

# Hawai'i Medical Service Association Foundation

## HMSA FOUNDATION HUI PARTNERS

[www.hmsafoundation.org](http://www.hmsafoundation.org)

The HMSA Foundation (Foundation) has embarked on a new model of philanthropy that seeks to redistribute the power balance between foundations and nonprofits, creating a more authentic, transparent and supportive relationship between “funders” and “grantees.” The Foundation believes this type of relationship leads to better outcomes for its partners and a more supportive environment from which to work.

After two months of research and vetting, the Foundation invited 10 nonprofit partners to join a hui (cohort) of organizations dedicated to the well-being and health of their communities. These 10 organizations cover five of the six inhabitable Hawaiian Islands and provide services, programs, and initiatives that cover all aspects of health, from physical to spiritual to emotional well-being. In its hui are FQHCs, behavioral health providers, a food bank, an organization dedicated to helping families secure housing, a community center, a taro farmer who provides healthy food for his community and a mentorship program for at-risk youth.



The Foundation committed to five years of funding for this hui, providing grants between \$50,000 and \$100,000 of operating funding to each organization on an annual basis. The Foundation also provides technical assistance and one dedicated staff member to oversee, coordinate, and facilitate the group. The company facilitates and hosts two gatherings per year with the entire hui at a selected partner's site for a three-day retreat that offers a chance for respite for the organizations' leaders, provides an opportunity to connect as a group, and gives the entire group the chance to strategize around systems change in Hawaii.

