Foundation

Family Hui Hawai'i

Family Violence and Sexual Assault Institute (IVAT)

Float Research Collective

For Children to Flourish

Friends of Hawai'i Technology Academy

Haku Baldwin Center

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hana Arts

Hawai'i Association for Infant Mental Health

Hawai'i Behavioral Health Connection

Hawai'i Psychological Association, fiscal sponsor (FS):

Hawai'i Behavioral Health Connection

Hawai'i Pet Network, Inc. dba Hawai'i Animal Rescue Foundation

Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Hawai'i

Ho'ohanu

Hoʻoikaika Partnership, FS: Maui Family Support Services

Hospice Hawai'i dba Navian Hawai'i

Hospice Maui

Hui No'eau

Imua Family Services

Island Mind Therapy LLC

Ka'ehu

Kaibigan Ng Lahaina

Ke Kula o Pi'ilani

Kids Hurt Too Hawai'i

Lahaina Arts Guild

Lines for Life

Mālama Nā Mākua A Keiki dba Mālama Family Recovery Center

Mana Maoli

Maui Access to Mindful Movement

Maui Health Foundation

Maui Preparatory Academy

Mental Health America of Hawai'i

Nā Keiki o Emalia

National Alliance on Mental Illness Hawai'i (NAMI Maui)

Native Hawaiian Philanthropy

Pacific Birth Collective Incorporated

Pacific Survivor Center

Parents and Children Together

Piha Wellness and Healing

Project Koa Yoga, LLC, FS: Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies

Rebuild Maui.Org

Teran James Young Foundation Inc.

The Spirit Horse Ranch

Wisdom Circles Oceania



Recovery Pathways

Long-term recovery goes beyond support for individuals and requires building systems that sustain communitywide healing. The Maui Strong Fund invested in systems improvements by supporting navigation programs that connect residents to recovery services, ensuring household needs are identified and matched with available resources from multiple funders and programs. Thanks to the efforts of Maui-based nonprofits and statewide partners, many of which hired local, fireimpacted staff and established offices on Maui, residents now have access to support from trusted community members through coordinated pathways to recovery.

Government programs, like the State of Hawai'i's Disaster Case Management Program (DCMP), have contracted providers on Maui to provide case managers for survivors. Through community feedback, HCF learned there was support needed for individuals not engaged with the program. In response, HCF funded several organizations offering supplemental navigation support—especially for populations facing severe

challenges—to ensure long-term needs are met. These programs provided a range of services and often partnered with CNHA's Kākoʻo Maui resource hubs, where many Maui Strong Fund grantees shared material resources and conducted direct community outreach.

Why is this important? Case management and resource navigation programs play a vital role in tracking household needs throughout the recovery process. These services collect real-time data directly from households in recovery affected by the fires-people who have experienced loss, displacement, or major disruption. This information helps funders like the Maui Strong Fund and our partners allocate resources more effectively, ensuring support reaches where it's needed most. Case management is designed as a long-term commitment, recognizing that each survivor's recovery journey is unique and evolving. HCF strongly encourages households with ongoing needs to engage in case management, because not only will it aid in their journey, but the data gathered will shape long-term recovery priorities and help move the entire community forward.





Spotlight on Recovery Pathways Grantees

Free Legal Services from PONO Legal

Pro bono Organization for Native 'Ohana (PONO Legal) has been providing legal referral services to fire impacted households and individuals through intake partnerships stationed at local hub spaces where fire affected communities are located. The organization conducted nearly 200 intakes, assisted over 500 individuals with free legal services and attended dozens of community events.

Financial Planning from Hawaiian Community Assets

Hawaiian Community Assets has been supporting households in recovery through Disaster Recovery Housing Counselors on their Maui team. HCA's staff engage fire survivors directly through personalized one-on-one counseling, financial assessment, and a six-month sustainability plan tailored to clients' needs. Funds were also provided to help address essential financial gaps. A total of 96 individuals have received financial support through this program.

Translation and Services Support from Kaibigan Ng Lahaina

Kaibigan Ng Lahaina operates its Community Resource Navigation program out of the Lahaina Office of Recovery three days a week and spends the other two days working out of the Kāko'o Maui Resource Center. Staff complete initial assessments, offer translations services for clients, and assist with the completion of other resource applications. The program has made more than 1,200 contacts in its survivor database and it is currently operating a case load of more than 300 families through case navigation.

