



- [Close Window](#)
- [Print This Page](#)
- [Expand All](#) | [Collapse All](#)

IA-0000000574

Individual Application

Application ID	IA-0000000574	Account	
Application Status	Submitted	Contact	Elia Herman

ACT 310 - Application for Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Org/Individual	Hawaii Foodbank, Inc.	DBA	Hawai'i Foodbank
Type of Business Entity	501 (C)(3) Non-Profit Corporation	Existing Service(Presently in Operation)	Yes
Mailing Address	2611 Kilihau Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96819 United States	Amount of State Funds Requested	\$5,644,254.25
Island	Oahu		

Program Overview

Program 1 Overview USDA's The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) was established by Congress in 1983 in an effort to dispose of government-held agricultural surpluses and alleviate hunger in the wake of a recession and declining food stamp benefits. Since then, TEFAP has evolved into a permanent, nationwide program that provides federally purchased foods and a smaller amount of administrative funding to food banks serving low-income households. TEFAP support is allocated to each state based on a statutory formula that accounts for state poverty and unemployment rates.

In recent years, USDA had increasingly relied on its use of Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) funds to finance a subcategory of TEFAP foods called 'bonus commodities', including \$934 million or 37% of total TEFAP funding in FY2023 and \$873 billion or 39% of total TEFAP funding in FY2024. In December 2024, under the Biden Administration, USDA announced \$500 million in total funding for FY2025 CCC purchases of TEFAP bonus commodities, which was abruptly cancelled under the Trump Administration in March 2025.

This cancellation of all CCC-funded TEFAP bonus commodities has created a major gap that food banks across Hawai'i are struggling to address. In 2024, Hawai'i received nearly 2.5 million pounds of quality, nutritious, American-grown foods through the TEFAP CCC bonus program, valued at a total of \$4,075,099. Hawai'i Foodbank's 2024 allocation amounted to 1,686,699 pounds valued at \$2,764,428, which was followed by 471,704 pounds received in 2025, with a value of \$799,826 before the cut in March. Therefore, Hawai'i Foodbank faced losses of \$1,964,602 in 2025 and \$2,764,428 in 2026, resulting in a total funding gap of \$4,729,030, for which we are requesting assistance through the Act 310 grant.

TEFAP is critical for Hawai'i's working families, many of whom do not qualify for SNAP, and for whom recent inflation and higher grocery prices have made it difficult or impossible to make ends meet without food assistance through programs like this. TEFAP provides a steady stream of quality, healthy, and highly sought-after items that are typically difficult for food banks to obtain independently. Hawai'i, in particular, has long struggled with higher rates of TEFAP order cancellations and shipping challenges that make whole categories of food ineligible for delivery to our islands, such as staples like milk and many fresh fruits and vegetables.

TEFAP bonus commodities are purchased at USDA's discretion, based on agricultural surpluses or other economic problems, as raised by farm and industry organizations and assessed by USDA's own commodity experts. Because CCC-purchased bonus commodities follow a different procurement path than other TEFAP food purchases, Hawai'i has experienced far fewer TEFAP order cancellations in recent years. In fact, CCC-funded TEFAP bonus foods received in the past two years have been a major factor enabling Hawai'i's food banks to keep up with the increased demand for food assistance.

Program 2 Overview

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP), more commonly known as the Senior Food Box Program, provides a monthly box of shelf-stable, quality USDA foods to low-income seniors. Boxes include items such as ready-to-eat cereal, juice, canned proteins, UHT or powdered milk, plant-based proteins, grains, fruits, and vegetables. The purpose of the box is to supplement participants' diets and provide access to nutritious foods that are often lacking in their daily meals, helping seniors maintain their health and independence.

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) issued a memo on March 24, 2025, reducing the allocated CSFP caseload from 2,324 in FY24, to 2,001 in FY25, for Hawai'i Foodbank's program on the islands of O'ahu and Kaua'i—constituting a total caseload reduction of 14% and a loss of food valued at \$193,800. In addition, there was a cut of \$8,949.09 in administrative funds for a loss of \$202,749.09 in FY25. Based on the assumption that these cuts will continue into FY26, the total loss equals \$405,498.18.

As a result, 323 fewer kūpuna had access to the program, reducing their consistent access to nutritious food. For many of these seniors—most of whom live on fixed incomes and face high costs of living—the monthly box represents a vital source of balanced nutrition and stability. Without it, many must stretch their limited budgets even further, often forced to make difficult choices between food and other necessities like medicine, rent, and utilities.

Beyond the immediate loss of food, the caseload reduction has had widespread effects across Hawai'i Foodbank's operations. The Kūpuna Programs team has managed a growing waitlist while reaching out to affected participants to explain the situation and connect them with other available resources. To maintain service continuity, the team exercised careful control over inventory to maximize the number of seniors served. They also expanded referrals to other food distributions, meal programs, and SNAP outreach—helping to reduce the impact of the reduced CSFP caseload and ensure that kūpuna continue to have access to nutritious food.

