

PROJECT ABSTRACT

The Native Hawaiian Library Services Grant will target library and information services to persons having difficulty using a library and to underserved urban and rural communities. The proposed project will enhance existing library services that will benefit all Native Hawaiians. The specific goal of the proposed project is to increase access and ability to information resources for underserved users, including children from birth to age 17 and families with incomes below the poverty level. The goal will be accomplished through the following objectives, action steps, and activities.

Objective 1: Provide access to library resource materials from six library sites on four islands and globally from Ulukau: the Hawaiian Electronic Library.

In collaboration with community organizations and agencies, we will provide library services in underserved rural communities with a high percentage of Native Hawaiians below the poverty line from six library sites located in Milolʻii, Hawaiʻi; Kaunakakai, Molokaʻi; Waipā, Kauaʻi; and Kakaʻako, Lualualei and Papakōlea, Oahu and globally via the Internet. Physical and digital libraries will provide library users access to information on Hawaiʻiʻs people, history, culture, and language. Will purchase new library management system for physical libraries and enhance digital library with upgrades to increase user maneuverability on the Internet.

Objective 2: Increase the availability of library resources by providing cultural, historical, and informational resources that meet the needs and interests of Native Hawaiians in both physical and digital libraries.

In collaboration with community organizations and agencies, we will add resource materials in Hawaiian and English onto Ulukau: the Hawaiian Electronic Library. Digitized materials will be in searchable text format and displayed in both Hawaiian Language and English. Will purchase library materials focused on Hawaiian culture and history to add to library collections and process reference questions in all six physical libraries located on four islands.

Objective 3: Provide library services to Native Hawaiians with limited functional literacy or information skills and difficulty using a library to foster reading, build a nation of leaders and lifelong learners, and develop a foundation for educational achievement. *Will provide programs, services and activities for families and the greater community that will: instill the joy of reading in children at an early age; promote the importance of reading to develop strong language and literacy skills; teach parents and caregivers emergent literacy strategies by conducting parent literacy workshops; conduct after school programs that will encourage children to read aloud, and visit the library to borrow books.*

1. Assessment of Need

Description of the community

In 1993, The State Department of Hawaiian Homelands contracted ALU LIKE, Inc., to produce a report depicting the profiles of ten Hawaiian Homelands areas based on 1990 Census data. The profiles showed that these Native Hawaiians have extremely low educational attainment. Of persons in the study aged 16-19, 11% were classified as dropouts compared to only 7% in the state as a whole. Of persons aged 25 and over in these areas, 33% had not graduated from high school and only 3% had obtained a bachelor's degree or higher. Native Hawaiians comprise the highest percentage of residents in public housing (23.6%), and, according to the latest state homeless population statistics, Native Hawaiians account for nearly 30% of Hawaii's homeless.

Clearly, there is a critical need to help Native Hawaiians improve their educational attainment and economic status, especially during these uncertain economic times. Services of the Native Hawaiian Library provide otherwise underserved Native Hawaiians access to educational resources, develop academic and life skills, strengthen self-esteem and family cohesion, and preserve Hawaiian language and cultural values.

Current status of library services

The Native Hawaiian Library (NHL) was established in 1985 to focus on meeting the special needs of Native Hawaiians. NHL services are provided through the operation of 1 main library located in ALU LIKE's Central Offices, 5 satellite libraries and ULUKAU: the Hawaiian Electronic Library. Main library services include resource materials in Hawaiian and English for book circulation for walk-in customers, reference services, storytelling for children, scheduled classroom library visits, Hawaiian language reference, family literacy, community activities, summer reading books-by-mail program, assistance in basic-skills learning for adults and young adults, community read-alouds, family ('ohana) nights, genealogy workshops, adult literacy services, homework assistance, parent literacy workshop, historical traveling exhibits, book launches, annual parent conference, annual book fair and annual literacy fair. Our satellite libraries are located in communities with high-density populations of Native Hawaiians, in which a great number of students are identified as at-risk and most families are economically disadvantaged.

NHL library collection consists of more than 22,000 books pertaining to Hawai'i with emphasis on materials for children and young adults. The NHL's Native Hawaiian Data Resource Center collection consists of data and research reports, census publications and legislative materials related to Native Hawaiians. The NHL's website contains information about the library's collections and events; special programs and services, including Ulukau, the Hawaiian Electronic digital library, Ka Ho'oilina, The Hawaiian Language Journal; 19thC Hawaiian language newspapers, and links to the Hawai'i State Public Library System and other Hawaiian agencies and institutions.