Support from Hoʻōla lā Mauiakama Disaster Long Term Recovery Group

Maui's Long-Term Recovery Group is a coalition of local leaders from organizations directly providing recovery services in the wake of the 2023 fires. They strengthen the recovery landscape by fostering alignment, trust, and coordination among partners connecting those closest to the work to improve how systems function together.



Community Wellbeing

The Maui Strong Fund fills gaps in recovery where other agency and government funding are not as available. By focusing on under-resourced systems through targeted funding, impact has been made through consistent investments into supporting services for children and their families, vulnerable populations facing health disparities, unique recovery solutions related to 'āina, and long-term investments into data.



Photo: Maui Medic Healers Hui and Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Hawai'i

Spotlight on Community Wellbeing Grantees

Health Care from Maui Medic Healers Hui

The Maui Medic Healers Hui activated its network of providers and practitioners immediately after the fires, and is still providing services through the Lahaina Community Health Center. Serving over 500 people per month with one-on-one treatments focused on health, wellness. and basic first aid care, the organization continues to provide trauma-informed, comprehensive and holistic healing protocols to ensure fire survivors are treated with humanity, respect, dignity, and compassion.

Aloha House Supports Mental Health

Aloha House has provided emotional support and mental health related services through Outreach Specialists throughout the first and second year of the recovery. Staff provided these services to a total of 1,005 individuals in the first year of funding and engaged hundreds of families in other engagement activities (youth events, care coordination, and FEMA/Red Cross assistance) in the community. In 2025, Aloha House is actively building 12 substance-use treatment beds in an expanded dormitory to meet the needs of fire survivors in recovery and in need of safe, secure treatment and housing.



Aloha House breaks ground on a new dormitory to support fire survivors in recovery.

UVSC Backs Cancer Fighters

In Year 1, UVSC, a Maui-based nonprofit focused on supporting cancer patients, worked with 8 families (28 individuals who were directly impacted by the fires) with its financial assistance program, covering out-of-pocket cancer treatment expenses and other related costs for medical treatment, including transportation to appointments. UVSC was funded for a second year and seeks to support 10 cancer fighters impacted by the fires and their family members (estimated 25-35 individuals) with unique support to ensure continuity of cancer treatment and to move their post-fire recovery forward.



Children, Youth, and Families

Long term, young people continue to carry the emotional weight of disruption and uncertainty. Supporting their recovery means investing in programs that foster stability, connection, and wellbeing so they have safe spaces to learn and express while their families rebuild. This included support for in-school programming and extra-curricular opportunities emphasizing personal development and leadership skills building. Specific resources toward Lahaina young adults include nearly \$400,000 in financial assistance for the class of 2024 students attending college outside of Hawai'i facilitated by Downtown Athletic Club; the Lahainaluna Poʻokela program in partnership with ClimbHI focusing on Youth CERT and disaster training; and the Maui Hero Project, administered by Aloft, providing disaster readiness and skills building opportunities for impacted youth in need of pro-social programming. Two reading programs were funded, Book Trust and the Always Dream Foundation, as strategic supplemental resources for elementary and middle schools in West Maui that are educating students who are actively in recovery.

Long-term support for children, youth and families will be provided in Lahaina through the Maui YMCA's West Maui Child & Family Resource Hub, which will house nearly two dozen nonprofit programs providing services for those in recovery. This project supports children, youth, families, and the elderly. Maui YMCA also provided its intersession camps to ensure continuity of coverage for parents and families who use these resources to enrich their children's recovery.

Spotlight on Children, Youth, and Families Grantees

Maui Family YMCA Engages Keiki to Küpuna

Maui Strong funding supported the organization's West Side Youth Summer program to offer extra-curricular and intercession activities supporting families in recovery. In the first year after the fires, the organization enrolled 500 children for nine weeks, including a weekly art instruction/ therapy and two weekly music lessons. In the second year, it hosted Spring Break Intercession Camps for Lahaina elementary-age students, serving more than 70 families at no cost. With support from the Maui Strong Fund and other funders, the organization is also launching its 6,000 square foot West Maui YMCA Resource Center, which is partnering with over 20 nonprofits that will provide accessible, comprehensive resources to families with children and kūpuna affected by the fires. The Lahaina space will provide childcare, mental health support, wraparound services, and kūpuna programming.