Program 3 Overview

On October 1, 2025, the federal government shut down, creating an immediate risk of increased demand for food assistance from two groups of people who may not have been facing hunger previously: people who work for a federal contractor and military and civilian federal employees, due to layoffs or missed paychecks. Further, in the longer term, if the Government does not reopen, there could be disruptions to SNAP, TEFAP, WIC and other federal nutrition programs, due to a lack of funding, a delay in processing benefits, or both. It is also critical to note that Hawai'i has the second highest number of federal civilian employees per capita and has, by far, the highest concentration of military service members of all states.

There are approximately 24,000 civilian employees, 44,000 active-duty service members, and an unknown number of federal contractors impacted by the shutdown, which equates to an estimated 75,000 households potentially at risk. With one third of all households in Hawai'i food insecure, we anticipate 25,000 households, or 60,000 individuals, may need support from Hawai'i's food banks, the majority of whom reside on O'ahu. To plan for the increased need, in early October Hawai'i Foodbank placed additional orders for more than 430,000 pounds at an average cost of \$0.83 a pound for, a total expenditure of \$350,675.65. An additional \$159,049.90 worth of food was ordered the week of October 20, which equates to over 240,000 pounds of food at an average cost of \$0.66 a pound. Moving forward, depending on the length of the shutdown, the need for additional food purchases will be ongoing. Altogether, as of October 23, 2025 the total amount spent by Hawai'i Foodbank was \$509,725.55, with an average price per pound of \$0.77 for a total of 673,466 pounds of food.

Department Notes**Agency Eligibility**

Recipient of Terminated Federal Funding	Yes	Able to Provide Documentation Evidence	Yes
Serves Negatively Impacted Populations	No	Narrative	Hawai'i Foodbank urgently seeks emergency support amid soaring demand and federal aid cuts. Recent dramatic cuts to federal funding for food security have dealt a serious blow to our community. They come at a time when hunger remains widespread across Hawai'i, with one in three households currently experiencing food insecurity, and the need for food assistance is already far beyond what many organizations can manage alone.
			Additionally, recent federal legislation includes major cuts to the Supplemental

Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in Hawai'i, reducing critical support for families, children, kūpuna, veterans, people with disabilities and many others who depend on these benefits to access basic nutrition. The consequences will be far-reaching and are further exacerbated by the current federal shutdown.

Despite these challenges, we continue to work with partners to keep food flowing to those who need it and to advocate for stronger, long-term solutions. Statewide, we are proud to partner with The Food Basket to serve Hawai'i County, and with Maui Food Bank to serve Maui County. Together, as the Food Bank Hui, we work to ensure that Hawai'i's people receive the food they need – both in daily life and in the event of natural disasters and other emergencies. Hawai'i's food banks collectively distribute more than 29 million meals each year through a network of more than 500 hunger relief partners across the State.

Historical federal food assistance received by food banks, such as The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), has recently amounted to 22% of the value of all food distributed by Hawai'i Foodbank. Receipt of these foods has not required upfront payment. Instead, the food banks have traditionally received food shipped directly from the USDA to each food bank. Upfront payment to the food banks is necessary as food banks would otherwise need to pay upfront to vendors in order to secure food shipments. To avoid undue stress on our cash reserves and to help streamline our response to increasing demand, we request upfront state assistance, either in whole at the start of the grant period or in quarterly installments. Federal assistance cuts to Hawai'i and costs to assist those impacted by the government shutdown have totaled more than \$5.64 million since March 2025.

Today, Hawai'i Foodbank and its sister agencies on Maui and Hawai'i Island stand at the forefront of our state's current emergency. Although we are submitting our applications separately, we want to make clear that addressing hunger across the State requires funding support for all three organizations.

Date Funding Stopped 3/1/2025

Amount of Other Funds Available

State Fund Total Amount	\$50,000.00	County Fund Total Amount	\$30,000.00
Federal Fund Total Amount	\$2,428,958.44	Private/Other Fund Total Amount	\$60,000.00

Total Amount of State Grants \$6,746,443.78

Unrestricted Assets \$22,800,000.00

Contact Person for Matters Involving this Application

Applicant Name	Elia Herman	Applicant Title	Director of Advocacy
Applicant Phone	(808) 391-4534	Applicant Email	elia@hawaiiifoodbank.org

State of Hawaii Eligibility

Organization is Licensed or Accredited	Yes	Nonprofit is a 501c3	Yes
Complies with Anti-Discrimination Laws	Yes	Nonprofit has Governing Board	Yes
Will not Use State Funds for Lobbying	Yes	Is Incorporated Under Laws of State	Yes
Will Allow Access to Audit Records	Yes	Has Bylaws and Policies	Yes

Account Information

Organization Name	Hawaii Foodbank, Inc	Organization DBA	Hawai'i Foodbank
EIN	[REDACTED]	Street	2611 Kili Hau Street
Account Email	info@hawaiiifoodbank.org	City	Honolulu
Account Phone	(808) 836-3600	State	HI
Website	http://www.hawaiiifoodbank.org	Zip	96819
Mission Statement	Our mission is to nourish our 'ohana today while we work to end hunger tomorrow.		

