

Connecting
children &
'ohana to the
wonders
of nature

EMPOWER 'ĀINA STEWARDSHIP



FOSTERING COMMUNITY



NURTURING KEIKI & FAMILIES

2025
IMPACT REPORT

Hawai'i
Nature
Center



2025 Leadership Team



Todd Cullison
Executive Director



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Education Program
Manager



Rachael Taylor
Maui Program Manager



Pauline Kawamata
Operations & Volunteer
Program Director



Georgina Casey
Fund Development
Manager



Robin Chapin
Executive Assistant

2025 Board of Directors

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AHL

Vice President

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Real Estate Development

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Eric Wright
Par Hawaii

Jamie Ware
Par Hawaii

Josh Hargrove
The Westin Maui Resort & Spa

Hawai'i Nature Center is supported by a dedicated team of educators and administrators with experience that ranges from environmental education, natural resource management, classroom teaching and non-profit management. Our impact is strengthened by a diverse and committed Board of Directors that ensures fiscal responsibility, upholds best practices as well as drives strategic growth and program excellence.

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Making an impact

Our Mission

At Hawai'i Nature Center (HNC), we believe that by connecting children and families with the natural world, we strengthen communities, inspire meaningful change and help shape a more sustainable future for Hawai'i and beyond.

Pathways

We serve our community through a wide range of offerings:

- Nature Adventure Camps
- School & Homeschool Programs
- Community & Weekend Activities
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Corporate Programs
- Special Events, Meetings & Retreats
- Internships & Mentorship

Together, these programs provide pathways for people of all ages to connect with nature, learn through experience, and become advocates for the unique environments in Hawai'i.

Our Impact

Through hands-on, immersive experiences in nature, we cultivate critical thinking, self-confidence, autonomy and leadership. Our programs promote academic achievement, foster civic engagement and encourage lasting environmental stewardship.

8,878

keiki educated in 2025



\$44,375

In individual NAC scholarships and schools bus subsidies to access environmental education.

63,312 HOURS

spent outdoors

8,878 KEIKI

engaged in programs

1,493 ADULTS

connected to nature in 2025

311

members



By connecting children and families to nature, HNC builds community, creates meaningful change, and shapes a more sustainable future.

At the heart of HNC’s “why” is a simple truth: lasting connection begins with a first experience. Before a child grows into a steward, a scientist, a teacher, or an adult who is a nature champion, there is often one small moment that inspires. It may be the excitement of a school field trip, the joy of a birthday party under the trees, or the deeper connection discovered through Nature Adventure Camp or the Home School Science Series. These first experiences matter because they plant the seed.

So many life journeys begin with an introduction. A musician may remember the first time they touched a piano. An athlete may never forget the first time they stepped onto a field. In the same way, a future conservationist may trace their love of the environment back to one childhood moment outdoors. A quiet hike, a cool stream, the sight of native birds, or time spent along a coastal habitat can become more than a memory. They can become the beginning of a relationship. HNC creates those beginnings by offering children and families special connections to nature.

The power of introducing keiki to nature lies in both its simplicity and its depth. Time outdoors supports healthier bodies, calmer minds, and greater confidence.

Just as importantly, it helps children understand they are part of something larger than themselves. Through these experiences, they begin to see community more clearly, imagine how they can make a difference, and carry forward a deeper sense of responsibility for the future.

And often, transformation begins with small connections. Nature does not have to be distant or dramatic to be meaningful. It can be a familiar trail, a neighborhood tree, the feel of wind and water. These simple, repeated moments of connection can grow into a lifelong sense of wonder. Everyday experiences outdoors can lead to deeper exploration, stronger relationships, and a lasting commitment to the natural world.

However, none of this happens alone. These connections to nature are made possible by a community that cares deeply: our supporters, parents and guardians, teachers, board members, community partners, and our dedicated staff. Together, they make it possible for these first introductions to become lifelong relationships with the natural world.

Mahalo for your support. Now go discover nature!



Todd Cullison
Executive Director

School Programs

School Programs, a core Hawai'i Nature Center offering, connects thousands of students to nature and integrates State of Hawai'i adopted Next Generation Science Standards. A total of 7,549 keiki were educated through this program of which 43 percent attended Title 1 schools. Title I schools are schools that have a minimum of 47.2 percent of the student population that qualify for the Free & Reduced Lunch Program. The center provided \$30,375 in subsidies to Title I schools for bus transportation and enrollment for students who otherwise may not be able to attend environmental education programs.



In 2025, Hawai'i Nature Center provides hands-on environmental education for Maui students through school field trips and the Exploring Nature Through Mo'olelo after-school program for Hawai'i Tech Academy Kīhei. These programs blend outdoor learning, science and Hawaiian storytelling to teach about local ecosystems, native species and stewardship.

