



by Center for Tomorrow's Leaders

# VISION LAB

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Annual showcase of  
student-led projects  
across the state

April 25, 2024  
Japanese Cultural Center





INSPIRATIONAL LEADER OF THE YEAR

# KEITH HAYASHI

SUPERINTENDENT  
HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ADVISOR OF THE YEAR

# GAYLE THOMPSON

PARTNER TEACHER  
WAIMEA HIGH SCHOOL





# OUR VISION

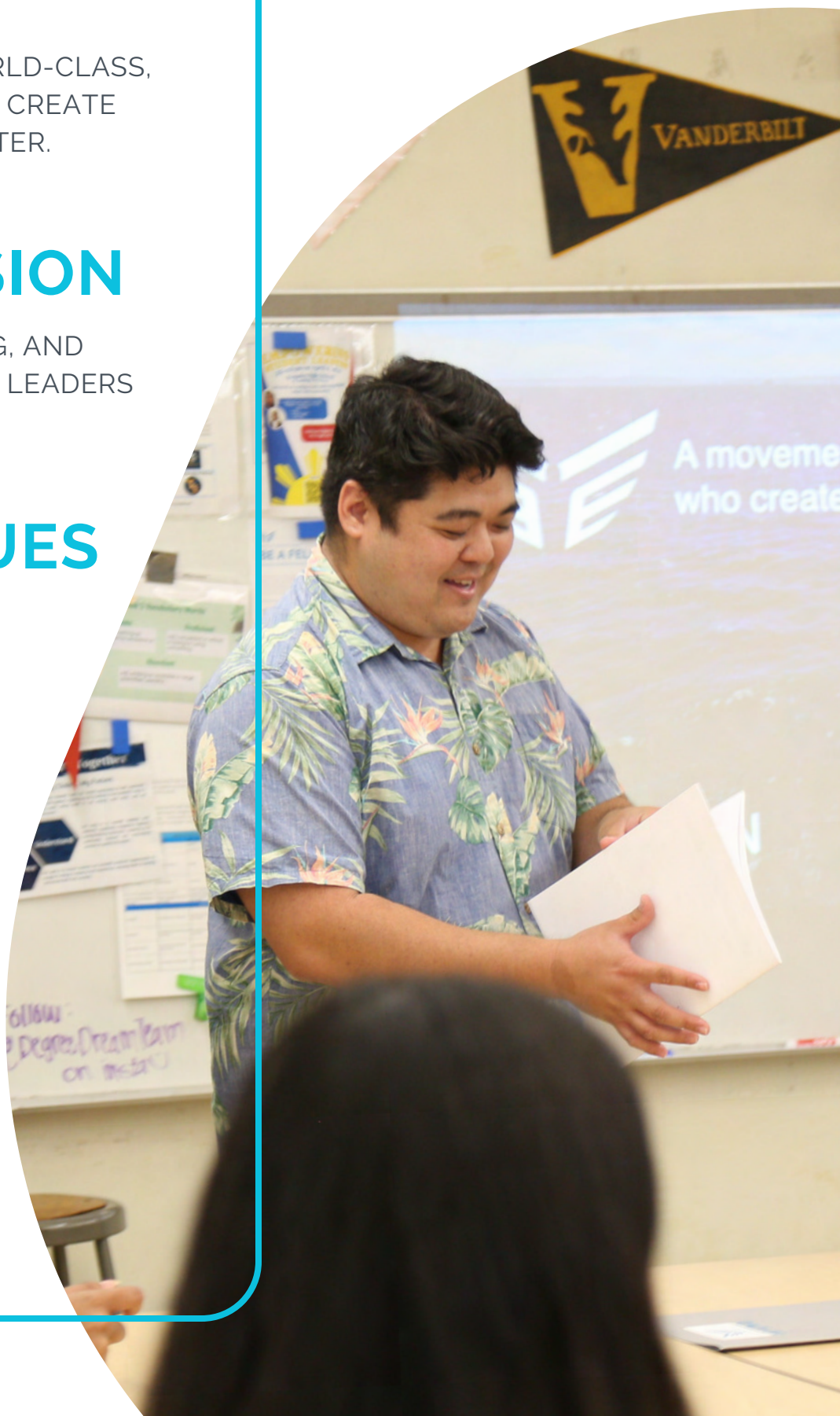
A MOVEMENT OF WORLD-CLASS, LOCAL LEADERS WHO CREATE HAWAII'S NEXT CHAPTER.