Point of Contact

Point of Contact First Name	Elia	Point of Contact Last Name	Herman
Point of Contact Title	Director of Advocacy	Point of Contact Email	elia@hawaiiifoodbank.org
Point of Contact Phone	(808) 391-4534		

Leadership

Leadership First Name	Amy	Leadership Last Name	Miller
Leadership Title	President & CEO	Leadership Email	amy@hawaiiifoodbank.org
Leadership Phone	(808) 954-7880		

Background and Summary

Applicant Background Operating since 1983, Hawai'i Foodbank is Hawai'i's largest hunger-relief organization, providing daily and emergency food assistance to those facing food insecurity.

In FY25, Hawai'i Foodbank distributed food to more than 164,000 people a month, which is 35% more than FY23 and twice as many people as we served prior to the pandemic. We distribute this food through more than 275 hunger relief partners on O'ahu and Kaua'i County. These community partners range from churches and schools to nonprofits of all sizes. For instance, two of our largest partners on O'ahu are 'Elepaio Social Services and The Pantry by Feeding Hawai'i Together; last year, 'Elepaio distributed 1.6 million pounds of food sourced from Hawai'i Foodbank (54% of which was fresh produce), and The Pantry distributed 1.3 million pounds of food sourced from Hawai'i Foodbank (40% of which was fresh produce). On Kaua'i, our largest partner is Church of the Pacific, to which last year we distributed 447,009 lbs of food, 23% of which

was fresh produce. On the other end of the spectrum, many of our smaller agencies may only distribute several thousand pounds of food a year but serve a specific community that has nowhere else to turn for help. On average, our 275+ partner agencies distribute approximately 55,000 lbs each per year, and all food goes out 100% free of charge.

Among our partners, Hawai'i Foodbank is unique in its ability to leverage relationships with food vendors and shippers to stretch each donated dollar by 5.3 times over local retail food prices. In FY25, across O'ahu, Kaua'i, and Ni'ihau, Hawai'i Foodbank distributed the equivalent of 19.7 million meals, including over 22 million pounds of food, one-third of which was fresh produce. The total value of food distributed exceeded \$34.7 million. However, with the loss of USDA funded foods through cuts to TEFAP CCC and CSFP, meeting the growing needs will be increasingly difficult and we may no longer be able to distribute the same quantity or quality of healthy foods. Together with The Food Basket of Hawai'i County and Maui Food Bank, Hawai'i Foodbank works with nearly every organization addressing food insecurity in Hawai'i. We provide nutritious food, logistics support, and ensure food safety throughout the supply chain, from storage to distribution. Sourcing healthy foods at an extremely low cost is a core strength. Centralizing food acquisition across our statewide hui allows us to leverage purchasing power and ensures healthy food reaches the most vulnerable. Our partners have direct access to those experiencing food insecurity, enabling connections to social services addressing hunger's root causes.

Hawai'i Foodbank has earned fourteen consecutive 4-star Charity Navigator ratings, exceeding standards for financial accountability and transparency. This highest rating places us among the top 2% of the 1.5 million charities evaluated nationally. We also hold Candid's Platinum Seal of Transparency, their highest distinction. We were chosen as Hawai'i's Best Non-Profit by Honolulu Star-Advertiser's readership in 2025.

Hawai'i Foodbank has a strong history of crisis leadership. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we rapidly launched emergency food distributions, serving thousands weekly as unemployment soared. Following the 2023 Maui wildfires, we mobilized immediate support statewide, providing logistics and resources. We've maintained critical food access during hurricanes, the Kīlauea eruption, and the ongoing rise in demand, as 1 in 3 Hawai'i households struggle with hunger.

Funding Request Purpose

Our objective is to strengthen community resiliency by increasing the local food supply in the face of decreasing federal assistance, increasing cost, and growing demand. Hawai'i Foodbank specifically requests funding to replace the quality and quantity of foods lost through federal cuts. This additional funding will support the purchase of perishable and non-perishable food items and related costs, including shipping, storage, distribution, and administrative support, in an effort to help individuals and families meet pressing food security needs. For the 12-month period following disbursement of funds, Hawai'i Foodbank will help supply a minimum of 20 million pounds of food to communities on O'ahu, Kaua'i, and Ni'ihau. This food will help support at least 160,000 individuals per month, on average. We work with an array of partners to source healthy, nutritious foods. Locally, we work with the Hawai'i Farm Bureau and individual farmers to purchase produce and proteins for distribution to help support both healthy eating and a robust economy. Creating a consistent market for local food producers is important in strengthening our community food systems, creating a healthier, more resilient Hawai'i. Thirty-two percent of all food we distributed during the 2025 fiscal year was fresh, healthy produce and we will aim to replicate that with this funding to the extent possible.

Geographic Coverage Served

State funding would directly support Hawai'i residents on O'ahu and in Kaua'i County. With the help of our agency partners, we distribute food across all areas of O'ahu and Kaua'i, and operate a school pantry on Ni'ihau. Our website includes an interactive map to find food assistance programs on O'ahu, as well as complete lists of all distribution sites on O'ahu and Kaua'i (including address, contact information, and hours of operation). We also provide this same information for Maui County and Hawai'i island, to better serve our communities and partners. This information is regularly updated on our website at <https://hawaiiifoodbank.org/help/>.

