# Agency Partner Regional Community Meeting

Tuesday, March 11, 2025



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## Ground Rules for Collaboration and Respect

- **Be Accountable** Take responsibility for your actions, contributions, and follow-through.
- Respect All Perspectives Listen actively and be open to diverse ideas and viewpoints.
- **Stay Focused** Be present and stay engaged in the discussion to make the most of the meeting time.
- **Practice Open-mindedness** Approach discussions with an open mind, ready to consider new ideas and solutions.
- **Encourage Participation** Everyone's input is valuable, so encourage all attendees to contribute.
- Maintain Professionalism Keep the conversation respectful and constructive, even when disagreements arise.



## **Executive Leadership Team**



Amy Miller
President and
Chief Executive Officer



Rowena Browne
Vice President of
Development



John Klosterman
Vice President and
Chief Operations Officer



Curtis Leong
Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer



Marielle Terbio
Vice President of
Strategy and Programs



## **Agency Relations Team**



**Kim Bartenstein**Director of Agency Relations



Jared Kawatani Community Programs Manager



Naomi Save
Agency Partner Network Manager



**Kelly Ngo**Service Insights Coordinator



Hiroko Sasazawa Programs Data Entry Assistant



Mine Thompson
Agency Partner Services
Coordinator



**Bridget Langaman**Agency Partner Network Coordinator



#### Introductions

- Your Name
- Agency Partner Name
- What is your favorite dessert?



# MISSION AND VISION

#### We nourish our 'ohana today and work to end hunger tomorrow.

At Hawai'i Foodbank, we believe that consistent, equitable access to safe and healthy food is a fundamental human right.

We also believe that food is more than a basic need. It connects us to family, celebrates our island cultures, and is essential to thriving communities.

We envision a future where all in Hawai'i have access to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food all year round.

We fulfill our mission with integrity, humanity, and aloha.

## CULTIVATE STRONG PARTNER SHIPS



Our work is only possible because of the network of agency partners and affiliate food banks across the State who work in partnership with us.

We are committed to being a collaborative partner across our broad networks, better supporting our partners and affiliates, and engaging in collective food security efforts.



Hunger and health are deeply connected, and the Foodbank is committed to being the healthy option for those experiencing food insecurity.

We are increasing healthy food options, investing in local agriculture and culturally relevant foods, and expanding learning opportunities around nutrition for those we serve.



The Foodbank is a proactive leader in disaster preparedness and response.

We are investing in our own capacity with a focus on preparedness across our organization and network, and strengthening our partnerships with government agencies and first responders.



We envision a future where no one in Hawai'i goes hungry.

To do this, we are broadening our approach to address the root causes of hunger, focusing on equitable access, filling gaps in service, and advocating for economic and financial supports that help people access healthy foods.



#### **GROWING NEEDS**

Closing the hunger gap in Hawai'i is possible. But, getting there will require the resources and support of our community. Here's what's currently holding us back:



#### LIMITED CAPACITY

With inflation and rising food prices, the need for expanding Hawai'i Foodbank's services is more critical than ever. We've made great strides to maximize our operational efficiency, but our 23,000 square-foot warehouse in Māpunapuna has reached its limit in size and sustainability. The current facility does not meet the present distribution requirements of 17 to 20 million pounds of food annually – and we know the community needs are even greater. We are operating beyond capacity, and we need room to meet the growing need.



#### **RISING TIDES**

Access to our Māpunapuna location continues to be compromised by rising sea levels and resultant tides, which are expected to continue to worsen over time. Flood hazards and tsunami evacuation zone risks in this area threaten our ability to respond to a disaster. A new facility in a location not at risk of flooding or impeded access is paramount to achieving our mission and vision.



#### THE DAYS AT KILIHAU STREET ARE NUMBERED



- For Hawai'i Foodbank's level of distribution, metrics suggest that our facility should be at least twice as large.
- Flooding streets and rising sea levels limit facility access.
- Improved building resiliency and backup power are needed.
- Better climate controls and improved processing and sorting areas would expand potential donations and reach.
- Site circulation is cramped, and parking is inadequate.

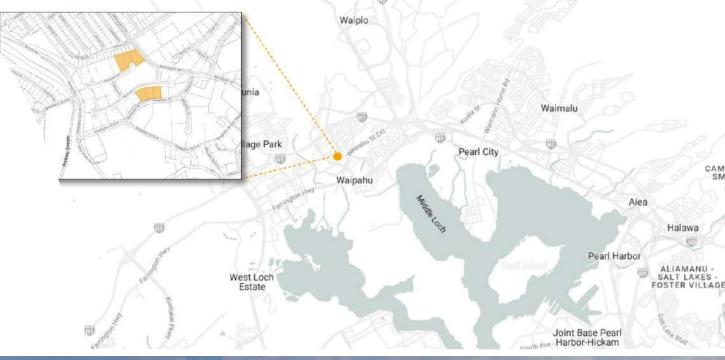
## TODAY & TOMORROW

Strengthening our model to better address food insecurity.

Our current location is at a major risk of natural disasters – storm surge and flooding.

We need a more reliable location to be able to respond in the event of a natural disaster, to continue to address current needs AND to shorten the line.

Our goal is not just to meet the needs for today and ensure no one in our islands go hungry at night, but to leverage our network to provide resources to families and individuals so that they are no longer in need of our services – and that they won't need us tomorrow.





