# OUR MISSION

ENGAGING, EQUIPPING, AND EMPOWERING YOUNG LEADERS FOR HAWAII.

# OUR VALUES

CHARACTER  
CRITICAL THINKING  
COMPETENCE  
COMMUNITY  
COURAGE



## MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**Dear Friends of Center for Tomorrow's Leaders,**

**"Thank you for loving the students as much as we do,"** a teacher recently remarked to one of our staff members. Yes, we do.

In 43 classrooms across the state, CTL facilitators are working directly with our next generation of leaders every week - teaching, mentoring and encouraging them. This extends outside the classroom, cheering them on at sports events and other special occasions.

Now in every corner of Hawai'i, CTL's young leaders are coming together to create shared visions from their communities.

With almost 1,000 young people in our programs this year, we're ready to bring these visions together to achieve a statewide vision of growth.

One of our alumni recently posted, **"Get ready, Hawai'i, we're coming for you."** To which I would respond with an enthusiastic yes!

Our alumni are full of energy, and ready for impact. The organization now has a complete 10-year "leader feeder" pipeline - empowering young leaders who are from Hawai'i, for Hawai'i, and in Hawai'i.

We are doing this together. Thanks for your incredible support.

We can't wait to see what the next 5 years will bring.

With Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Chang".

Katie Chang  
Executive Director



# HOW FAR WE'LL GO

18 high schools

5 Islands

817 Students

43 Classes

75% of incoming students don't have leadership roles

**KAUA'I**  
WAIMEA HIGH SCHOOL

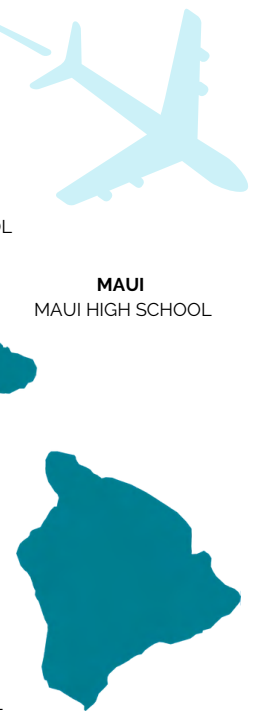
**O'AHU**  
CASTLE HIGH SCHOOL  
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY  
HANALANI SCHOOLS  
JAMES CAMPBELL HIGH SCHOOL  
KAILUA HIGH SCHOOL  
KALANI HIGH SCHOOL  
KAPOLEI HIGH SCHOOL  
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WAIPAHU HIGH SCHOOL

**MOLOKA'I**  
MOLOKA'I HIGH SCHOOL

**LANA'I**  
LANA'I HIGH SCHOOL

**HAWAII ISLAND**  
HILO HIGH SCHOOL  
KEA'AU HIGH SCHOOL  
KOHALA HIGH SCHOOL  
WAIAKEA HIGH SCHOOL

**MAUI**  
MAUI HIGH SCHOOL



# TOGETHER, WE ARE BUILDING A PIPELINE OF YOUNG LEADERS



## 10th Grade

Year 1 Ambassadors

## 11th Grade

Year 2 Ambassadors

## 12th Grade

Year 3 Ambassadors & Fellows

## Transition

Coaching

## College & Career

Vanguard



## OUR PROGRAMS



### AMBASSADORS

CTL's extensive partnership with the Hawai'i Department of Education for weekly leadership classes in a 3-year, project-based learning structure.



### FELLOWS

CTL's fellowship for 20 public and private high school seniors. Fellows have the opportunity to interview C-Suite level leaders and receive advanced training.



### VANGUARD

CTL's diverse alumni network for college and early career which offers special initiatives in civics and career, including internships, leadership placement, content creation, and more.