Needs to be met by the goals of this project and how determined

With the emphasis on meeting the needs of Native Hawaiians through library services and community events, special collections and unique services, the NHL will continue to reach out to Native Hawaiians have difficulty using a library and are fragile readers. The Hawaiian language materials collection, including Ka Ho'oilina Hawaiian language journal, archival Hawaiian language newspapers and Hawaiian language dictionaries and other reference materials (all available on the web) will provide much needed support to the Hawaiian language immersion schools and to those in the community who work in and with the Hawaiian language.

The Hawaiian community on the Hawaiian Islands is dispersed with many individuals living in low-income rural areas. The dispersal of the population between the different islands, separated by rough, three-mile-deep ocean channels, makes access to cultural and educational materials difficult. Therefore, the goal of this project is to increase access and availability to information and resource materials locally, nationally, and globally focused on Hawai'i's people, history, culture, and language. Library services will assist Native Hawaiians and their families, including children from birth to age 17, with incomes below the poverty line in underserved rural and urban communities with the ability to access library resources, strengthen limited functional literacy skills, and increase information skills.

Project Design and Evaluation Plan

Goals, Objectives and Approaches for Accomplishment

The specific goal of the proposed project is to increase access to and availability of library resource materials on Hawai'i's people, history, culture, and language to Native Hawaiian communities with limited access to libraries. The goal will be accomplished through the following objectives, action steps, and activities.

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Action Step and Activities to Implement Project Objectives

Objective 1

1. Library Director will partner with community organizations to provide library services in underserved urban and rural communities with a high percentage of Native Hawaiians.
2. Purchase new library management system.

3. Upgrade digital library features to increase user maneuverability.

Objective 2

1. Library Director will attend community association meetings to identify additional resource materials to add onto Ulukau to meet the information and resource needs of Native Hawaiian communities.
2. Librarian will purchase library materials for six library sites.
3. Convert library archival materials to contemporary format.

Objective 3

1. Library Director will collaborate with community and community organizations to establish services for their communities.
2. Librarian will schedule library visits with Hawaiian language immersion schools, charter schools, early education programs, and other community organizations that provide services for children, parents, and elders.
3. Library staff will conduct parent literacy workshops, community read alouds, family nights, and book launches.
4. Purchase program materials.
5. Hold Annual Literacy Fair.
6. Hold Annual Book Fair.
7. Hold Annual Parent Literacy Conference.
8. Staff will submit monthly reports to Director.

Sufficiency of Project Scope to Create Positive System Change

Native Hawaiians, especially those with limited access, will utilize library services and programs from their homes or at library sites. While continuing to make print and audiovisual materials available, this project will also increase the amount of information accessible in digital form to Native Hawaiians and libraries around the globe. This project will provide library services from physical library sites located in six communities and four islands: Kaka‘ako, Papakōlea, Lualualei, on the island of O‘ahu; Miloli‘i, on the island of Hawai‘i; Kaunakakai on the island of Moloka‘i; and Waipā on the island of Kaua‘i. Through our community partnerships, our libraries can provide library services to Native Hawaiians of diverse geographic, cultural, socioeconomic backgrounds, and functional literacy levels: our library in Kaka‘ako provides library services to charter schools, preschools, Hawaiian immersion schools, and family members from other ALU LIKE Programs; both libraries in Papakōlea and Kaunakakai provide library services for Native Hawaiian families on Hawaiian Homestead lands, early education programs, youth programs, and infant programs; our library in Lualualei provides library services to homeless families residing in a transitional shelter; our library in Miloli‘i provides services to families that live in the Hawaii’s last traditional fishing village known for ‘opelū fishing; and lastly, our library in Waipā provides services to families from one of the last intact ahupua‘a (traditional resource management system for portion of land from the mountain to the sea). To extend our outreach into Native Hawaiian communities and the greater community this project will provide library services and activities that will: promote the importance of reading; increase access to books; improve literacy skills for children and adults; emphasize the important role Libraries play in providing access and availability to information and resource materials locally, nationally, and globally; promote community involvement; support public education; and collaborate with our community partners to fulfill grant objectives and the needs of Native Hawaiians. The project will raise awareness of the critical role Libraries play in providing access and availability to information and resource materials. And, more importantly, provides Native Hawaiians the opportunity to utilize the information and resource materials accessed from the library to meet their basic needs in order to improve their quality of life, through education or better job opportunities for themselves and their families, especially during these challenging economic times.

