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HMLC keiki and kupuna come together through family fund

Grant will encourage different generations to learn from one another

*Hui Malama Learning Center
Reader Submitted*

The Rev. Takie Okumura Family Fund, released through the Hawai'i Community Foundation, has granted \$8,000 to Hui Malama Learning Center to assist in implementing their Intergenerational Program. This research-based program will allow students and seniors to share what they know about traditional agricultural methods and cooking practices.

"Tapping into the wisdom of our kupuna and makua is a critical aspect of our ability to teach students to sustain themselves, as well as our island's resources, especially in these challenging economic times," said Executive Director Pualani Enos. "We anticipate that this program will not only be an invaluable learning experience for everyone involved, but will also help our community prosper."

Hui Malama's primary partner in this venture is the University of Hawai'i Cooperative Extension Service (UHCES). Heather Greenwood, the Intergenerational Program Extension Agent, currently works with projects that promote intergenerational communication and cultural storytelling as a means of passing knowledge from one generation to another. UHCES will assist Hui Malama in working with culturally diverse senior citizens to capture and preserve their knowledge through video.

Hui Malama will also include projects with an emphasis on health and wellness through a food initiative called "Food for Thought" as well as a hands-on school gardening project.

To learn more about this grant and other Hui Malama Learning Center programs, please call 808-244-5911 or visit www.mauihui.org.

Hui Malama Learning Center provides positive educational alternatives and academic support services to students grades 1 through 12 on Maui. Hui Malama's goal is to empower students to realize academic and personal success. Hui Malama is a school that motivates students through hands-on, project-based learning that teaches character building and life skills. It offers a variety of educational programs such as Middle School, High School, preparation for the General Education Development test, or GED, Furlough Friday activities and Tutoring. Hui Malama Learning Center is a Maui United Way Agency.