Our new Mobile Food Pantry trucks, on O'ahu and Kaua'i, are designed to expand access to nutritious food to rural and underserved areas across the island, where people may not have a means of transportation, a food distribution in their area, or a grocery store close to them. These self-sufficient, generator-powered, 16-foot refrigerated vehicles visit sites island-wide on a regular schedule, with a client-choice model where recipients can pick the foods they need from grocery-style cooler sections. The vehicles also give Hawai'i Foodbank the ability to quickly bring food assistance into the community during disasters and other emergencies and are a reflection of the Foodbank's deep commitment to increasing access to safe and healthy foods, broadening our approach to expand food distribution in identified areas of need, and strengthening community resilience. These trucks were made possible in part by grant-in-aid funding from the State of Hawai'i.

Public Purpose or Need Served

Food insecurity is a critical public health issue threatening the wellbeing of Hawai'i's people. In May 2024, Hawai'i Foodbank released its State of Food Insecurity in Hawai'i report, revealing that 30% of Hawai'i households experienced food insecurity in 2023. Alarmingly, one in ten households went without food for a full day, some or most months. Among households with children, 29% had children facing food insecurity, and 6% had children who went a whole day without food due to financial constraints. Insufficient food during childhood raises risks of cognitive delays, aggression, anxiety, behavioral problems, depression, and suicidal ideation.

Adults in households with children also faced high food insecurity levels (38%), with those caring for young children particularly vulnerable—showing that caregivers often sacrifice their own food security to protect their children.

The study also linked food insecurity to poor health across all ages: 56% of food-insecure individuals reported poor or very poor health, 60% had hearing difficulties, and 74% experienced vision problems. Additionally, 64% delayed filling prescriptions to save money.

Long-term food insecurity is associated with increased chronic diseases, including hypertension, heart disease, stroke, cancer, asthma, diabetes, arthritis, COPD, and kidney disease. It also correlates with higher rates of mental health issues like depression, anxiety, and sleep disorders.

Hawai'i Foodbank prioritizes shifting diets away from cheap, highly processed foods that worsen chronic illness by increasing access to nutritious, fresh, and local foods through a Farm to Families approach. This strategy supports local health, agriculture, and culture by distributing culturally responsive produce such as Okinawan sweet potato, choy sum, bok choy, long beans, breadfruit, pineapple, and taro. Offering choice preserves dignity, nourishing both body and soul.

Program outcomes benefit vulnerable populations, businesses, and the wider community by reducing the healthcare and economic burdens of food insecurity. Nationally, food insecurity adds \$1,863 annually per person in healthcare costs; for Hawai'i's 30% rate, this equals \$800 million yearly. Food insecurity stems not only from financial hardship but also systemic socioeconomic inequalities affecting the economy, food supply chains, and access to fresh foods in underserved neighborhoods. Natural disasters and emergencies further threaten food supply. Hawai'i Foodbank has provided essential emergency assistance for decades during events like Hurricane Iniki, the COVID-19 pandemic, volcanic eruptions, Kilauea flooding, Kona storms, and the Maui wildfires.

Following the 2023 Maui wildfires, the Food, Water, and Other Supplies Working Group was formed to assess availability and distribution of necessary supplies for displaced families and recommend legislative actions. Co-chaired by Representatives Greggor Ilagan and Terez Amato, the group recognized food banks as critical responders during disasters and recommended increased investment in food infrastructure and reserves for both normal and emergency use.

As we face these growing needs, we are severely constrained by federal cuts to the TEFAP and Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) programs, which provide less food for an increasing number of people in need. This program will allow us to purchase food to replace the cuts, ensuring that we can continue to meet community need.

Target Population Served

More than 160,000 individuals and families rely on Hawai'i Foodbank each month. For many, we are their only source of fresh fruits and vegetables. The Foodbank ensures equitable access to nutritious food on O'ahu and in Kaua'i County for keiki, kupuna, families, veterans, people with disabilities, and more. We focus on communities with limited access to affordable, nutritious food—including rural areas, urban food deserts, and areas at high risk of isolation during natural disasters and emergencies.

Most of the recent growth in those seeking assistance comes from ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) households. These families earn above poverty and often work multiple jobs but still struggle to make ends meet. Many earn too much to qualify for federal programs like SNAP, yet nearly half (46%) experience food insecurity.

Hawai'i is highly diverse, with 77% identifying as Asian, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, Black, or multi-racial. Research shows Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders face food insecurity at 23.4%, well above the 9.9% for the broader AAPI group and 6.2% for Asian Americans, highlighting unique challenges.

Our programs serving these demographics include:

Keiki Programs. Our Food 4 Keiki School Pantries, at 59 schools on O'ahu, Kaua'i, and Ni'ihau, serve preschool to grade 12 students and families by providing healthy snacks and food to take home. Last year distribution increased 76%, with over 1.06 million pounds provided monthly to 16,000+ children and adults. The amount of fresh produce was doubled, and now makes up over half of this food. We also provide after-school and summer meals through Feeding Our Future and Kaukau 4 Keiki programs.