## OUR SUPPORT PROGRAMS



### RAISE YOUR HAND

CTL's exclusive partnership with the Honolulu Star-Advertiser to run a monthly student column in the Sunday "Insights" section; 95 articles have been published to date.



### EMERGE CAMP

CTL's annual camp that brings students from across the state together to build friendships, share ideas and commit to unity and leadership.

# EVENING PROGRAM

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Reception with students from  
O'ahu, Maui, Kaua'i, and Hawai'i

**"Shark Tank" Project of the Year Competition**

**Dinner featuring Kenneth Makuakāne**

**Remarks by Katie Chang and CTL Team**

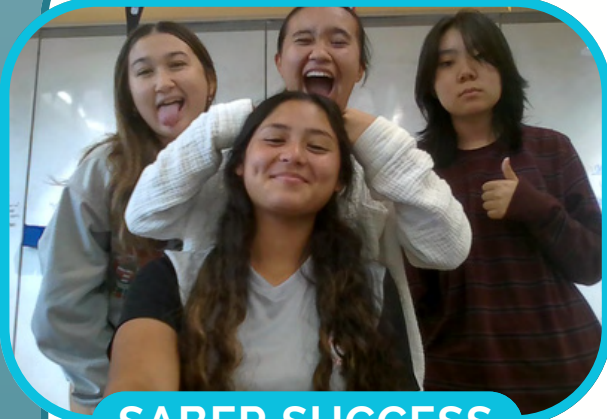
**Honoring Gayle Thompson, Advisor of the Year**

**Honoring Superintendent Keith Hayashi  
with the Inspirational Leader of the Year Award**



# YEAR 1 SEMIFINALISTS

## SCHOOLWIDE IMPACT



### SABER SUCCESS

#### James Campbell High School

Topic: High School Graduation Rates

We noticed that many seniors at our school failed to graduate. Our vision is to ensure timely graduation for JCHS seniors, recognizing that it sets the foundation for a successful life trajectory, offering access to career and educational pathways. To make our vision a reality, we've developed a website facilitating access to both on-campus and off-campus resources, addressing mental health and educational needs. Through this platform, students can easily connect with tutors, counselors, study tips, and other essential support systems, increasing their chances of graduating on time.

#### Castle High School

Topic: Fundraising for Lahainaluna High School

After the wildfires of Lahaina, we knew we needed to support our island neighbors. Working with our student activities coordinator on campus, we wanted to raise money through a school-wide class competition called Penny Wars. Through this competition fundraiser, as a school we were able to raise \$800 to donate to the Lahainaluna High School to be used for student activities.



### PENNY WARS

#### Hanalani Schools

Topic: Student Body Communication

We found that our school lacks communication channels due to the inaccessibility of a central bulletin board for sharing school-wide announcements. Our vision is centered around empowering students, parents, faculty, and staff to connect and communicate seamlessly. The purpose of enhancing accessibility is to foster increased student participation and enable better preparation for upcoming events. To solve this issue, we created a centralized website to streamline all school announcements.



### C.A.K.E.



# YEAR 1 SEMIFINALISTS

## SCHOOLWIDE IMPACT



### HILO KINE PATIO DESIGN

#### Hilo High School

Topic: Campus Maintenance

At Hilo High School, we've faced challenges with keeping our campus clean, including dirty floors, peeling paint, and graffiti. Understanding the importance of a tidy environment for mental well-being, we envision a campus that reflects pride and cleanliness. Taking action, we've engaged with the principal and HPM manager, securing a grant to procure 20 brand new tables to enhance the campus environment.

#### Kailua High School

Topic: School Pride

As proud members of the Kailua Surfriders community, we will represent the blue and white as one. Our initiative involves establishing a school pride club dedicated to bolstering support for all sports teams. Additionally, we're actively fundraising to ensure that all students, regardless of financial constraints, can attend paid sports games by providing passes. Together, we strive to foster a culture of inclusivity and enthusiasm for athletics across our school.



### BLEED BLUE PRIDE



### TEAM AVATAR

#### Kapolei High School

Topic: Supporting English Language Learners

As Kapolei Hurricanes, our mission is to ensure that English Language Learner (ELL) students feel at ease and achieve success within our school community. Recognizing the need for ELL students to establish connections with their peers, we've initiated lunch and linger events aimed at fostering a sense of belonging and facilitating interactions with other students on campus. Through these gatherings, we strive to create a supportive environment where ELL students can feel comfortable and confident, enabling them to thrive socially.