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## Neighbor Connector

Jared Kawatani, community programs manager



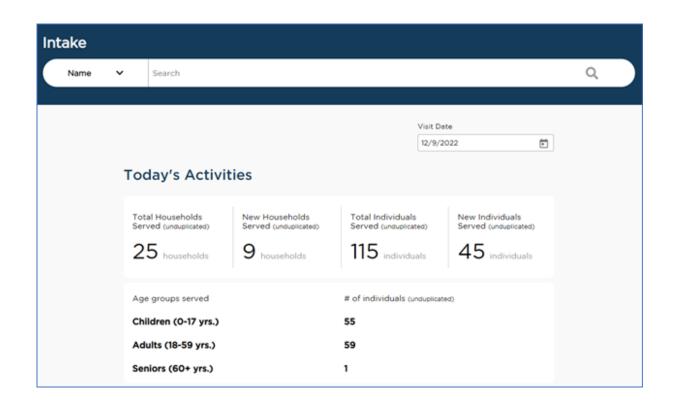
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#### **Neighbor Connector**

- Neighbor Intake Tool/Database (Website)
- No Monthly Reports. Just log your neighbors' visit
- Complete returning intake in seconds
- Connect neighbors with additional resources/services





#### Help us better serve you.

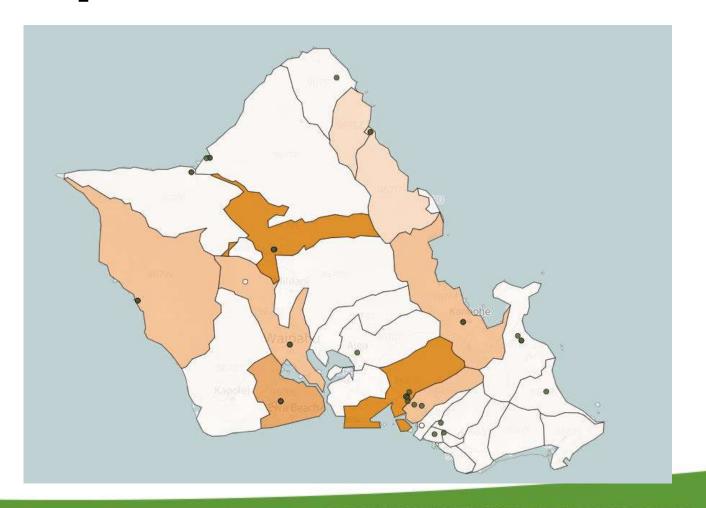


- Neighbor Centered Approach
- Onboarding Support
- Technical Support
- Technology Support



## January 2025 Snapshot (FY25 YTD)

- 18 Active Agency Partners
- 41 Active Program Locations
- 16,261 Unique Individuals Served
- 6,696 Unique Households Served
- 3.82 Average Visit Per Household







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## **Storage Equipment**

- Update about the HUD grant
  - 27 units Oahu
  - 9 units Kauai
- Continuing to look for other funding opportunities







Tiering: Write few words to describe how it's going for your agency.

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# The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

- Resident of C&C of Honolulu
- 300% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
  - 1 person = \$51,930
  - 2 person = \$70,500
  - Additional person = +\$18,570







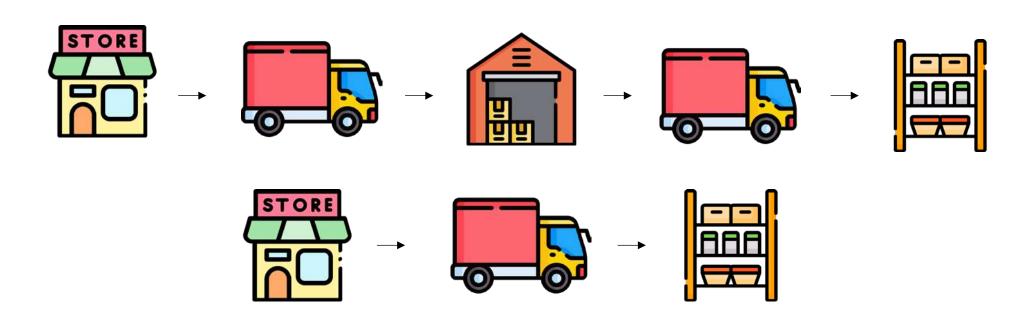
If you're interested in participating in TEFAP, type in your agency name and we'll reach out.

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## **Agency Enablement**

• How does it work?





#### **FA Retail Agency Enablement Grant**



- Pilot Program
  - 8 Agency Partners
- Onboarding Support

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If you're interested in participating in Agency Enablement, type your agency name and we'll reach out when opportunities become available.

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## **Volunteer Support**



- We can help with advertising opportunities
- https://www.nonprofitready. org/



#### What info do we need?

#### Sample

• Contact Info: Jared Kawatani, Community Programs Manager

• **Email:** jared@hawaiifoodbank.org

• **Phone:** 808-954-7877

Location: 2324 Omilo Ln., Honolulu, HI 96819

• **Shift Times:** 8:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

 Available Days: The first, third, fourth and fifth Wednesdays of each month

- **Description:** Help pack and distribute food during a pantry and food distribution.
- **Requirements:** Volunteers will be required to stand, bend and lift throughout the duration of the shift. The minimum age to volunteer for this event is 18 years old.



# Choice Distribution Model

Jared Kawatani, community programs manager



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#### What is a choice distribution?





### Why become a choice distribution?

- Dignity
- Empowering Experience
- Dietary & Culturally Relevant Foods
- Get to Know Your Neighbors
- Reduce Time Spent Packing





### **Types of Choice**

- No Choice
- Limited Choice
- Modified Choice
- Full Choice





#### **No Choice**

"Traditional" food pantry model. Bags or boxes are packed, everyone receives the same items.





#### **Limited Choice**

Choice between two types of boxes or prepacked bags and then the choice of a few items.





## **Modified Choice**

Neighbors can choose from a menu OR neighbors tell volunteers what they want and the volunteers select and bag the food.