Kūpuna Programs for low-income seniors. The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP), or "Senior Food Box," partners with the State Office of Community Services to deliver monthly food boxes to nearly 2,000 seniors, distributing over 757,000 pounds in FY2025. Our Kūpuna Fresh Produce program augments this with fresh, local produce, serving about 1,600 kūpuna monthly and distributing nearly 110,000 pounds annually. The Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program provides \$50 in coupons for fresh, local produce to about 5,000 seniors, totaling 44,000 meals last year. We are concerned that cuts to CSFP, detailed below, will severely limit our ability to serve this vulnerable population.

Community Programs. 'Ohana Produce Plus distributes millions of pounds of fresh produce and non-perishables monthly to underserved O'ahu and Kaua'i communities, serving over 36,000 people monthly. Cuts to TEFAP especially hurts these programs.

Farm to Families. Since 2020, this program has invested over \$12 million in Hawai'i-grown food, supporting 40+ farms and food hubs, distributing more than 8 million pounds of fresh, local produce and proteins, including culturally important foods like poi, 'uala, and 'ulu.

Mobile Food Pantry. Newly launched, our two refrigerated trucks on O'ahu and Kaua'i expand access to nutritious foods in rural and underserved areas and provide rapid disaster response. These mobile pantries allow clients to select foods to meet their needs, including produce, dairy, proteins, and bread.

Disaster Response. Hawai'i Foodbank has provided essential emergency assistance for decades. As one of the four pillars of our FY22-27 Strategic Plan, our work in disaster preparedness and response is a critical aspect of our mission.

Summary and Outcomes

Measure(s) of Effectiveness

Each month during the grant period, utilizing the requested funds, Hawai'i Foodbank will distribute an average of 210,000 pounds of shelf-stable food and fresh produce. Shelf-stable items include food such as rice, cereal, snacks, bread and other baked goods, dairy products, eggs, beverages, and canned goods. Depending on availability and price, fresh produce items will be sourced from the continent, or locally, and may include items such as tomatoes, eggplant, sweet potatoes, squash, cucumbers, apple bananas, papaya, pak choy, long bean, choy sum, and other types of fruits and vegetables such as potatoes, onions, and apples.

During the grant period, to facilitate access to healthy food, distribution will take place through partnership with more than 275 hunger relief partners on O'ahu and in Kaua'i County. It is estimated that 806,000 pounds of fresh produce will be distributed to individuals and families facing food insecurity.

With the State's grant-in-aid partnership, Hawai'i Foodbank will distribute food for the equivalent of more than 2 million healthy meals to individuals facing food insecurity.

Projected Annual Timeline

Beginning on month 1 of the grant period and continuing monthly, purchase approximately 210,000 pounds of shelf-stable food and fresh produce, averaged over the grant period. Approximately 193,000 pounds will be purchased monthly for O'ahu. Approximately 17,000 will be purchased monthly for Kaua'i.

Beginning on month 1 of the grant period and continuing monthly, utilize staff and volunteer resources to distribute an average of 210,000 pounds of shelf-stable food and fresh produce, and distribute it to agency partners. Approximately 193,000 pounds will be distributed monthly for O'ahu. Approximately 17,000 will be distributed monthly for Kaua'i.

Beginning on month 1 of the grant period and continuing monthly, record outcomes statistics.

Submit reporting to the State of Hawai'i as required.

Quality Assurance and Evaluation Plans

Both Hawai'i Foodbank warehouses are inspected and certified by AIB International, a third-party auditor recognized for setting industry-leading food safety standards. Hawai'i Foodbank implements a comprehensive Food Safety Program addressing operational methods, personnel practices, maintenance, cleaning, and integrated pest management, with strict documentation requirements. The food safety program is reviewed annually and updated to align with best practices, including Food Defense and Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point plans tailored for each facility. Daily food safety activities are rigorously documented, and all staff undergo entry-level and advanced training with certification requirements. Self-inspections identify non-conformities, triggering corrective and preventive actions. Temperature logging, equipment calibration for Time/Temperature Control foods, and master cleaning schedules further ensure safety. Food safety is a core competency at Hawai'i Foodbank.

Partner agencies must meet stringent requirements set by Feeding America and Hawai'i Foodbank to maintain partnership. The Foodbank undergoes periodic Feeding America contract audits covering food safety and governance under Network Standards Review. By federal law, only 501(c)(3) or other tax-exempt organizations licensed as food service establishments by the State of Hawai'i Department of Health may handle and distribute food received from Hawai'i Foodbank. The Foodbank's food safety expertise is multifaceted, supported by dedicated professionals ensuring compliance with the highest standards as a distribution center.

At the warehouses, donated, purchased, and government commodities are received, inspected for safety, sorted, inventoried, stored, and distributed to partner agencies and through direct service programs.