7,549

keiki educated
(3,278
attended 31 Title I
& in-need schools)

80

school partners

185

field trips

30,302

hours in nature



791

campers

27,685

hours in nature

Nature Adventure Camps

Nature Adventure Camps (NAC) are outdoor day camps held spring, summer, fall and winter school breaks. Each week features ecological-themed programs that celebrate Hawaiiana, wayfinding, ahupua'a stewardship and nature inspiration. Students explored a variety of Hawaiian habitats while hiking, learning about various ecosystems, sustainability and field trips to natural resource locations. Thanks to community support, \$14,000 in scholarships were awarded to eligible families for their children to attend camps in 2025.





Designed for homeschool students, ages 6 to 11, this semester long program offers weekly, six-hour sessions led by a team of Environmental Educators. Held at our Makiki Field Site, each week the program builds on previous lessons and investigations. The curriculum covers a wide range of environmental topics. These include climate change, native and invasive species, oceanic resources, sustainability and more. This provides students with hands-on, place-based learning experiences that cultivate curiosity and environmental stewardship.

Homeschool Science Series

40
students

3,600
hours in nature



'Ohana Programs

In 2025, weekend programs engaged keiki, ages 3 to 5, and their 'ohana through hands-on, nature-based learning. Families explored local ecosystems and environmental science through themed sessions such as Stream 'Splorations, Daring Decomposers and Incredible Insects. As part of our ongoing commitment to early childhood education, these interactive programs fostered early curiosity in science and the natural world, while providing meaningful opportunities for families to learn and connect together.



498
keiki

384
adults

1,724
hours in nature



Birthday Parties

Birthday parties bring nature experiences to a child's community of family and friends with guided hikes, outdoor exploration and lessons in sustainability. All are led by Environmental Educators at Hawai'i Nature Center's Makiki Field Site.



Volunteers



A total of 198 volunteers expanded the organization's impact. They contributed 3,842 hours of support. Volunteers serve as junior leaders, perform administrative functions, help with maintenance and conduct field work. Volunteers helped at the O'ahu campus and on Maui as well as in the community including caring for protected areas such as wetlands and educational sites.

Volunteer Groups

Bank of Hawai'i
Boy Scout Troop 777
Cub Scout Manoa Pack 33
Cub Scout Pack 201
Kahala Nui Retirement Home
Kaiser High School Key Club
New York University Alumni
Outrigger Beach Resort

Partners & In-kind Contributors

Alaska Airlines/
Hawaiian Airlines
Chaminade University of Honolulu
Chef Yuda Expressions
Fairmont Kea Lani
Hawaii Events Unlimited
Honolulu Beerworks
Jeff & Vanessa Huff
Josh Levinson
Kokua Hawai'i Foundation
Kualoa Ranch
Martin's Wines

Mei Day
Patagonia Honolulu
Ritz-Carlton Maui
Sanctuary Estate
Seaglass Wine Company
State of Hawai'i Department of & Natural Resources: State Parks & Division of Forestry
The Ritz-Carlton, Turtle Bay
The Westin Maui Resort and Spa
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
University of Hawai'i

\$133,663

in-kind contributions

198

volunteers

3,842

hours

Nature Champions

Hawai'i Nature Center donors provide sustaining support that has helped the organization grow in 2025. We call our donors Nature Champions because their support allows us to connect more keiki to nature. As an independent nonprofit, HNC relies on friends like you to continue this work.



Koa

\$100,000 & Above

Anonymous

Wiliwili

\$10,000 to \$99,999

Chaminade University
Cooke Foundation, Ltd.
Hawai'i Community Foundation:
Benjamin Parker Fischlowitz Fund
Par Hawaii Refining
Saltchuk Resources, Inc.

'Ōhi'a

\$2,500 to \$9,999

AHL
Alexander & Baldwin, INC
ALTRES, INC.
Aulani, A Disney Resort & Spa
Bank of Hawai'i
Eric & Jill Wright
First Hawaiian Bank
Hawai'i Community Foundation:
Fred Baldwin Memorial Foundation
Jhamandas Watumull Fund
Kalaeloa Partners, L.P.
Matson
PBR HAWAII & Associates, Inc.
Patrick & Kyeng McGuirk
Sheila-Anne & Eddie P. Ebert
Stephanie & Steven Tom
The Cades Foundation
The RMR Group LLC
The Westin Maui Resort & Spa

Hala

\$1,000 to \$2,499

Buffy & Pete Boksanski
DeeDee Letts
Frances & George Casey
HawaiiUSA Federal Credit Union
Foundation
Hawaiian Electric
HURT, Inc.
International Market Place
Jamie & Brandon Ware
James & Sara Davis
James Geiger
Joanne Keyes
Josh Hargrove
Lacey Nakaguma
Madhu Lundquist & Chelsea Jackson
Nordic PCL Construction, Inc.
Robert Peterson
Todd & Cate Cullison
Wen & Li Foundation