## **Full Choice**

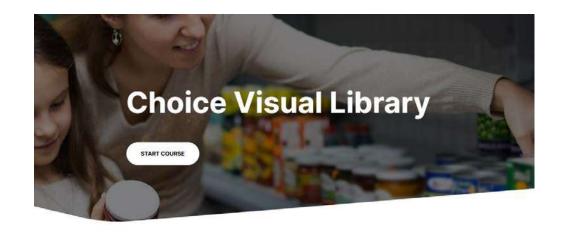
Food distribution designed like a mini supermarket. Neighbors touch and select their own food OR can order online like a grocery store.





## **Additional Resources**

- Website Link: <u>Choice</u><u>Visual Library</u>
- Password: Choice



To learn more about Choice and view the library, select "Start Course" at the top of the page.

The Choice Visual Library is a collection of visual examples of choice distribution models submitted by Network Food Banks and their partners. This resource was created to support network members working to increase the amount of Choice offered to families with children.

More resources related to increasing the amount of Choice offered to families





# After learning more about choice distribution models, are you interested in switching?

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# Break



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# Disaster Prepardness

Rachel Carrell, disaster strategy coordinator

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## Disasters?

- WHY we, as a hunger relief network, are talking about it
- WHAT the Foodbank has been doing to be ready to respond to crisis
- HOW you can take steps to support disaster preparedness in our community

# The "WHY"

# We do this work every day





# **Challenges & Vulnerabilities**

- 80-90% of our food is imported
- Heavily reliant on the Port of HNL
- Just-in-time model for replenishing
  - Market food supply 5-8 days
- Limited emergency food reserves on-island

### **Normal Operations**



- - **6-8 DAYS** 
    - 14.6 M tons / 1.24 M containers (2014)
    - 1.1 M tons food / farm product (2013)
    - 1.3 M tons of petrol product (2013)
    - 42 CONTAINERS / HR

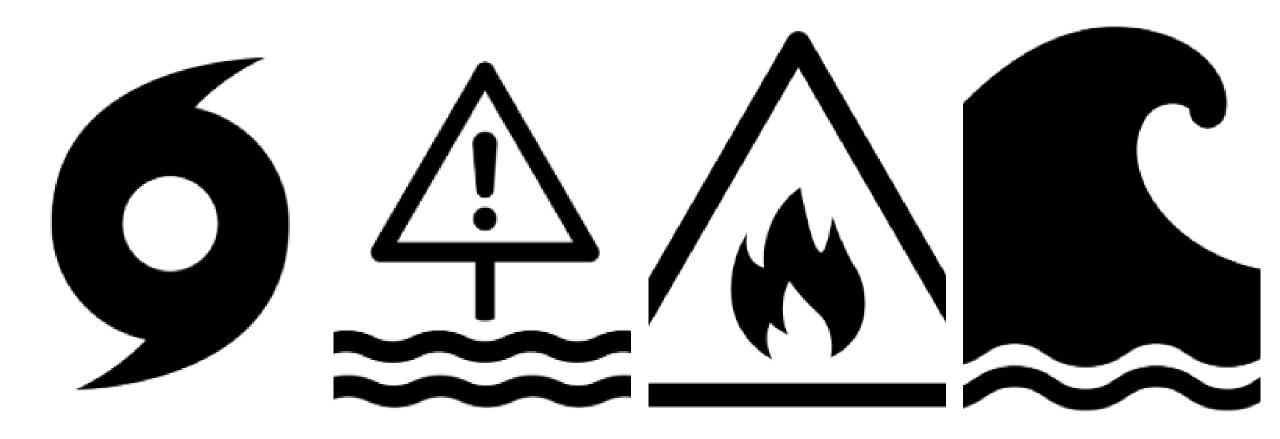
Supply Chain

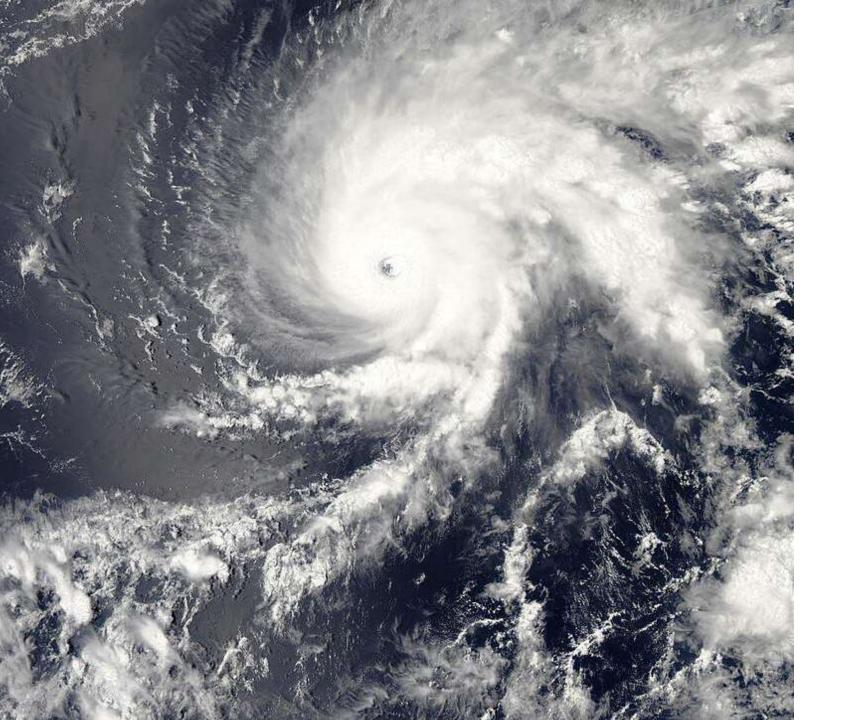


# Challenges & Vulnerabilities

- All petroleum fuel is imported
- Most fuel storage in inundation zone
- Power grid vulnerable & slow to repair
- Lots of population density and critical infrastructure in coastal areas