Kids Hurt Too Mobile Unit

At the request of elementary schools that were taking in displaced young people, Kids Hurt Too Hawai'i brought its unique grief and trauma counseling services for youth to Maui in 2023. In the first year after the fires, the organization provided direct peer support group services to 316 youth, trained 670 individuals on their services related to working with individuals and families impacted by the fires, trained over 400 individuals on unique needs of youth and families as it relates to mental health for recovery, performed crisis interventions for over 30 unique individuals, hosted at least 15 mentoring activities for over 200 individuals, served over 200 hot meals at group meetings, and launched a Mobile Unit for Maui. In the second year since the fires, the organization's mobile unit brought its programs and services directly to temporary housing communities and other community spaces, removing transportation barriers and ensuring greater access to fire recovery resources.

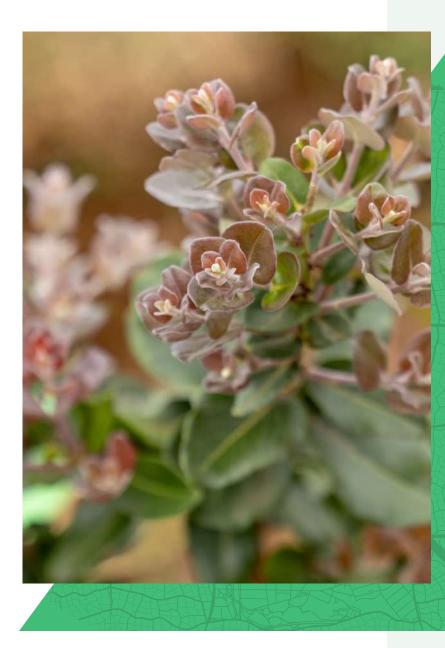




Natural Resources

The Upcountry fires impacted the Kula **community,** including dozens of homes and over 1,000 acres, including the 600 acres in the 2024 fires. Communityled recovery efforts are focused on restoring the land by replanting native species to restore damaged soil, prevent erosion during heavy rains, and reduce future fire risk by lowering the fuel load. Mālama Kula is also contributing to fire prevention through a program that removes hazardous fuel sources, such as dry branches and overgrown bushes, from around homes. The nonprofit supports its neighborhood by providing green waste bins, helping residents dispose of debris safely, especially those unable to manage removal themselves. The program also returns safe mulch to the community to encourage replanting and the regrowth of native vegetation, reinforcing both environmental restoration and proactive fire prevention.

The Maui Strong Fund supports UH Maui College's three-pronged approach that contributes to Maui's long-term recovery, centered on natural resource restoration and resilience through a variety of initiatives across Maui. Engaging student interns in diverse data collection and analysis efforts aimed at informing decisions that shape the island's recovery, these initiatives empower Maui students to take part in building long-term solutions. By involving the next generation in this work, UH Maui College is helping to ensure that recovery efforts are both informed and sustainable.



Spotlight on Natural Resources Grantees

Restoring Vital Ecosystems with Kula Community Watershed Alliance

The Kula Community Watershed Alliance has been working to recover 110 acres of watershed devastated by the fires, making significant progress in ecosystem restoration focused on all 71 fire-affected properties in Upcountry Maui. The group completed a survey of the entire burn scar, implemented erosion control and stabilization methods, removed fire fuels, hosted seed collection and propagation workshops and has launched a nursery to grow seeds that will be replanted in the affected neighborhood. The organi-

zation removed 21+ acres of eucalyptus and wattle trees, stabilized 8 acres of burned land, removed 40+ acres of invasive species regrowing in the burn scar, and supported fenced-in planting zones on 22 properties creating recovery kipuka among the homes in various stages of rebuilding.

Mālama Kula Removes Green Waste

Mālama Kula is also supporting the Kula community impacted by the fires through its Kula Community Green Waste Program, which operates a green waste bin deployed in the neighborhoods bordering the Kula burn zone. The program has now deployed 36 bins across Upper Kula to facilitate the collection and removal of 1,300 cubic yards of green waste that is a potential fuel load hazard. The expanded Kūpuna Curbside Pick-up Program ensures the coordination of volunteers to clear and collect green waste for those who cannot do it themselves. In addition, the organization is safely distributing wood chips back into the community to stabilize more than eight acres of land, minimizing erosion and the threat of landslides or mudslides. The program has a goal of supporting 100 more Kula properties to continue fire fuel reduction activities through 2026.