Monitoring Plan

Project success will be monitored in the following ways:

The Library Director will meet with staff monthly to monitor progress and document completion of each objective. Written monthly reports on the status of each objective will be submitted to the President/CEO for review, and she will submit these to the Board of Directors. Data obtained from project participant surveys will be analyzed and summarized in a written report and submitted for the final performance report. Data will be used to update the Library three-year plan and to improve services and activities.

Library staff will maintain on-going records to assess use and participation rates in the proposed activities and surveys to determine client satisfaction. As mentioned above, this data will be analyzed, and then summarized for the final performance report.

The ongoing evaluation formats and records described above will address both expected and unexpected results.

Evaluation Plan

Objective 1: Provide access to library resource materials from six library sites on four islands and globally from Ulukau: the Hawaiian Electronic Library.

Outcome: Increase in library users due to increase in greater community outreach and easier user access for both physical and digital libraries.		
<u>Measure:</u> Increase in usage of physical and digital libraries	<u>Data Source:</u> Sign-in sheets and Website counter	<u>Data Interval:</u> Monthly Annually
2% increase annually in digital library users 10% increase annually in physical library users	Monthly Report	Quarterly End of Year

Objective 2: Increase the availability of library resources by providing cultural, historical, and informational resources that meet the needs and interests of Native Hawaiians in both physical and digital libraries.

Outcome: Native Hawaiians library service needs met.		
<u>Measure:</u> Increase in resource materials for physical libraries	<u>Data Source:</u> Requisition Forms	<u>Data Interval:</u> Monthly Annually
Increase in resource materials added onto Ulukau	Monthly Report	Monthly Annually
5% increase in resource materials purchased for physical libraries collections	Monthly Report	Monthly Annually
50 resource units added onto Ulukau	Monthly Report	Monthly Annually

Objective 3: Provide library services to Native Hawaiians with limited functional literacy or information skills and difficulty using a library to foster reading and lifelong learners, and develop a foundation for educational achievement.

Outcome: Increase in Native Hawaiians using library services to improve literacy and information skills; and knowledge of using library.		
<u>Measure:</u> Increase in literacy skills	<u>Data Source:</u> Surveys	<u>Data Interval:</u> Each Activity/Program Monthly Annually
Increase in information skills	Surveys	Library Visit
Increase knowledge of using library	Library Tour and Orientation Surveys	First Visit
60% of library patrons will increase their literacy and information skills	Surveys Final Report	Monthly Annual
80% of library patrons will increase knowledge of using library	Surveys Final Report	Monthly Annual

Maintenance Plan for Continuing Positive Changes Beyond Federal Funding

As part of her responsibilities, the Library Director will continue to identify other funding resources to continue and expand this project. The Library will work in collaboration with other Hawaiian service agencies and library institutions to share resources to maintain and continue this project for the benefit of Native Hawaiians.

2. Project Resources

Management plan

ALU LIKE, Inc., a statewide private, non-profit, multi-service agency focused on servicing Native Hawaiians, has provided a comprehensive system of support for Native Hawaiians by managing numerous grant monies since 1975. For more than 35 years, ALU LIKE fulfills its’ mission “To kokua Native Hawaiians who are committed to achieving their potential for themselves, their families and communities”. ALU LIKE has in place management and administrative controls and is guided by an eleven-member Board of Directors, whose members are drawn from the Native Hawaiian community. The Fiscal and Compliance Department of ALU LIKE is responsible for managing a \$15 million operating budget for approximately 15 major programs that provide the following services: early childhood development, childcare assistance, high risk reduction for youth and adults, Workforce Investment Act (WIA) comprehensive services for youth and adults, summer school assistance, postsecondary scholarships, career and technical assistance and training, maritime stewardship, information and referral, financial literacy, Individual Development Account (IDA), and elderly services. Established in 1985, NHL was the second ALU LIKE program, after Employment and Training, established in response to the needs of Native Hawaiians is capable of implementing this project plan.

Personnel and reporting relationships

Three full-time permanent and six part-time permanent staff members will be involved in the library project.