#### Kea'au High School

Topic: Student Belonging

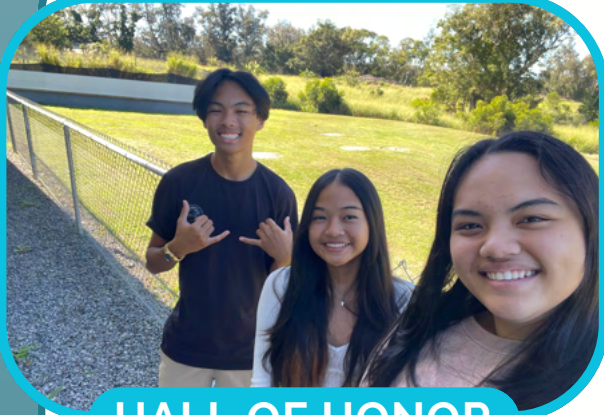
In the Ulupono program, there are issues regarding low attendance and a lack of student connection. Our goal is to foster new friendships among students within the Ulupono program in hopes of garnering a sense of community. To address these concerns, we organized a program-wide scavenger hunt on March 11th, aiming to enhance student connections and encourage school attendance through friendly engagement.



### ULUPONO UNITED!

# YEAR 1 SEMIFINALISTS

## SCHOOLWIDE IMPACT



### HALL OF HONOR

#### Kohala High School

Topic: Post-Secondary Plans

The issue at hand is the lack of motivation and direction among students, particularly concerning post-high school plans, leading to feelings of hopelessness. To address this, the Kohala Cowboys initiative aims to bridge the gap between past achievements and future aspirations. By showcasing successful alumni stories in a Hall of Honor, the project seeks to inspire current students and community members, illustrating that greatness is achievable and can be brought back to the Kohala community.

#### McKinley High School

Topic: School Attendance and Student Financial Need

McKinley High School, a Title 1 institution, faces a significant attendance issue. The Tiger Closet, a legacy project, aims to boost attendance and support financially disadvantaged students by providing basic necessities through a student-led campus store and rewards program. This school year, we wanted to expand the impact of our project by providing business attire to Kapolei High School students in need, addressing the needs of students and fostering community support.



### TIGER CLOSET

#### Pearl City High School

Topic: Student Belonging and Chronic Illnesses

Some students face chronic illnesses preventing them from physically attending school, a situation identified through the absence of certain students for extended periods. The vision of our group is to foster inclusivity and support for these chronically ill students, ensuring a more unified student body. To address this, care packages containing snacks and uplifting notes were created for each chronically ill student and delivered to them as a solution to provide support and show that they are valued members of the school community.



### EVERYONE MATTERS



# YEAR 1 SEMIFINALISTS

## SCHOOLWIDE IMPACT



### WELLNESS FAIRIES

#### Roosevelt High School

Topic: Student Mental Health and Wellness

Many students at Roosevelt High School face internal struggles with their mental well-being on a daily basis. In response, the Roosevelt Rough Riders aspire to promote and educate wellness throughout the school community. To achieve this, they organized a wellness fair involving various clubs to promote health and wellness activities for students to engage in and benefit from.

#### Waiakea High School

Topic: School Lunch Lines

The issue that we noticed at our school is long lunch lines causing students to not have enough time to eat. Through surveys and interviews, they found that 41% of students couldn't finish their food before lunch/recess ended, often due to students not carrying their school ID. To promote ID usage, they made getting a new ID free for a week, hoping to expedite lunch lines and ensure all students have time to eat. Their vision is to prioritize the health and nourishment of their peers.



### THE LONG LUNCH LINES (LLL)



### WAIMEA WELCOMERS

#### Waimea High School

Topic: Teacher Belonging and Transition

A problem identified at Waimea High School is the lack of knowledge among new teachers and staff about the school, its academies, and the surrounding community. To address this, we created a fun and engaging onboarding process with a campus-wide scavenger hunt for new teachers to learn more about the school. This initiative aims to enhance new teacher integration and promote a deeper understanding of Waimea High School's culture and surroundings.