Receiving evaluations include inspecting the truck box condition, compartment door seals, load stacking, foul

odors, pest evidence, allergen cross-contact prevention, chemical contamination, signs of adulteration, and temperature measurements using calibrated probe thermometers with sandwich or destructive testing methods. Both warehouses have dry and perishable storage areas (chillers and freezers) and designated food inspection zones where staff verify freshness and quality. Dedicated spaces support teams working directly with partner agencies. Each warehouse has an agency distribution floor organized to enable agency representatives to efficiently pick up items for food pantries, outreach, and feeding programs.

For purchased foods, item details, receiving, and distribution are recorded in Hawai'i Foodbank's NetSuite Enterprise Resource Planning system. All food activity is tracked by lot with First Expired First Out coding to ensure proper rotation and freshness. Lot tracing enables one-up and one-down recall notifications and market withdrawals. Reporting monitors implementation to confirm food purchase and distribution align with project timelines and budget.

Hawai'i Foodbank measures outcomes by pounds of food distributed and the number of adults and children served. Partner agencies report monthly on individuals served using Hawai'i Foodbank's Agency Partner Monthly Activity Report.

This comprehensive system ensures Hawai'i Foodbank maintains the highest food safety standards, safeguards the community's health, and effectively supports partner agencies in delivering nutritious food to those in need.

Scope of Work

Hawai'i Foodbank procures nutritious, perishable and non-perishable food for distribution through our community partners and programs. Our programs (described above under Target Population) aim to eliminate barriers to food access, promoting equity in food distribution. Hawai'i's multicultural population shapes our culturally responsive approach to food assistance. Recognizing that Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders experience food insecurity at significantly higher rates compared to other demographic groups, we address this disparity by purchasing and distributing culturally relevant foods that resonate with diverse ethnic communities, including Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, Filipino, Japanese, Chinese, and other cultural groups represented in our service area.

Cuts to TEFAP, which once accounted for a substantial portion of our total food distribution, have made it increasingly difficult to support vulnerable populations. This federal program supplied many high-cost items, including frozen pork, eggs, chicken, and more. We urgently need the State to step in with funding to help us restore our ability to purchase these essential foods. In FY2025, Hawai'i Foodbank distributed more than 22 million pounds of nutritious food, including more than 7 million pounds of fresh produce, to more than 160,000 children and adults struggling with hunger. Our objective in FY2026 is to limit the negative impact of federal cuts and distribute at least 20 million pounds of essential food resources.

Since the pandemic, our food sourcing strategy has evolved so that today we are driven more by demand (the need for produce or culturally appropriate items, for example) than by our supply of donated food. In response to the growing demand for our services and being mindful of the federal funding cuts, we have budgeted \$34.5 million in donated and purchased food in FY2026. Our total operating budget for FY2026 is \$47.6 million.

Hawai'i Foodbank's product resourcing team sources food through donations, the USDA, and direct purchase. Perishable and non-perishable foods are transported from local and continental United States sources to our warehouses in Honolulu, O'ahu and Līhu'e, Kaua'i. We ensure the best prices by managing relationships with local and continental vendors, donated product through the Feeding America national network, and accessing markets such as "number two grade" products, which may have a less appealing appearance but are no less valuable from a nutrition standpoint. In addition, relationships with shippers like Matson, Pasha, and Young Brothers dramatically reduce the cost of over-water shipping for the Foodbank. In the context of this proposal, it's important to note that lost value of federally supported food, such as that under TEFAP, included freight to the destination, constituting an additional loss in inbound freight costs.

Each month, Hawai'i Foodbank's agency relations team mobilizes our food resources. We schedule monthly produce and food deliveries to agencies that host a community distribution. Foodbank staff deliver the food pallets directly to the agencies. Once delivered, agency staff and volunteers unpack the pallets and arrange the food for distribution at large-capacity locations, such as outdoor parking lots, and through brick-and-mortar food pantry locations.

Volunteerism is an integral pillar of Hawai'i Foodbank's operational framework. Nearly every day of the year, our volunteers inspect dry goods/pantry food and produce donations by checking the integrity of food products, sorting categories and boxing items for warehouse storage. This helps ensure that food is safe for the families receiving it. This also prepares the food for distribution, so we can get it more efficiently to those in need. Warehouse volunteers also help with important administrative and clerical assistance. This steadfast support allows us to focus more resources directly on our operations and program support.