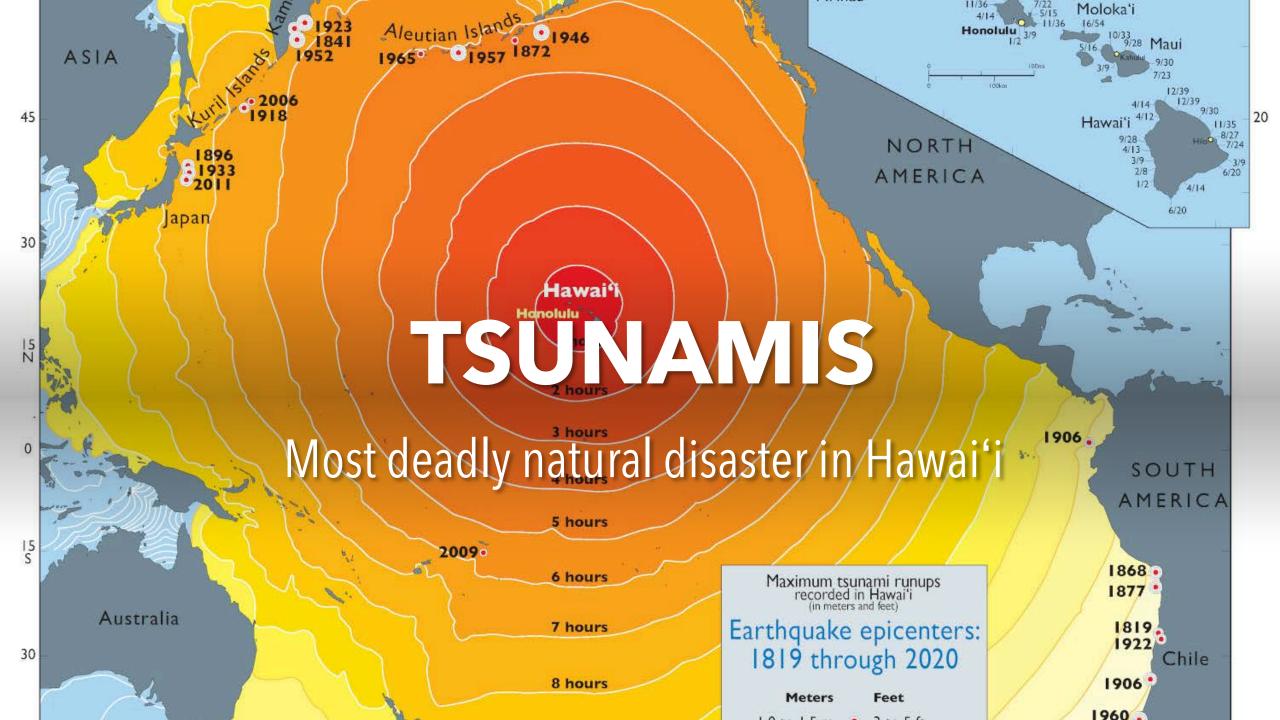
# Top Hazards in Hawai'i

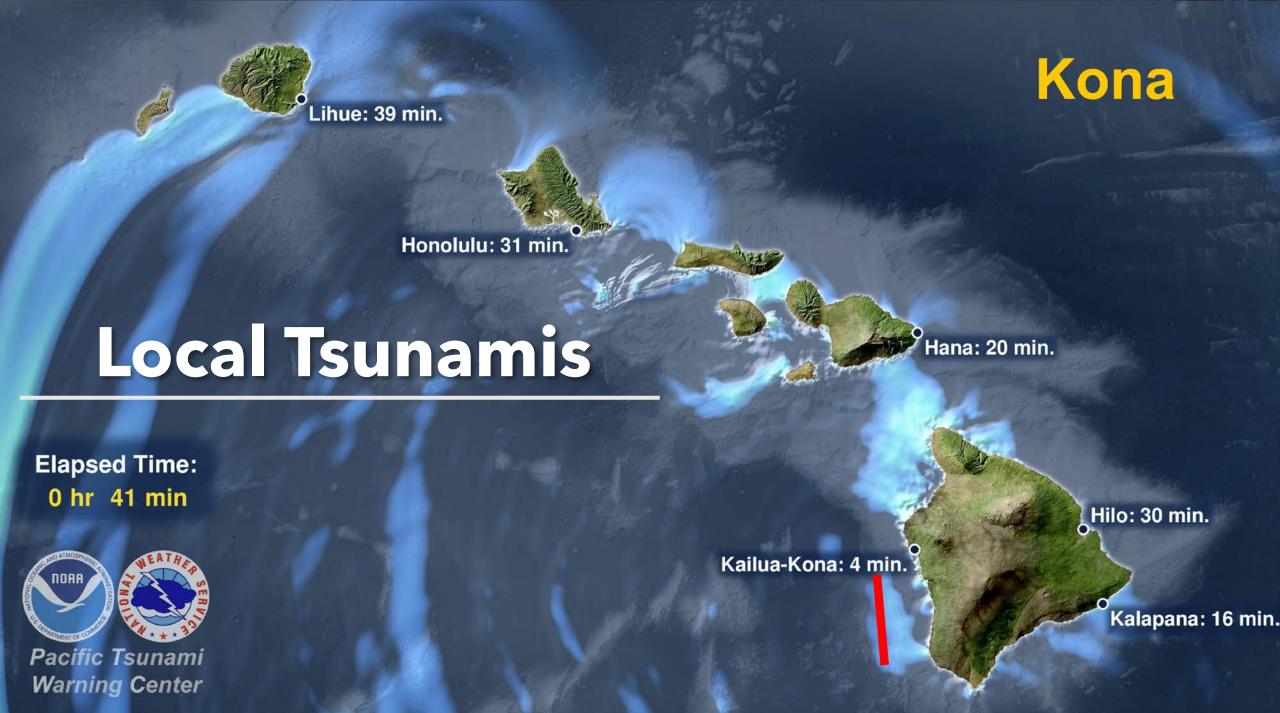




# Hurricanes

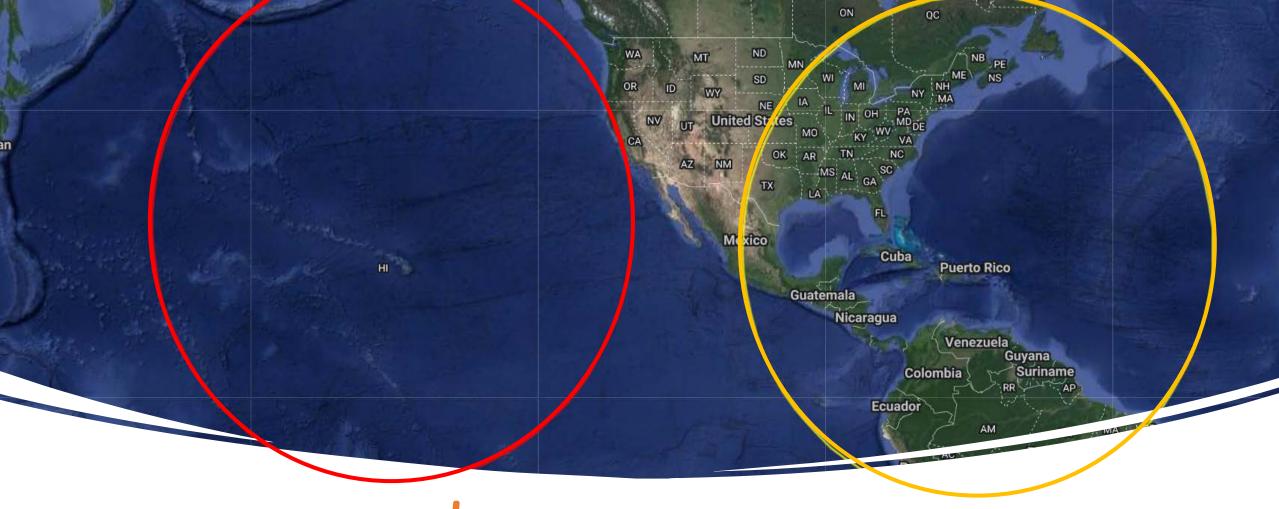
- Components: high winds, storm surge, heavy rains
- "Near misses" can result in significant damages











# WE ARE OUR FIRST AND BEST HELP

The more we are prepared and equipped to respond to our own needs and the needs around us, the better off we all are.



# What the Hawai'i Foodbank has been doing to be ready to respond to crisis



# **Disaster Program Pillars**

- Internal Planning & Readiness
- Agency Partner Preparedness
- Trusted Voice for Disaster Preparedness
- External Collaboration & Partnerships



