



Progress Report 2020-2021

Overview

In March of 2020, in the wake of the COVID-19 first stay at home order, over 100 foundation staff, donors, corporate foundation leads, and trustees convened to rapidly coordinate and accelerate a response. These calls, which continued weekly, sometimes twice weekly for the following six months, laid the groundwork for the formation of Hawaii's first association of funders and philanthropy-serving organization (PSO): Funder Hui. Funder Hui now serves as Hawai'i's philanthropic community, which is committed to social and environmental justice.

Organizational Development

Since launching, Funder Hui has established and achieved the following to develop a strong foundation as a new organization.

- Recruited an Advisory Board of 8 experienced philanthropic leaders in Hawai'i including: Dawn Mahi (Consuelo Foundation), Anne Swayne (Next Gen Donor Hui, Swayne Family Fund), Suzanne Geary (Healy Foundation), Summer Keliipio (formerly of Queen Liliuokalani Trust), Kaipō Kukahiko (HMSA Foundation), Xan Avendaño (Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation), Keoni Lee (Hawaii Investment Ready) and Lisa Maruyama (HANO)
- Launched its website at funderhui.org and e-mail address – aloha@funderhui.org
- Raised \$250,000 to from 12 different funders from across the state. Current Member/Funders include: Hawaii Community Foundation, Kamehameha Schools, Castle Foundation, Consuelo Foundation, Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Keith and Judy Swayne Foundation, Frost Family Foundation, Healy Foundation, Aurora Foundation, Atherton Family Foundation, Zilber Family Foundation, and Hawaii Leadership Forum.
- We hosted over 40 different gatherings, including learning calls with state and community leaders and working groups for sector aligned funders. Offerings included sessions on participatory grant making, unrestricted funding, and trust-based philanthropy.
- Developed and sustained 3 working groups in the areas of Food & Farmers, Housing, and Capacity Building
- Retained Ashley Lukens as Consulting Director to manage and lead the organization

- Retained Doorae Shin for Program Manager to support administrative duties and manage communications and outreach
- Established a membership matrix for a paid membership model to sustain the organization
- Put out regular e-newsletters to update the network on events and activities
- Launched a list-serve for network participants
- Created a Funder Hui [SBMC](#)

Events, Convenings, and Calls

Our past events that were recorded are available on our website at funderhui.org/past-events.



| 2020 Convenings | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Date(s) | Organization / Guest | Topic |
| March 18th | Speaker Scott Saiki | Philanthropy & Hawai'i's immediate needs |
| March 23rd | Lt. Governor Josh Green | Hawai'i's immediate needs |
| April 8th | Lisa Kleissner | Capital Scan Update |
| May 13th | MRG and Collins Foundation | Social Justice Philanthropy |

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| June 10th | Trust-Based Philanthropy Project & The Whitman Institute | Trust-Based Philanthropy |
| June 12th | Hawai'i Investment Ready, The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Hawai'i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations (HANO), Elemental Excelsior, The Popolo Project, Waiwai Collective, Hawai'i Children's Action Network (HCAN) | Resiliency Roundtable |
| June 18th | Next Gen Donor Hui | Working Group Update |
| June 24 | Hawai'i Community Foundation, LOCUS Impact Investing, Phillips Foundation | Leveraging Hawai'i Capital: Housing and Homelessness |
| July 6th | Pōpolo Project | Racial Justice Movement in Hawai'i |
| July 20th | Next Gen Donor Hui | Learning Call and Check In |
| July 24th | Ho'ola Na Pua (New Life for Our Children) | Sex Trafficking in a Time of COVID-19 |
| August 31st | Next Gen Donor Hui | Advisory Board Check In |
| September 4th | We are Oceania, KKV, Civil Beat | Pacific Islander Community and COVID-19 |
| September 12th | Food and Farmer Working Group and Survey | CARES Act allocation on Oahu |
| September 22rd | Behavioral Health Administration. Hawai'i Health and Harm Reduction Center, Waianae Coast Community Mental Health Center | Funder Hui Mental Health Working Group |
| September 29th | HANO, Hawai'i Public Health Institute, 'Ike 'Ai | COVID-19 Public Health Action Webinar: Leveraging Institutional Purchasing Power to Drive Food System Change in Hawai'i |
| October 13th | Civil Beat | Hawai'i COVID-19 Failures |
| December 4th | Funder Hui | Working Group Update |
| December 11th | Funder Hui | Briefing: Honolulu's Rapid-Rehousing Strategy and Opportunities for Partnership |
| December 15th | Funder Hui | Housing 2020 Nonprofit Sector Pulse Report |