Financial Information

Q1 Requested Amount	\$1,411,063.00	Q3 Requested Amount	\$1,411,064.00
Q2 Requested Amount	\$1,411,063.00	Q4 Requested Amount	\$1,411,064.00
Sources of Funding	Since 1983, Hawai'i Foodbank has provided daily and emergency food assistance to needy individuals through economic downturns, the global pandemic, and natural disasters, including the Maui wildfires. To sustain our activities, we nurture and grow key community partnerships. We are incredibly grateful for our donors, which include foundations, corporations, government and individuals, as well as in-kind support in the form of food donations from food drives, retailers, producers, wholesalers, and manufacturers. Hawai'i Foodbank staff and its board of directors work continuously to identify and evaluate potential sources of financial and food support. We strive to keep administrative costs low. Our organizational model enables nearly 92% of all expenses to be used directly for program support. Hawai'i Foodbank maintains relationships with the USDA and local and national food growers, manufacturers, retailers, and distributors to obtain monetary and donated food. Hawai'i Foodbank also leverages national corporate partnerships through a network affiliation with Feeding America, the nation's largest domestic hunger relief organization. Hawai'i Foodbank continues to expand its partnerships with the Hawai'i Farm Bureau and local agricultural producers to build and improve a sustainable food supply and distribution network of culturally responsive locally grown produce. We are seeking food-purchase funding in excess of \$1M from generous institutional partners, who include: Amazon, American Savings Bank Foundation, Annie Sinclair Knudsen Memorial Fund, Arrillaga Foundation, Atherton Family Foundation, Bank of Hawai'i Foundation, Corteva Agriscience, First Hawaiian Bank Foundation, Feeding America, Hawai'i Justice Foundation, Island Insurance Foundation, Johnson Ohana Foundation, Kaiser Permanente, Kosasa Foundation, MVW & Affiliated Companies, Pacific Rainbow Foundation, Samuel N. and Mary Castle Foundation, Spectrum, Sullivan Family of Companies, The Macauley Foundation, The Pettus Foundation, and Zephyr Insurance.	State and Federal Tax Credits	Not applicable.
State and Federal Contracts and Grants	Please see the uploaded document, 6-HFB List of Government Contracts, Grants, GIAs.pdf.	Prior FY Balance of Unrestricted Assets	This figure is \$22,800,000 as of 6/30/25. Hawai'i Foodbank recognizes that the future will likely hold another natural disaster, like Hurricane

Iniki, that will directly impact the state. A strong financial reserve will be needed to access sufficient food inventory to support the state during a crisis, as well as current and future capital needs.

Experience, Capability, and Personnel

Skills and Experience	Since 1983, Hawai'i Foodbank has provided daily and emergency assistance to those facing food insecurity in Hawai'i. As the state's largest hunger-relief organization, the Foodbank distributes food to families and individuals on O'ahu and in Kaua'i County through direct service programs and through our network of 275 hunger relief partners. Hawai'i Foodbank is working diligently with partners across the state and beyond to establish long-term food security for our communities. On O'ahu, Kaua'i, and Ni'ihau, with our extraordinary partner network, thousands of dedicated volunteers, government partners, and community supporters, last year we distributed over 22 million pounds of nutritious food, including more than 7 million pounds of fresh produce. This represents a 35% increase from 2023, and equates to 19.7 million meals. In Fiscal Year 2025, we served an average of over 164,000 people each month, compared to 120,000 per month in 2023. Our service numbers have doubled since prior to the pandemic. In the early days and weeks immediately following the Maui fires in 2023, Hawai'i Foodbank actively worked to support our neighbors by providing our Maui Food Bank partners with remote and on-the-ground staff support – sending between two to six team members each week. We also worked with local and national companies to source needed food items for Maui distribution while managing the tremendous amount of food donations provided locally and nationally. We secured additional warehouse space to store all products donated for Maui, and we continued to send regular shipments of food, depending on what was needed. We sent more than 50 containers of food to Maui, with our sister food banks across the continent stepping in with various forms of support. Feeding America and many continental food banks generously provided emergency food donations, staff support and more. Additionally, other food banks like Central California Food Bank, Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County, Alameda County Community Food Bank, Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano, Second Harvest of the Greater Valley, Feeding San Diego, and Food Lifeline offered cross-docking services — an efficient logistics strategy that saves money, reduces shipping time and maintains freshness of food. Today, we continue to work with the Hawai'i Farm Bureau and local, underserved farmers to help create a consistent market for food producers, strengthening our community food systems and creating a healthier, more resilient Hawai'i. We've invested over \$12 million in local produce purchases from FY2020 through 2025. Last year, of the \$1.3M we spent on produce, 88% directly supported local agriculture. Our "Farm to Family" strategies include paying local farmers for their labor, processing, packaging, and transportation costs in exchange for donations of excess product, in addition to buying produce directly. It is distributed through our network. Hawai'i Foodbank has a dedicated finance and operations team with extensive experience in managing diverse funding streams, including government grants, private donations, and corporate partnerships. The team employs best practices in budgeting, financial planning, and resource allocation to maximize impact while ensuring that funds are used in alignment with donor intent and program goals. Hawai'i Foodbank uses industry-standard financial software to track and report all incoming and outgoing funds. Our accounting systems comply with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), allowing us to produce detailed, transparent financial reports that meet the requirements of various funders. Regular internal audits and oversight by our Board of Directors' finance committee further strengthen our fiscal governance.
Facilities	Hawai'i Foodbank currently operates out of two locations: a 23,668 square-foot warehouse on Kilihaui Street in Honolulu, O'ahu and a 4,750 square-foot warehouse at 4241 Hanahao Place in Lihue, Kaua'i. Hawai'i Foodbank maintains a fleet of 11 trucks, 1 van, and 1 Mobile Pantry truck on O'ahu, and 3 trucks, 2 vans, and 1 mobile pantry truck on Kaua'i. The primary mode of transportation is refrigerated straight trucks with lift-gates to distribute food to our hunger relief network across the islands. Operating six days a week, drivers distribute perishable and non-perishable foods to agencies, and to community drop sites that are equivalent to the distributions expected under this proposal. This is a core competency that draws upon food-safe transportation with monitored and documented temperatures and sanitary conditions, and on-site distribution skills from experienced staff, agency representatives, and volunteers that adhere to food-safety requirements as food is being handed out to qualified recipients. Teams are capable of mobilizing through outreach to agencies and clients, and have blueprints to