# **External Partnerships**

- Honolulu Department of Emergency Management
  - Mass Feeding Lead
- O'ahu Disaster Feeding Task Force
- Hawai'i VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster)
- MOU with Red Cross (Salvation Army soon, too!)



# Cross-Sector Disaster Food Supply Meeting

HFB | Private Sector Partners | Emergency Managers



# Feeding Task Force Focus

- Mass Food Distribution
- Prepared Meal
- Supply Chain Logistics
- Communication & Coordination

# 2024 Disaster Preparedness Series

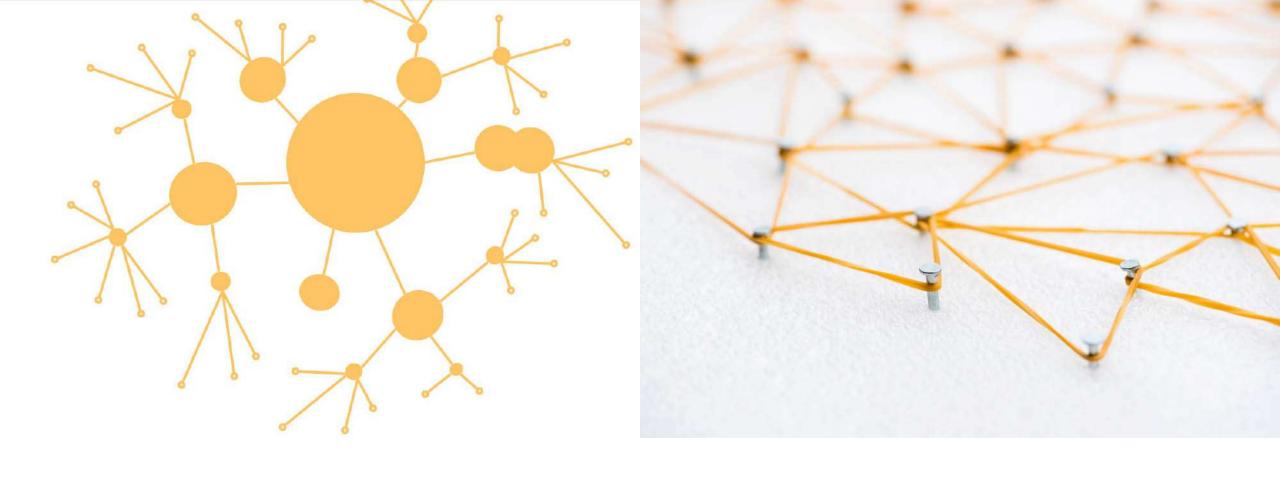
- Build an interconnected network of prepared partners ready to respond
- Identify regional leaders to coordinate efforts
- Learn how we can build capacity in this area