UH Maui College Empowers Student Conservation

The University of Hawai'i Maui College's programs seek to hold a strategic role in the recovery, rebuilding and resilience efforts for Maui following the fires. Through three fellowship programs, Pu'uhonua Kauluwehi, Hulihia Center for Sustainable Systems, and the UHMC Water Quality Laboratory, students participate in data collection, program development, and stakeholder engagement to bring solutions and observation to important areas of fire recovery. Long-term outcomes of these programs include the banking, propagation, and distribution of native and fire-resistant plants for agriculture and landscaping; collecting and analysis of data to identify and track critical elements of community revitalization through systems modeling; and maintaining and sustaining water quality and reef health through dynamic monitoring, community engagement, knowledge exchange, and ongoing management efforts that can be shared with state and federal agencies with environmental health mandates.



Photo Credit: Kula Community Watershed Alliance





IMPACT

FINANCIALS

STRONG FINANCIALS

Two years after the fires, more than two thirds of the total fund's contributions have been distributed out to nonprofit partners assisting the people and places of Maui.

The Maui Strong Fund consists of contributions available to programs of 501(c)(3)s aligned to strategic activities focused on the immediate and long-term recovery needs, as informed by Maui's affected community, available and relevant recovery data, and official recovery planning documents.

Total Combined Contributions:	\$209,350,131
Year 2 Total Contributions:	\$14,414,333
Year 2 Interest*:	\$4,129,301
Contributions in Year 2:	\$10,285,032
Year 1 Total Contributions:	\$194,935,798
Year 1 Interest*:	\$5,197,145
Contributions in Year 1:	\$189,738,653

^{*}All interest earned is reinvested into the Maui Strong Fund. HCF does not collect a fee for donations to the Maui Strong Fund.

Contributions

242,209 Donors, 5000+ Corporate Donors, 78 different countries

FUNDING GRANTED

Lodging and Shelter	\$71,331,317.00
Direct Financial Assistance	\$25,104,592.00
Children and Family	\$7,931,947.29
Mental Health and Grief Counseling	\$6,128,025.80
Food and Supplies	\$5,717,012.50
Health Care	\$5,161,000.00
Immigrant Services	\$5,012,231.00
Multi-faceted	\$3,725,528.00
Workforce Development	\$3,156,915.20
Navigation Services	\$2,434,649.00
Communications, Logistics, and Transportation	\$1,878,510.00
Natural and Cultural Resources	\$1,701,349.00
Animal Welfare	\$715,000.00
Baby and Maternal Care	\$520,000.00
Childcare	\$451,884.00

\$140,969,960.49

August 9, 2023 - June 1, 2025

Grand Total



Financial Transparency

At HCF, we understand that transparency, strong governance, and independent oversight are essential to maintain trust—especially in the wake of crisis. To support this, we engaged Moss Adams LLP, an independent third-party firm, to conduct a review of the Maui Strong Fund's oversight structure and operating framework. Its assessment focused on governance, review and decision-making processes, and operational systems, benchmarking our practices against sector standards and philanthropic best practices.

With a Phase I report submitted in March 2024, and a second Phase Il report submitted in March 2025, Moss Adams confirmed that HCF has established a sound governance model and grantmaking framework to steward the Fund. It validated that our processes for oversight, conflict of interest management, fund allocation, and documentation are operating effectively. It also offered recommendations to enhance clarity and consistency, including formalizing our approach to grantee monitoring, improving documentation of collaborative funder strategies, and strengthening communication to keep stakeholders informed about our overall strategy, decision-making, and evolving approach. These insights are helping us strengthen internal systems and ensure that our practices remain responsive to the evolving needs of our community. Independent verification and validation is an essential practice for HCF to uphold accountability, demonstrate integrity, and continue maintaining the trust of donors while honoring our responsibility to the survivors and all the people of Maui.

[•] Some grants have been re-classified since the 2024 report for accuracy.

Sub-categories span the four recovery functions of housing, health & social services, natural & cultural environment, and economics.

