

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1104

May 25, 2022

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Murray and Ranking Member Blunt,

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally directed spending items that I have requested in the Fiscal Year 2023 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies appropriations bill, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Sincerely,



Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator

**Hirono, Mazie(D-HI) Labor and Health and Human Services
Congressionally Directed Spending Requests**

Recipient Name	Project Purpose	Project Location	Amount Requested (\$000)
Parents and Children Together	Project will provide funding for afterschool and other out-of-school-time services for children and youth living in and adjacent to the Kuhio Park Terrace (Kalihi, HI) and Puuwai Momi (Aiea, HI) public housing communities on the island of Oahu. Funding will support homework health, afterschool meals, and individual case coordination services for youth with special needs in these communities.	County of Honolulu: Kuhio Park Terrace in Kalihi, Puuwai Momi in Aiea, & surrounding areas. HI	\$550
University of HI, Office of Indigenous Innovation	Project will support the creation of an Indigenous Data Science Sector Development Initiative (IDSSDI) based at the Indigenous Data Science Hub at Iole, which would address the need for diversification of Hawaii's economy through the restoration of Indigenous agencies, including by 1) catalyzing growth of a high-tech workforce in the sustainability and climate adaptation and restoration economy sectors, 2) supporting Indigenous community organizations and youth in strengthening their unique competitive edge as data scientists and analysts, and 3) developing a reproducible and scalable model for other communities in the United States and elsewhere.	Hawaii County HI	\$2,980
YWCA Hawaii Island	Project will support an initiative to demonstrate the feasibility of breaking the cycle of intergenerational trauma by healing trauma caused by Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) among new parents with multiple ACEs and providing support to enable them to provide an ACE-free childhood for their young children. The purpose of this initiative is to demonstrate the efficacy of combining three evidence-based interventions, including 1) Healthy Families America family engagement and support; 2) the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recommended Seeking Safety Intervention to treat post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), substance use disorder (SUD), and mental health issues; and 3) the Circle of Security to promote mother-infant attachment for infant emotional health. By combining these three approaches, the goal is to demonstrate a two generation approach to break the cycle of trauma. Home visiting advocates will focus on serving the highest risk families and those most likely to enter child protective services. One hundred expectant or new parents with four or more ACEs will be enrolled in year one into the combined family support and treatment services aimed to reduce parental PTSD and behavioral health issues and to avert child abuse and neglect while promoting healthy emotional development of their infants. Initially program staff will conduct validated assessments for PTSD, SUD, mental health, and domestic violence. An independent evaluation accounts 30 percent of program cost.	Hawaii Island, East Side of the County HI	\$1,102
Kalamapii PLAY School	Funds a pilot program serving 70 preschool-aged students in Hilo Hawaii that combines therapy with preschool play to focus on collective learning and recovery from trauma. The program will demonstrate a model of providing cost-effective mental health preProject will allow for the incorporation of therapeutic support through an immersion model for keiki (children) who desperately need services and might not otherwise receive them—providing a cost-effective mental health prevention measure for children at a time when they are vulnerable to long-term mental health issues created by early childhood trauma.	Hilo HI	\$197
YMCA of Honolulu	Project will allow for the expansion of the YMCA's Kupuna Wellness programming related to arthritis, fall prevention, and chronic disease management.	Honolulu HI	\$389
Hawaii State Public Charter School Commission	Project will support the development and dissemination of national tools for incorporating non-traditional metrics into charter school accountability—filling an urgent need to help charter schools and their authorizers make meaningful strides in post-COVID recovery by creating more adaptable, accessible, equitable, and community-responsive metrics to gauge school quality, helping to guide and accelerate student learning. The project brings together partners from four states (Hawaii, Colorado, Florida, and Missouri) with the National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA) to pilot and create targeted state resources that are adaptable nationwide. It will also inform district and state conversations on school recovery and holistic measures of school quality.	Honolulu, HI and Chicago, IL HI	\$980