Nature Champions

Supporting Hawai'i Nature Center is meaningful to us because it helps nurture a deeper connection between people and the 'āina. Through hands-on learning and cultural experiences, the Center inspires keiki and families to understand their kuleana to care for Hawai'i's natural environment. Investing in this work helps ensure that the knowledge, values, and appreciation for our islands are carried forward for future generations"

—Vanessa and Jeff Huff, HNC Nature Champions

Ti \$250 to \$999

Anonymous	Hawai'i Community Foundation –	Kenneth & Patty Kupchak
Alyson Nakamura	Aranoff Keiki Fund	Lea & H. John Heide
Beau & Tommer Leyvand	Hawai'i Community Foundation –	Lester Ng
Benjamin Godsey	Clark: Hawai'i Nature Center Fund	Michael John Leong
C. Gavin Moffat	Hawai'i Community Foundation –	Nina & Nicolas Vandeventer
Caitlin Moon	Hawai'i Nature Center Fund	Scott Morita
Cara Oba	Hawai'i Community Foundation –	Stacy Tsai
Clint Churchill	Robert R. Midkiff Fund	Stan Duncan
Daffy Charitable Trust:	Hina Real Estate	Sumako Kumba
The Vandeventer	Ina C. Wong	Tan Chen
Family Fund	Jason Sunahara	Tran & Matthew Chinery
Elizabeth Koehler	Jason Thon	Wes & Suanne Nagata
Eric Kajioka	Jeff & Kimberly Case	Wynne B. Pascual
Georgina & Cassidy Casey	Jeff & Vanessa Huff	
Guy Churchill	Jennifer Blair	
	Jerry & Cheri Rauckhorst	
	John Chung	
	Josef Fukano	

Pili Up to \$249

Alexander Shor	DeAnn Ramos	Hanul Abraham	Mark Heckman
Ann Castelfranco	Debra Alcantar	Jennifer Bustard	Michael Lee
Anonymous	Erica Dias	Janna Sye	Nicholas Paslay
Anonymous	Erika Eng	Jodie Cordero	Ryan Putnam
Barbara J. Smith	Erin Mitsuyoshi	John Wright	Satoko Kumagai
Bonnie Pang	Eric Schiff	Julia Kannberg	Sheree Moffat
Bryce Tottori	Frances Oshiro	Kayla Yee	Teri Young
Dana Harvey	Greg Nakai	Leonard Sensui	Tim Anderson
			Vanessa Yanagawa

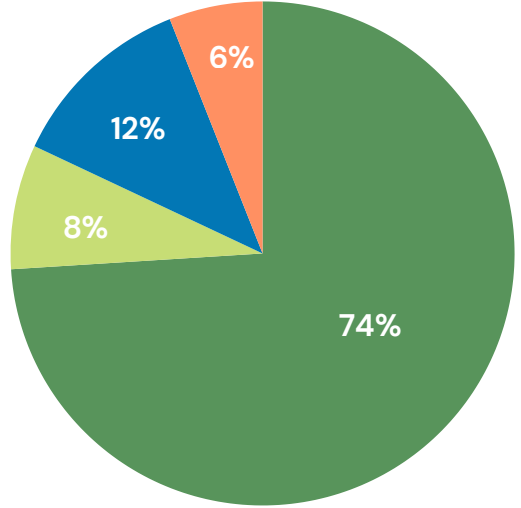
Hawai'i Nature Center

2025 Annual Operating Financial Report

January 1 to December 31, 2025

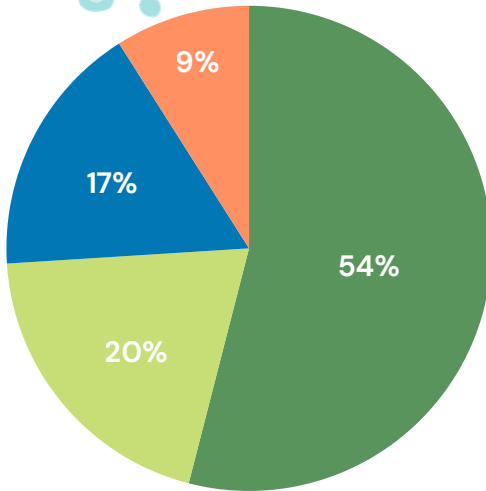
Operating Costs

- Salaries & Related Expenses
- Purchased Services
- Office & Administration
- Other Program Expenses



Funds Received

- Program Revenue
- Private Grants
- Donations & Contributions & Other Revenue



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