PROFILES IN GENEROSITY

→ The amazing work being accomplished with the support of the Maui Strong Fund has only been made possible through the generous contributions of thousands of donors around the world.



In the two years since the fires, something extraordinary has unfolded. Heartfelt messages, memories, prayers, and stories of deep connection to this island and its people have poured in alongside donations from every corner of the world.

Together, these thousands of messages formed a powerful narrative of compassion, resilience, and unwavering love for the people and places of Maui. They came from those who once called Maui home, from visitors who carry it in their hearts, and from people moved by the spirit of aloha.

In this section, we share a few of the inspiring voices behind the generosity—donors who shared their resources, heartfelt reflections and words of support.

The generosity and kindness for Maui is proof that aloha is alive and well here in the islands, and around the world. It's how we care for one another. It's how we rebuild, together. And because of the power of the world's aloha for Maui, hope continues to rise—we are united in recovery.



Honoring Home in Lahaina

Started on the sun-drenched shores of Lahaina, sunglasses manufacturer Maui Jim has always carried the spirit of aloha in everything it does. So, when the wildfires devastated Lahaina in 2023, it hit home.

Moved by compassion and kuleana, Maui Jim's parent company Kering Eyewear acted quickly with a significant donation to the Maui Strong Fund, helping to provide urgent relief to the people and places impacted by the fires. Two years later, as Maui continues to recover, that commitment has grown even stronger.

With another recent donation to the Maui Strong Fund, Kering Eyewear is committed to supporting Lahaina's long-term recovery. This generosity speaks volumes about the company's gratitude for the community that shaped it—and its belief in a brighter future for Maui.

In tandem with this latest gift, Kering Eyewear is also investing in Maui's recovery through the opening of two new retail stores—one in Wailea and one in Kāʻanapali. Designed in collaboration with local contractors and artisans, the new locations are tangible symbols of resilience, partnership, and the shared work of rebuilding.

"Lahaina is, and always will be, Maui Jim's home. We owe so much to this community, and it is our privilege to give back," says Roberto Vedovotto, the founder, president, and CEO of Kering Eyewear. "These store openings and this new donation reflect our heartfelt respect for Maui and our long-term commitment to helping its people and culture thrive for generations."

This deepened commitment is also part of a broader initiative launched in 2024, where 10 percent of proceeds from select sunglasses are directed to the Maui Strong Fund.

We are profoundly grateful to Kering Eyewear, through Maui Jim, for standing with Maui in its time of greatest need. 66

The islands and her people have healed me, my heart and spirit with my visits and it is an honor and in gratitude that I contribute and will continue whenever I can."

a Maui StrongFund supporter





A Recipe for Aloha

Every month, a familiar crew arrives at HCF's door: a warm, in-person visit from the Genki Sushi team. With each visit, they leave a donation, demonstrating their continued support on Maui's path to recovery.

With its latest gift, Genki Sushi has now contributed more than \$100,000 to the Maui Strong Fund—a milestone marking the company's compassion, generosity, and unwavering commitment to the people and places impacted by the wildfires.

Typical of the fan-favorite brand's heart and creative spirit, the support takes a unique form. Through a series of special menus, Genki Sushi donates a portion of sales directly to the Maui Strong Fund, inviting its customers to take part in giving

back and turning each meal into a moment of shared impact.

With every joyful drop-off, Genki's monthly visits have become a recurring reminder for the HCF team of the spirit of community that makes Hawai'i so special. Their ongoing partnership is a powerful example of what it means to lead with heart and stand by a community when it is needed most. Genki Sushi stepped forward with aloha, inspiration and compassion-embodying the generosity and resilience that we have seen time and time again from donors right here in the islands, and around the world. We are deeply honored to be your partners in this journey. Mahalo for continuing to uplift the people, places, and spirit of Maui.

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I only wish
I could do
much more.
Noho koʻu
puʻuwai i
Hawaiʻi."

a Maui StrongFund supporter



Uplifting Maui Through Compassion and Action



For more than 25 years, Meg Obenauf has helped families on Maui prepare for the future through her practice, Obenauf Law Group, creating wills, trusts, and guardianships to protect family assets and plans. When the fires happened, Meg's work became more urgent than ever.