Maikai Health Corporation	Project will support construction of a comprehensive health center site to provide a wide spectrum of out-patient services, including several that are not currently offered in the community.	Kea'au Town, Puna District, Hawai'i County. HI	\$10,000
Kauai Planning and Action Alliance	Funding will support program costs for a new family resource and teen center in Lihue, Kauai. The center will provide resource and referral services, parenting supports and early childhood development (parent-child interaction), financial empowerment classes, tutoring, computer coding classes, teen suicide and bullying prevention, teen support groups, makerspace activities, and mental health counseling.	Lihue, Kauai HI	\$718
The Filipino Vet Recognition and Education Project	The Filipino Veterans Recognition and Education Project (FilVetREP) was established in 2014 to address a glaring omission: the lack of historical awareness and recognition of the extraordinary contributions, heroism, and sacrifices of Filipino and Filipino American Veterans. FilVetREP is continuing these efforts with outreach and education. There is an urgency, due to the fading firsthand testimony of the Veterans as well as a need to ensure that American students, particularly those in middle and high school, understand this chapter in U.S. history. There is also a particular relevance to our current moment, as the past few years have seen an unsettling rise in anti-Asian hate, violence and xenophobia. Many states in response have passed resolutions supporting expansion of Asian American studies in college and K-12 curriculum, and FilVetREP seeks to support educators in meeting this goal as described below. FilVetREP received FY 2022 funding for its project to build upon resources in Duty to Country and Under One Flag by creating expanded educational materials (lesson plans, explainers, activities, a graphic novel, and oral histories) readily available for educators to download at no cost and use in the classroom to teach students about the role of Filipino American Veterans in World War II and how the consequences of decisions made after this conflict greatly impacted civil rights in the decades after. Among other things, this funding will allow them to reach out to and partner with school districts, county offices of education, charter and private schools, and individual educators.	Nation-wide VA	\$2,000
Consortium for HI Eco Eng Edu DBA Malama Aina Fdn	Project will provide for the installation of 150 planter boxes at 50 K-12 schools and community organizations to provide full-scale, culturally-integrated agricultural K-12 STEM education for low-income students in underserved areas on Hawaii Island and the island of Oahu—promoting hands-on, experiential learning to increase academic engagement for students and improve their positive academic self-identities, while meeting their basic health needs by providing fresh food that can improve eating habits and long-term health.	Oahu and Hawaii island HI	\$765
Aha Punana Leo (APL)	Project will support the reaccreditation of Aha Punana Leo's (APL) statewide Hawaiian language medium early childhood education programs by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC), providing for another 13-year indigenous early learning accreditation, and allow Aha Punana Leo to seek mainstream recognition of this accreditation within the state of Hawaii. With mainstream recognition for this accreditation, families sending their children to APL would be eligible for state child care subsidies through Hawaii's Preschool Open Doors (POD) program, which requires participating child care providers to be accredited in order for families to receive financial assistance.	Oahu, Maui, Hawaii Island, Molokai, Kauai HI	\$1,126
Teach for America (Hawaii Region)	Project will provide support for 50 Summer LEAD fellows—including 25 early-career educators and 25 high school students from low-income communities on the island of Oahu and Hawaii Island—through leadership training, critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and networking as they work on a project impacting education, children, and low-income communities through a host employer—as well as stipends. Hawaii TFA will support fellows through leadership and professional development, regional trainings, networking sessions, and individual coaching sessions.	O'ahu and Hawai'i Island HI	\$350
Susannah Wesley Community Center	Given the disproportionate impact of trafficking on the Native Hawaiian population, Susannah Wesley Community Center (SWCC) proposes to convene representatives from various Native Hawaiian organizations to develop a strategy to increase intervention and prevention efforts related to the commercial sexual exploitation of Native Hawaiian children and develop culturally appropriate human trafficking awareness training curricula and collateral materials for targeted stakeholder groups within the Native Hawaiian community, including parents, youth (ages 12-18), schools, and healthcare practitioners.	State-wide HI	\$325

Hale Kipa	<p>Project will increase the community of parent leaders in Hawaii, create a parent leadership support group, and provide parent specific support through skill building, leadership, and coaching. Funding will also be used to establish a community based behavioral health clinic and assessment center, and it will allow for individual parenting skill and parent leadership classes to the community at large to increase knowledge of current issues and challenges involved with parenting a child. These classes will utilize culturally relevant programming. The request would support Hale Kipa in their efforts to create a financially self-sustaining behavioral health clinic and assessment center by allowing them to rely on a fee-for-service billing program.</p> <p>Poverty impacts wellbeing and attention to certain supports and therapy can positively impact the future of the family and enhance wellbeing. Poverty adversely affects children's mental health through family and community-level factors. Families living in poverty experience a unique array of stressors (such as food insecurity, housing problems). These stressors can increase parental risk for mental health problems and substance abuse, which can diminish their capacity to engage in positive parenting practices (such as warmth and responsiveness, nurturance, supervision) and increase the potential for child abuse and neglect. By establishing Hale Kipa as a Family Support Center for those in need, the goal is to be a hub of resource fulfillment. Activities such as job fairs, produce/dairy boxes giveaways, connections for childcare, group classes on professional writing for employment are just some of the activities that would help Participants meet their needs. Additionally, the clinical component of the program will assist with the assessment and support of mental health matters that impede skill development, learning and employment engagement.</p>	State-wide HI	\$500
Hoola Na Pua	<p>Project will equip children and the educators and agencies who serve them with awareness, prevention, identification, and response training to prevent sex trafficking throughout Hawaii. Funding will be used to support onsite psychosocial clinical group activities to reduce revictimization, increase protective factors, and address trafficking prevention. Funding will also be aimed at serving children who have been trafficked or are at high risk for exploitation by pairing them with a trained and vetted mentor offering 1-to-1 life skills guidance such as academic support and fostering connections with therapists and other professionals as part of a Personalized Empowerment Plan.</p>	State-wide HI	\$739
YMCA of Honolulu	<p>Project will allow for the initiation and implementation of robust programming to improve overall wellness for children and adults most impacted by the pervasive negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	State-wide HI	\$2,500
University of Hawaii, UH Cancer Center	<p>Project will support the construction of a new Early Phase Clinical Research Center (EPCRC) at the UH Cancer Center's Kakaako campus on the island of Oahu, providing Hawaii's cancer patients and families, including its diverse population of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, with access to novel clinical trials across multiple disciplines that are currently only available on the U.S. mainland.</p>	UH Manoa (Kaka'ako Campus) and Statewide HI	\$6,500
Waimanalo Health Center	<p>Project will support the construction of an expansion facility that would provide oral health, vision, health promotion and disease prevention, cultural healing, and other comprehensive health services to the Waimanalo community on the island of Oahu.</p>	Waimanalo, O'ahu HI	\$2,000
Kumano I Ke Ala (KIKA)	<p>Project will support the development of K-12 school curriculum focused on natural resource management, traditional Hawaiian language and agriculture, and food production. Separately, the project will support the clearing of farmland for food production, which would allow for the creation of an outdoor classroom-like setting for K-12 students at nearby schools—including Waimea High School, which serves around 700 students in West Kauai.</p>	West Kaua'i HI	\$796