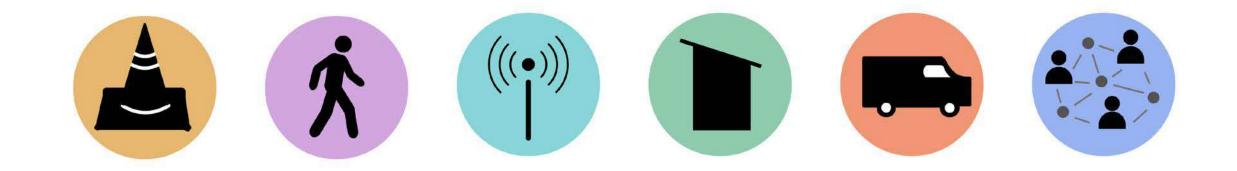
7 Agencies on Kaua'i

# 21 Agencies on O'ahu





# Blending Nodes, Hubs & Spokes Our Model for Network Response Coordination



We all have strengths to bring to the table.



# How you can support disaster preparedness in our community



### **EMERGENCY FOOD SUPPLIES:**

Hawai'i emergency managers recommend storing a 14-day emergency supply of food and water for each member of your 'ohana. That's a lot! While 14 days' worth of food is a good target, ANY extra food you can store is a great step towards being disaster prepared. Here are some tips to make it feel a little more achievable:

### **Tips for Starting Your Emergency Food Kit:**

- Look for low-cost foods that are high in protein and calories.
- . Stock up on shelf-stable items when they're on sale.
- Save extra seasoning packets from bentos or take-out.

#### Disaster-Smart Choices:

- Choose shelf stable foods you and your 'ohana normally eat.
- Stock foods that don't require cooking.
- Choose low-sodium options to reduce thirst.
- Single servings help to make sure opened food doesn't spoil.
- Consider all relevant health and safety needs.

### FOOD SAFETY:

To Keep Your 'Ohana Healthy and to Avoid Foodborne Illness, Do Not Consume Any Spoiled Foods. Throw Out:

- All perishable foods (including meat, poultry, fish, eggs and leftovers) from the refrigerator when the power has been off for four hours or longer.
- · All perishable foods in the freezer if they have thawed.
- Any food that has been in contact with flood water. This
  includes any canned foods with signs of damage such
  as holes, leakages and punctures.

Place foods on higher shelves to lessen the chance of them being contaminated by flood water.

### Some of Our Favorites:

- Peanut butter
- Shelf-stable tofu
- Canned tuna or salmon
- Low-sodium canned beans or lentils
- Instant oatmeal, ramen and rice

#### What About Those "Best By" Dates?

The "best by" date you often see indicates the quality of the food, not its edibility. Therefore, don't panic if you missed the "best by" date – you can still safely consume it after.

To help you get the most of your food items, check out the USDA FoodKeeper App (see link on next page).

### **D-SNAP DISASTER RECOVERY:**

If you are impacted by a disaster for which FEMA has made a declaration of Individual Assistance, you may qualify for the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or D-SNAP. Contact Hawai'i Foodbank or one of its qualified agency partners to assist you in determining your eligibility and how to apply for benefits.

IND HELP/ DONATE / VOLUNTEER

808-836-3600

#NourishOurOhana #EndHunger

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## How to take action:

- ✓ Prepare yourself & your 'ohana
- ✓ Make a disaster plan for your organization (we have tools to help!)

https://hawaiifoodbank.org/disaster-preparedness-hawaii/

### **DISASTER PLANNING GUIDE**

Simple steps to start your organization's disaster planning process.

### The Preparedness Pyramid Principle

The Preparedness Pyramid reminds us that effective disaster response starts with focusing on life safety and personal preparedness, followed by organizational planning and operational readiness. Only when these foundational levels of preparedness are met can we, as organizations, effectively serve the community during disasters.



### Personal Preparedness

- · Share preparedness resources
- Encourage all members of your organization to have a plan



- Identify who will lead your organization's response
- · Define roles & responsibilities



- Know the hazards you face & assess the level of risk
- Identify vulnerabilities
- Emergency Procedures
  - Identify evacuation points and routes to get to safety
  - Create hazard-specific plans

### Disaster Mission Statement

 Identify what your organization's role in disaster response will be

### 6 Communications

- Develop a plan for how you will share information
- Maintain lists of key contacts

### Documentation & Records

 Adopt simple disaster documentation practices to help your organization recover from disaster impacts

### Collaboration & Partnerships

- Coordinating with other organizations in your area
- Tips & tools to guide your partnership building efforts

### How to take action:

✓ Sign up to play a more active role in disaster preparedness & response





# Sign up to play an active role Disaster Feeding?

Complete this survey!