In the days that followed the disaster, Meg donated to the Maui Strong Fund and also volunteered her services at food distribution centers. She sat with survivors at the Lahaina Civic Center, offering free legal counsel through the Legal Aid booth, and answered calls on the Hawai'i State Bar Association hotline—listening with care and guiding people through their first steps toward recovery.

One story that stays with her is that of a 90-year-old woman who escaped the fire with her adult son, who uses a wheelchair. "It was nothing short of miraculous," Meg recalls. Her firm guided them through their urgent legal needs—establishing guardianship and completing estate planning documents—and helped them connect

with FEMA to secure ADA-compliant housing.

Two years later, Meg continues to serve survivors—handling complex probate cases and helping families regain stability, one step at a time. She's still doing what she's always done: helping people prepare, protect, and care for what matters most.

Meg's story is a reflection of so many people on Maui who leaped into action to offer their skills, resources, and support when their neighbors needed it. Their generosity and care for their community will power Maui's recovery until the job is done.

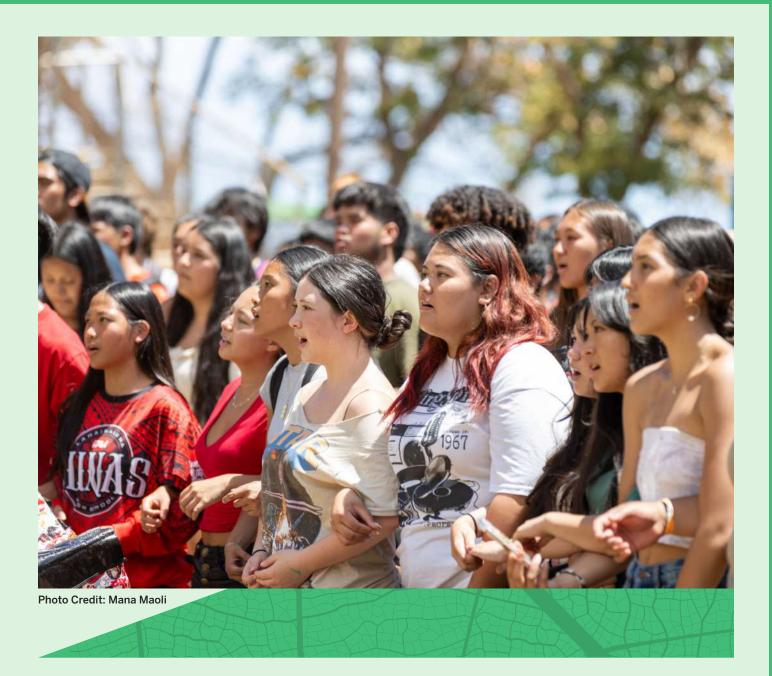
We are profoundly grateful to Meg and all those who continue to stand with Maui.





LOOKING AHEAD

→ Two years after the disaster, recovery continues and much work lies ahead. We're committed to standing with Maui's people and places to support healing, rebuilding, and a resilient future for all.



Maui's recovery continues to evolve in complexity, reflecting the deeply personal and varied paths that survivors must navigate. As the needs of the community shift, so too must the strategies that support it. HCF's work through the Maui Strong Fund has laid essential groundwork: investing early, building trust, and helping stabilize the foundations of long-term recovery.

To sustain and strengthen this work, HCF co-founded and now helps lead the Maui Recovery Funders Collaborative (MRFC), a network of aligned philanthropic partners working through shared strategy and a coordinated application process. This collaboration allows funders to act together—and in alignment with public agencies—to ensure resources reach those best positioned to meet community needs. As one example of our evolved response, this represents a shift from siloed giving toward a more unified, strategic approach to recovery.

The journey ahead is still unfolding. Yet the relationships, infrastructure, and momentum established over the past two years offer a steady foundation to carry Maui forward with com-

passion, collaboration, and resilience. HCF remains committed to stewarding resources with care, amplifying community leadership, and building systems that can serve as a model for disaster response across Hawai'i.

As we look forward, recovery will require sustained focus and continued investment in long-term solutions that reflect the diverse realities of Maui's people. Together, through the lessons of today and the vision for tomorrow, we are helping build a stronger Hawai'i.

UNITED FOR RECOVERY

MAUI STRONG FUND 2-YEAR IMPACT REPORT

