

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 20, 2023

## Honolulu Board of REALTORS® Celebrates Centennial with \$100,000 Gift to O'ahu Nonprofits

Ten Oʻahu nonprofits building stronger communities receive \$10,000 each from REALTORS® Care Fund

**HONOLULU** – The Honolulu Board of REALTORS®, together with its members, has donated \$100,000 to ten different nonprofits through its REALTORS® Care Fund to commemorate its 100th anniversary. The selected nonprofits provide resources, education and support to assist Hawai'i's families with housing.

"Safe, affordable housing is essential for building strong, thriving communities in Hawai'i," said Fran Villarmia-Kahawai, president of the Honolulu Board of REALTORS®. "We're honored to partner with ten incredible nonprofits who share our mission of making homeownership possible for everyone."



Photo courtesy of Hawaiian Community Assets

"The need for innovative solutions and community-wide support for housing has never been more vital," **said Ryan Catalani, executive director of Family Promise of Hawai'i.** "We are incredibly grateful for the generous support of the Honolulu Board of REALTORS® and its members, which will make a meaningful impact on the lives of families facing homelessness and empower them to achieve self-sufficiency and a brighter future."

- Achieve Zero will use its \$10,000 gift to provide on-the-ground outreach, after-hours outreach homeless services and intensive case management to access permanent housing in Region 3 and 5 communities.
- Catholic Charities Hawai'i's \$10,000 gift will assist households who are homeless and at risk for homelessness with either the first month's rent, security deposit or past due rent.
- Domestic Violence Action Center will put its \$10,000 towards housing and utility assistance for domestic abuse survivors.
- Family Promise of Hawai'i's \$10,000 gift will provide case management and assistance for families enrolled in their diversion program, which helps families transition out of housing instability and work towards permanent housing solutions.
- Habitat for Humanity Leeward O'ahu received \$10,000 to support its operational expenses, including purchasing new office computers to replace outdated equipment.
- Hawaiian Community Assets' \$10,000 will provide renter and homebuyer workshops and housing counseling for low- and moderate-income households, deploying funds for credit building, debt consolidation, and rent or down payment costs.
- HHOC Housing and Land Trust's \$10,000 will fund operational costs for the HHLT program, including down payment, renovation and carrying fees, insurance and professional services.
- Honolulu Habitat for Humanity's \$10,000 gift will support the continued expansion of their volunteer program, investment in technology, enhance the volunteer experience, purchase supplies and support outreach efforts.
- Soroptimist International Central Oahu received \$10,000 to purchase basic necessities for domestic violence survivors and their children to use at the temporary shelter in Leeward Oʻahu and keep when transitioning to permanent housing.
- U.S. Vets Waianae's \$10,000 will fund Waianae Civic Center's programs and services, which help secure permanent housing for homeless individuals and families.

The Honolulu Board of REALTORS® is committed to building strong communities through community service and charitable giving efforts like its REALTORS® Care Fund, which awards grants annually. To date, the Honolulu Board of REALTORS® has donated more than \$500,000 in grants to community organizations. Nonprofit organizations can apply for a grant each year.

For more information, please visit <u>www.hbrcares.com</u>.

## Media Kit

Photos and b-roll

## About the Honolulu Board of REALTORS®

Established in 1922, the Honolulu Board of REALTORS® is one of the largest of 1,100 boards of REALTORS® in the nation, and, with more than 6,800 members, is one of the largest trade organizations on Oʻahu. Membership is available to licensed real estate brokers, agents, property managers, appraisers, counselors and others engaged in all aspects of the real estate industry who pledge to adhere to a strict Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice. The Honolulu Board of REALTORS® and its members are committed to serving as housing advocates, community builders and good neighbors. For more information, call (808) 732-3000 or visit www.hicentral.com.