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

## **NEW & COMING SOON**

- Mass alert platform for coordinating disaster response efforts
- Starlink Kits to Regional Lead Agencies
- Planning resources available soon on the Agency Portal
- Training Opportunities (like Psychological First Aid)

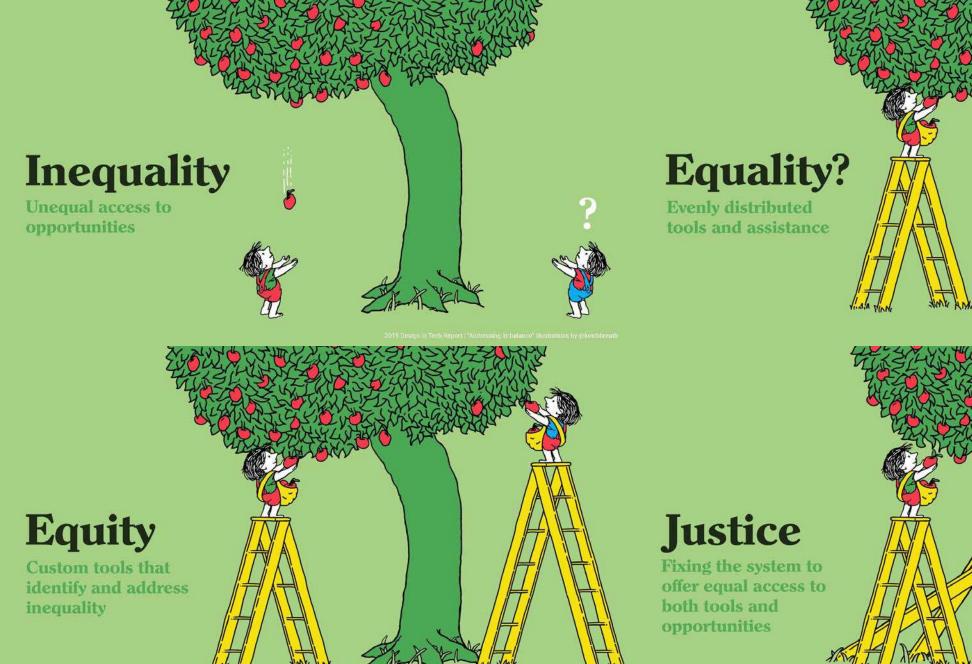


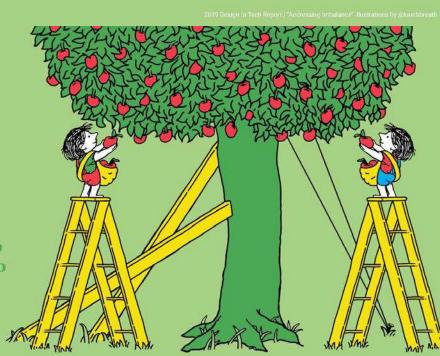




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# THE STATE OF FOOD INSECURITY IN HAWAI'I 2023



## **ABOUT THE STUDY**

### The State of Food Insecurity in Hawai'i

- Administered by SMS Research and analyzed by Pirkle Epidemiology and Evaluation Consulting LLC
- A statewide survey of 910 Hawai'i residents conducted using the United States Household Food Security Survey Module (US HFSSM)
- Looked at respondents' key demographics, health, and other characteristics; their use and knowledge of food bank services; other methods of obtaining food, and ways in which they may have been affected by the Maui wildfires.





#### **KEY FINDINGS**



Nearly 1 in 3 Hawai'i households were food insecure in 2023.



**37% of all households** felt anxious about running out of food.

## **OVERALL FINDINGS**

30% of households in Hawai'i experienced food insecurity in 2023.

- 11% categorized as low food security
- 19% as very low food security
- 10% of Hawai'i households were going a whole day without food some or most months



Another 14% were marginally food secure.



## **CHILD FOOD INSECURITY**

29% of households with children had one or multiple children facing food insecurity in 2023.

- 9% of households had children skipping meals because there was not enough money for food
- 6% of households with children had a child or children go a whole day without food because of a lack of money
- 38% of adults in households with children experienced food insecurity



In 29% of households with children, one or more children were facing food insecurity.



In households with children, food insecurity among adults was especially high at 38% — indicative that parents and caregivers will

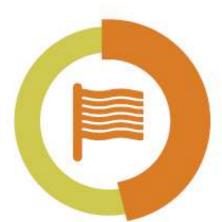
sacrifice their own food security before letting their children go without eating.



#### **KEY FINDINGS**



44% of those enrolled in higher education experienced food insecurity



46% of those identifying as LGBTQIA+ experienced food insecurity

# DEMOGRAPHICS AT HIGH RISK OF FOOD INSECURITY

At 49%, young adults ages 18-29 were the most affected by food insecurity.

- 44% of those currently enrolled in higher education
- 46% of respondents who identified as gay, lesbian, bi-sexual or some identity other than straight



#### **KEY FINDINGS**



**56%** of of those with poor or very poor health experienced food insecurity



**64%** delayed filling prescriptions in order to save money.



**60%** of those with hearing difficulties experienced food insecurity



74% of those with vision difficulties experienced food insecurity

# HEALTH AND MEDICATION

Health status was significantly associated with a household's food insecurity status.

- 56% of respondents who rated their health as poor or very poor were food insecure
- 64% of food insecure respondents delayed filling prescriptions and 62% took less medicine in order to save money without food some or most months

Households may cut back on other basic needs, like healthcare, to save for food.



# UTILIZATION OF FOOD BANK SERVICES

Transportation limitations, lack of knowledge, and feelings of shame or embarrassment prevented people from seeking out food assistance, even if they needed it. Among those that expressed experiencing food insecurity:

- 69% did not receive services because they did not know where to get them
- 65% did not get free groceries because they did not feel comfortable doing so





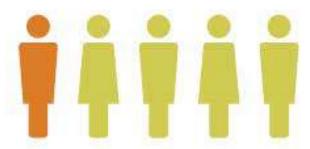
## **MAUI WILDFIRES**

19% of respondents were affected to some extent by the Maui wildfires in 2023.

- 7% lost a friend or family member
- 4% had their wages or hours reduced
- 4% were housing relatives or friends because of the fires.

49% of households affected by the wildfires were food insecure, compared to 25% of those unaffected.