#### Waipahu High School

Topic: College Attendance

The issue at hand is the low college enrollment rate among graduates, with 51% of Waipahu High School graduates reportedly not attending college. The vision is to boost college enrollment from Waipahu High School. To achieve this, collaboration with the WHS College Center has led to the creation of social media content serving as a platform for disseminating college-related announcements, tips, and information to the student body, aiming to increase awareness and accessibility to college opportunities.



### DEGREE DREAM TEAM



# YEAR 2 SEMIFINALISTS

## COMMUNITY WIDE IMPACT



### HOMELESS NOT HOPELESS

#### **James Campbell High School**

Topic: Homelessness in Ewa

The problem that we noticed as a group is that there are many homeless individuals in the Ewa Beach community. Our vision is to live in a community where all families have a place to call home and no one spends a night without shelter. To make our vision a reality, we are working on a beautification event and fundraiser for a local non-profit in the neighborhood.

#### **Kapolei High School**

Topic: Sustainability

As Kapolei Hurricanes we will take care of the land so the land takes care of us. The problem we noticed was that indigenous and native plants in our community are dwindling. In conjunction with another legacy project trying to restore native plants in Palehua, we reached out to several conservation sites and nursed native species in their school nursery. To innovate, we also took that knowledge to feeder schools within their community to spread awareness.



### HO'O'ULU

#### **Kohala High School**

Topic: Water Accessibility

The vision is to revitalize the community through the restoration of locally sourced water. Our project aims to raise awareness about this issue and contribute to the restoration of Kohala's natural water system. Although we lack the funding to fully address the problem, our focus is on educating the younger generation about Kohala's water sources, history, and potential solutions. By empowering them with knowledge and understanding, we hope to inspire future efforts towards restoring Kohala's water to its people.



### OUR INUWAI

#### **Maui High School**

Topic: Financial Budgeting

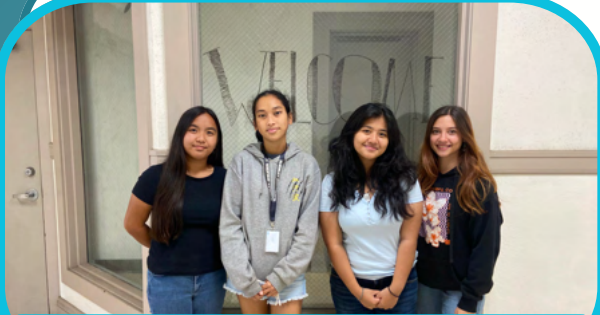
The high cost of living in Hawaii, particularly on Maui, presents a significant challenge for local residents. As Hale Ho'ōla, the aim is to create a paradise where everyone has access to resources for comfortable living and a sense of unity within the community. In collaboration with Maui Economic Opportunity Inc., efforts are underway to recruit more teenagers for a financial literacy workshop. To promote this opportunity, outreach to public schools on Maui has been initiated, aiming to empower teens with essential financial skills.



### HALE HO'OLA

# YEAR 2 SEMIFINALISTS

## COMMUNITY WIDE IMPACT



### MINDS IN ACTION

#### McKinley High School

Topic: Mental Health

We partnered with Catholic Charities and created a video for them that was about signs of anxiety and depression. Catholic Charities will also be coming in and holding seminars with the freshmen at our school to give them tips and tools on how to deal with mental health struggles. To get our peers to get out of their heads, we created an Instagram account and posed a week-long challenge that gets young people to do activities that are healthy for their minds and bodies.

#### Pearl City High School

Topic: Road Safety

The problem we noticed are many cars speeding in school zones in our neighborhood with Pearl City ranked 7th in Hawaii for most pedestrian accidents. Also, Moanalua Road & Hoolaulea Street are considered one of the most accident-prone streets on O'ahu with 17 accidents in two years. Our vision is to create safer roads for our keiki to cross. To address this need we created a safety video that was shared with the students of Pearl City Highlands Elementary School.