2021 Convenings

| Date(s) | Organization / Guest | Topic |
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| Jan-April | Weekly Advisory Board Calls | Funder Hui Mission, Vision & Program Ideation |
| April 27th | Funder Hui Learning Circle | Collective lessons learned from COVID |
| May 4th | Food & Farmers Working Group | |
| May 18th | Food & Farmers Working Group | |
| May 25th | Funder Hui Learning Circle - Terry George, Castle Foundation | Castle Foundation and DEI Work |
| June 1st | Food & Farmers Working Group - Mike Robinson, Hawaii Pacific Health | Institutional Purchasing of Local Food |
| June 15th | Food & Farmers Working Group - Keoni Lee, HIR and Dexter Kishida, Amy Asselbaye and En Young, C&C of Honolulu | HIR Food Systems Transformation Cohort; Ag Grants Passed in City Budget |
| June 30th | Funder Hui Learning Circle - Melinda Tuan, Fund for Shared Insight and Brent Kakesako, HACBED | Participatory Grantmaking |
| July 9th | Funder Hui Capacity Building Working Group | General Meeting |
| July 13th | Food & Farmers Working Group - Shane Sinenci, Maui County Council and Jennifer Karaca, Maui Ag Department | Maui Ag Department Creation & Work |
| August 10th | Food & Farmers Working Group - Dr. Emma Steinberg and Katie Ettman, SPUR; Daniela Spoto, HI'A | Food as Medicine Work |
| August 13th | Funder Hui Capacity Building Working Group | General Meeting |
| August 31st | Funder Hui Learning Circle - Micky Huihui, Hawai'i People's Fund and Chloe Hartwell, Kūkulu Switchboard | Mutual Aid |
| September 10th | Funder Hui Capacity Building Working Group | General Meeting |

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| September 21st | Food & Farmers Working Group - Jennifer Karaca, Common Ground Collective Maui | Common Ground Collective Work on Food Systems |
| September 23rd | HVCA State of Investment in Hawai'i Series - Keoni Lee, HIR, Brittany Heyd, Mana Up, and Dawn Lippert, Elemental Exceleator | State of Investment in Hawai'i - Accelerators |
| September 28th | Funder Hui Learning Circle - Claire Knowlton, Nonprofit Finance Fund | Full Cost: The Case for Unrestricted Funding |
| October (Fridays) | Beloved Communities Workshop with Aunty Puanani Burgess | |
| October 6th | HVCA State of Investment in Hawai'i Series - Senator Brien Schatz | State of Investment in Hawai'i - Government Funding |
| October 8th | Funder Hui Capacity Building Working Group | General Meeting |
| October 19th | Food & Farmers Working Group | |
| November 12th | Funder Hui Capacity Building Working Group | General Meeting |
| November 16th | Food & Farmers Working Group | |
| December 10th | Funder Hui Capacity Building Working Group | General Meeting |
| December 21st | Food & Farmers Working Group | |

Looking Forward

With successful, ongoing activity for the Funder Hui and its network of members and supporters, we intend to grow the community and reach more funders, non-profits, and community members. We will continue to host learning circles for funders as well as public events, and we will also continue the work of our active working groups, who meet regularly and host speakers. Funder Hui will begin to recruit and grow its formal membership network as well. While the Covid-19 pandemic inspired the original convening of funders in Hawai'i, we find ourselves facing many more crises and challenges in our community. Because of this, the Funder Hui serves to facilitate collaboration between funders and maximize the impact of philanthropy in Hawai'i, with a focus on restorative and regenerative systems of change.