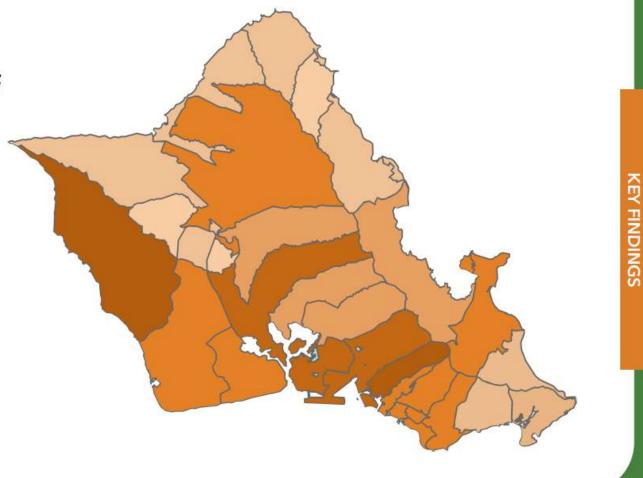
1 in 5 Hawai'i residents were affected by the Maui wildfires.



**Food insecurity** is pervasive and persistent, touching every ZIP code on the island.

## O'AHU

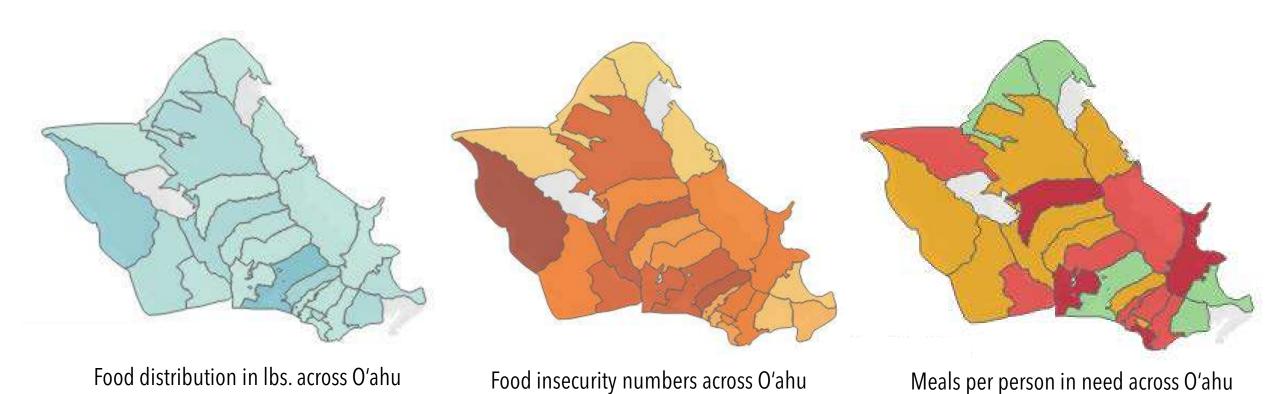
Relative Levels of **Food Insecurity** by ZIP Code







# EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION



What can you do?

- Share with your table what services your agency offers
- What are ways you could incorporate for equity in your food distribution services?
  - ie. Home bound individuals, culturally relevant foods, dietary restrictions, expand services to underserved communities, etc.



# Lunch Break













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U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Flights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Weshington, D.C. 20250-0410; or

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program intake@usda.gov.

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correo postal: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights

(B33) 256-1665 o' (202) 690-7442: o

correo electrónico: program intake@usda.gov.

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# **AGENCY:** LOCATION: DAYS: **HOURS:**

#### The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) & Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) Written Notice of Beneficiary Rights

#### Name of Organization:

Because this regardation is supported in whole or in part by financial assistance from the Federal Government, we are required to let you know that:

- 1. We may not discriminate against you on the basis of religion, a religious belief, a refusal to hold a religious belief, or a refusal to amend or participate in a religious
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U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights Executive Director Center for Civil Rights Enforcement

Washington, DC 20250-9410, or by email to program intalcalinada gov-

5. If you would like to seek information about whether there are any other federally funded organizations that provide these kinds of services in your area, please connect

DLIR - Office of Community Services Ermil: dir.ocalitaryan pro Phone: 808-586-8675

This written notice must be given to you before you enroll in the program or receive services from the program, unless the nature of the service provided, or exigent circumstances make it impracticable to provide such notice before we provide the actual service. In such an instance, this notice must be given to you at the earliest available

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

### IN CASE OF **EMERGENCY:**



- 1. Call 911 immediately. Give the operator your name, location and phone number where you can be reached.
- 2. If you are trained, administer first aid to those who are injured and remain calm. Wait for emergency personnel to arrive.
- The nearest first aid kit location:

Neighbors cannot trade or sell food received from Hawai'i Foodbank.





# Communication Channels









# How would you prefer to receive communications from Hawaii Foodbank?





# What do you like about the weekly update emails?

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What improvements would you like to see made to the weekly update? Or what information would you like to see?

# Training Resources









# How often do you use the Agency Portal?

## slido

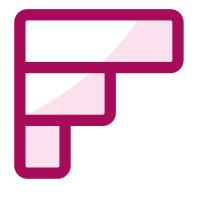
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What types of resources would you like to see in the Agency Portal? (translated materials, library of resources from all agencies, etc.)





# What types of training resources would you like to see more of?

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What training topics would you like to see covered? (HFB partnership agreement, HFB programs, guide on how much food to provide, reporting, capacity building, grant writing, etc.)

# Partner Challenges





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What are the most pressing challenges your agency is facing? (Space, staffing/volunteers, funding, transportation, cold storage, technology, language, uncertainty of the current federal admin. etc.)

# Closing Remarks Kim Bartenstein, director of agency relations