### WATCH IT, KEIKI!

We   
Kūpuna

### MALAMA KUPUNA

#### Waimea High School

Topic: Kupuna Grocery Service

A pressing issue facing kupuna is the lack of reliable transportation to access groceries independently, impacting their ability to fulfill basic needs. In response, our initiative aims to care for those who have cared for us by providing grocery services tailored to kupuna. We have carefully selected and confirmed our clientele for these services, and have developed a newsletter to inform and engage them. We held our first meeting in November 7th, and we have since made multiple successful deliveries to support our kupuna community.

#### Waipahu High School

Topic: Road Safety for Elementary Students

In Waipahu, road safety poses a significant concern. Recognizing the importance of educating children on this issue, our team is committed to raising awareness among the youth of the community. To ensure engagement and impact, we conducted an interactive session with 120 third-grade students at Waipahu Elementary School, emphasizing the importance of safe practices while walking, driving, or playing near roads. By doing so, we aim to underscore the significance of road safety and foster a safer environment for all residents.



### SAFETY FOR THE KEIKI



# YEAR 3 SEMIFINALISTS

## ISLAND WIDE IMPACT



### KUPUNA CARE

#### James Campbell High School

Topic: Kupuna Care Resources

For this project, we started by looking at the treatment of kupuna in care homes. After further research, we refocused our project on spreading awareness to different communities about the resources available. We partnered with a nonprofit organization "Our Kupuna" and passed out flyers in different parts of the community across the island to boost awareness about this resource. Our Kupuna encourages the community to get involved by helping the Kupuna with getting their groceries or having someone to communicate with. We have communicated with five Kupuna via letters for the past couple of months.

#### Fellows Program

Topic: Housing

We noticed that the high cost of living is pushing locals away from the islands they love. The operations team has been working on a research project to determine how cost of living is affecting public school teachers through a DOE survey about teacher housing. We launched a pilot survey to collect preliminary data and test the survey's function before it was sent out to all DOE teachers through the Department. We have also been working with Housing Hawai'i's Future to interview others from Hawai'i impacted by the high cost of living and create a social media campaign promoting the Stay Movement. We have helped build out a contact list for the organization so they can be featured in upcoming interviews.



### FELLOWS FOR AFFORDABLE FUTURES



### IMUA MAUI

#### Maui High School

Topic: Emergency Management

After the Lahaina fire, rebuilding efforts are uncertain, requiring community input. The County of Maui seeks locals' opinions through an online survey, addressing Lahaina's strengths, weaknesses, and desired reconstruction. To ensure diverse perspectives, the survey was promoted to gather more input from young voices. This initiative aims to engage youth in shaping Lahaina's future.



# YEAR 3 SEMIFINALISTS

## ISLAND WIDE IMPACT



**TIGER FUN**

### **McKinley High School**

Topic: Parks and Recreation

We noticed parks are less lively, so we partnered with the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) in Honolulu to understand how to best support their work in caring for our parks. Their main need is recruiting senior leaders for the Summer Fun program due to a staff shortage. We aim to boost program attendance and park activity by recruiting young adults for the Summer Fun program. We engaged with community colleges and attended various job fairs with DPR to spread the word. We hope that by doing this, we employ more people in Summer Fun and therefore increase the number of keiki in the program.

### **Pearl City High School**

Topic: Cyber Security

This project started with a broad topic in community safety. After doing some research and through a partnership with the City and County of Honolulu, we joined with their efforts to make the younger generation more aware about Cyber security attacks and what things to look out for. After getting trained, we created a presentation with activities to help engage with Gen Z. Our operation field gave two presentations at James Campbell High School.



**CYBER SQUAD**



**ALOHA AID ALLIANCE**

### **Waipahu High School**

Topic: Healthcare Shortage

The purpose of this project is to collect data to help the Healthcare Industry understand what career information eighth grade and high school students need to best inform their career pathway choice and how they would like to receive this information. Responses will inform HAH and the Healthcare Sector Partnership's upcoming statewide healthcare career education plan to attract students into the health services pathway and healthcare careers.

# MAHALO TO OUR SPONSORS

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ISLAND INSURANCE

## TRAILBLAZER



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