



CU HAWAII

Federal Credit Union

MORE POSSIBILITIES

Media Contact:
Rebecca Choi
VP—Finance & Strategy
808-930-7281
rchoi@cuhawaii.com

Reina Miyamoto
Hawaii HomeOwnership Center
808-523-8116
reina@hihomeownership.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 12, 2023

CU HAWAII FEDERAL CREDIT UNION DONATES \$17,000 WITH A MATCHING GRANT TO HELP HAWAI'I ISLAND FAMILIES PREPARE FOR HOME OWNERSHIP

GRANT TO HAWAI'I HOMEOWNERSHIP CENTER HELPS FIRST-TIME HOME BUYERS

Hilo — To help Hawai'i Island families prepare for home ownership, CU Hawaii donated \$17,418 to the Hawai'i HomeOwnership Center (HHOC) leveraging a matching grant from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines. The funds to HHOC will provide classes, individualized coaching and ultimately prepare the new homeowners with the ability to sustain and maintain their new home.

The Hawai'i HomeOwnership Center's vision is to substantially increase the number of successful homeowners by reaching out to low and moderate income families who never believed they would become homeowners. HHOC serves all families regardless of income.

"Homeownership is good for our community. This grant will go a long way towards enabling Hawai'i HomeOwnership Center to continue to educate and expand services for homebuyers so more of our friends and neighbors can have a safe and stable home," said HHOC Executive Director Reina Miyamoto.

The Cost

Purchasing a first home in Hawai'i is really difficult and can seem insurmountable to many. Hawai'i is tied for having the fifth lowest rate of homeownership in the nation according to Prosperity Now. Real estate is expensive in Hawai'i, and purchasing a first home is never easy. Also, wages generally have not kept pace with the rise in home prices in Hawai'i.



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The Benefits

“Homeownership has significant positive benefits in education, employment, and physical and mental health for our ‘ohana in communities across Hawaii Island. Entering into homeownership provides financial stability for families and can be a vehicle for wealth building over time,” said CU Hawaii President & CEO James Takamine. “We are committed to helping families achieve the dream of homeownership and creating ‘more possibilities’ for our community.”

Free First-Time Buyer Workshop

Hawai‘i HomeOwnership Center offers a free workshop for first-time homebuyers and even existing homeowners. HHOC hosts a monthly one-hour online Introductory First-Time Homebuyers Workshop via Zoom. Registration is required. Call 808-523-9500 to register or go online at www.HIHomeOwnership.org for more information.

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About CU Hawaii

CU Hawaii is a not-for-profit, federally insured financial institution owned by its 30,000 members. It was founded in 1955 by 10 Hilo businessmen as the Big Island Businessmen’s Federal Credit Union. As a community-chartered credit union, membership is open to all persons living or working on Hawai‘i Island. CU Hawaii’s branches are located in Hilo, Kailua-Kona, Kea‘au, Na‘alehu, Pahala and Pāhoa. CU Hawaii has a Student Credit Union at Waiakea High School in Hilo. To learn more log on to www.CUHawaii.com.

About Hawai‘i HomeOwnership Center

The Hawai‘i HomeOwnership Center provides education, information and support to create successful first-time homeowners in Hawai‘i. By addressing barriers and increasing rates of home ownership, the HomeOwnership Center aims to build stronger families and communities throughout the state of Hawai‘i. Services are available to anyone regardless of their income. To learn more, visit www.hihomeownership.org