Keikilani Meyer, Interim Director (full-time permanent) is Native Hawaiian. She has a Bachelors degree in Hawaiian Studies from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and continues as a Masters degree candidate in the College of Urban and Regional Planning. As a member of the Native Hawaiian Education Association, she serves on the annual conference steering committee. The Library Director is responsible for securing resources to operate the Library Department. She supervises the, Librarian, Literacy Manager, Administrative Assistant, and Legacy Program Specialist. Ms. Meyer will devote 100% of her time on the proposed project.

Liesl Woo, Administrative Assistant (full-time permanent) is Native Hawaiian. She has a Bachelors degree in Education from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Ms. Woo brings has extensive administrative experience. She is responsible for both clerical and fiscal duties for the Library Department and reports directly to the Library Director. Ms. Woo will devote 100% of her time on the proposed project.

Myles Furubayashi, Librarian (full-time permanent). Mr. Furubayashi has a Masters Degree in Library and Information Science, Teacher's Certificate and Bachelors degree in History. He has more than twenty years Librarian experience in the Hawaii State Department of Education. The Librarian supervises all Library Assistants and is responsible for daily library operations and services. Librarian reports directly to the Library Director. Mr. Furubayashi will devote 100% of his time on the proposed project.

Johnna Pongasi, Program Assistant-Library Assistant (part-time permanent) at the Honolulu/Keawe library is Native Hawaiian. She is responsible for performing clerical and library operational duties, and planning and coordinating programming at library sites on Oahu. She reports directly to the Librarian. Ms. Pongasi will devote 49% of her time on the proposed project.

Faith Horner, Program Assistant-Library Assistant (part-time permanent) at the Molokai library is Native Hawaiian and has lived in the Molokai community for more than twenty years. She is responsible for performing clerical and library operational duties, and planning and coordinating programming at the Molokai library. She reports directly to the Librarian. Ms. Horner will devote 75% of her time on the proposed project.

La Cher Napeahi, Program Assistant-Library Assistant (part-time permanent) at the Milolii library is Native Hawaiian and a resident of the Milolii community. She is responsible for daily library operations and program activities. She reports directly to the Librarian. Ms. Napeahi will devote 49% of her time on the proposed project.

The following three (3) Part-time Permanent Positions need to be filled. Positions are currently filled by Temporary Work Exchange Program Participants provided by ALU LIKE Employment & Training Program:

- Program Assistant-Library Assistant at Waipā Library
- Program Assistant-Library Assistant at Papakōlea Library
- Program Assistant-Library Assistant at Lualualei Library

3. Impact and Intended Results

How the NHL will improve library services and impact on the community

With the emphasis on meeting the needs of Native Hawaiians through outreach programs, special collections and unique services, the NHL will continue to reach out to those Hawaiians who have never been to a library and who have difficulty reading or using library services. Our libraries offer library services to instill the joy of reading to children at an early age, equip parents with tools to support their child's reading development skills, and be positive reading role models in their homes. The Hawaiian language materials collection, including Ka Ho'oilina Hawaiian language journal, archival Hawaiian language newspapers and Ulukau: the Hawaiian Electronic Library (the latter three projects available on the web and established primarily with non-IMLS funding) will provide much needed support to the Hawaiian language immersion schools and to those in the community who work in and with the Hawaiian language.

Aspects of this project that could be replicated by other native libraries

The unique services and resources of the Native Hawaiian Library, such as Ulukau and the publication of Hawaiian-language archival materials, have greatly improved access within the Hawaiian community. Content added onto Ulukau are contributed by other community non-profit organizations. They can and have been shared with and replicated in other native libraries. NHL services and resources are shared with other IMLS grantees at annual information exchange meetings and shared with other indigenous education groups at local, national, and international conferences.

Dissemination of project results

The unique services and resources of the Native Hawaiian Library, such as Books-by-Mail and publication of Hawaiian language archival materials, have greatly improved access among the Hawaiian community and will continue to be a needed supplement to the services of the Hawaii State Public Library System. The improvement of library services to the community and library users will be shared in the following ways:

- Performance reports will be shared among project partners and other ALU LIKE projects
- Key accomplishments will be posted on the NHL website & the ALU LIKE annual report
- Products such as bibliographies and publications will be distributed throughout the state via HSPLS, other libraries in Hawaii and the Hawaiian language immersion schools; all American Indian colleges, libraries and major Indian organizations; and on the web.
- NHL services and resources will be publicized through brochures, our website, community events, bimonthly newsletter and other ALU LIKE projects.