successfully, and efficiently, distribute food into under-served communities. As an island-wide operator, trucks traverse the islands daily to distribute food to agency partners, and to collect food from industry donors, both requiring strict attention to audited food safety practices. Dispatch managers serve both repeated scheduled activities and no-notice requests for transportation services, optimizing routes based on driver proximity to the need and space utilization on trucks. This function is highly flexible and dynamic, by design, allowing Hawai'i Foodbank to opportunistically pivot to serve our community in innovative ways.

For more on warehouse activity and food safety practices, please see our Quality Assurance and Evaluation Plans in the Service Summary and Outcomes section.

Proposed Staffing and Service Capacity

Hawai'i Foodbank has 78 staff members statewide, ten of whom work at our Kaua'i location. Our dedicated Board of Directors consists of 29 community leaders from key industry sectors, as well as a 10-member Kaua'i Advisory Board. We also have a deep pool of loyal volunteers; in FY2025, more than 8,000 volunteers contributed over 33,000 hours of service.

The leadership team includes:

Amy Miller, President & CEO, joined Hawai'i Foodbank's mission in May 2021. Amy brings more than two decades of experience specializing in nonprofit operations, financial management, and fund development. Miller most recently served as senior vice president and chief operating officer of Bishop Museum prior to joining the Foodbank. Miller graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University and has a master's in psychology degree from University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. She was selected as an Omidyar Fellow in 2018.

Rowena Browne, Vice President of Development, joined Hawai'i Foodbank in November 2024, returning home to Hawai'i after an expansive career in the U.S. and Canada. Prior to joining our team, she served as the Chief Development Officer for The Mustard Seed Foundation, a nonprofit providing basic needs and wraparound services in six cities in Canada, where she grew fundraising revenues from \$23 million to \$53 million a year.

John Klosterman, Vice President of Operations, joined Hawai'i Foodbank in September 2022. John oversees all operations, transportation, facilities management and product sourcing for both the O'ahu and Kaua'i branches. Prior to joining Hawai'i Foodbank, John was Senior Supply Chain Manager at a national e-Commerce hardware and lighting business, responsible for all aspects of the supply chain and product development. Before that, John was Director of Operations at Oregon Food Bank for 11 years, arriving with 15 years of experience at Rejuvenation in senior management roles related to company-wide operations, product development, strategic supply chain management, and manufacturing. John has a bachelor's degree in business administration from Oregon State University.

Curtis Leong, Vice President & Chief Financial Officer, joined Hawai'i Foodbank in July 2022 and has oversight of fund administration, human resources, and information technology. He is a senior executive with extensive non-profit and for-profit experience. Curtis worked as a CFO for more than 20 years with American Machinery, Girl Scouts of Hawai'i, EA Buck Financial Services, and Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum, with oversight of numerous functions, including human resources, IT, property management, finance, accounting, licensing and contracting, and risk management. Prior to becoming a CFO, Curtis worked as a Senior Analyst and Internal Auditor with Amfac/JMB Hawai'i, Inc. as well as an audit professional with Coopers & Lybrand in California's Silicon Valley. He has a Bachelor of Science in Accounting degree from San Jose State University and a Master of Business Administration degree from Simon Fraser University in British Columbia, Canada.

Wesley Perreira, Kaua'i Branch Director, manages daily operations on Kaua'i and has worked for Hawai'i Foodbank since 2013. He previously worked for 18 years in law enforcement, with positions in patrol, investigative services, and administration. He has an associate degree in business administration from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo.

Marielle Terbio, Vice President of Strategy & Programs. Since joining Hawai'i Foodbank in November 2017, Marielle has helped explore and launch strategic initiatives to combat food insecurity in Hawai'i including HFB's School Pantry Program, Summer Food Service Program, SNAP Outreach Program, and Advocacy and Farm to Family initiatives, including sourcing fresh produce to increase access to local, healthy fruits and vegetables. She has worked in the non-profit sector for over 18 years in Hawai'i and Guam.

Staff Position(s) and Compensation

President & CEO: \$150,000 - \$200,000
Vice President 1: \$100,000 - \$175,000
Vice President 2: \$100,000 - \$175,000

Other Information

Pending Litigation Not applicable.

Special Licensure or Accreditations Hawai'i Foodbank is certified by Feeding America, the nation's preeminent food bank network. This signifies that Hawai'i Foodbank operations meet strict national guidelines for the safe handling and distribution of food,

financial and administrative practices, and donor/agency relations. In addition, Hawai'i Foodbank is certified to the highest standards of food safety by AIB International.

Private Educational Institutions

Not applicable.

Confirmations

Documentation of Federal Impacts



Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate



IRS Determination Letter



Records Retention Policy



Authorized Representative Certification



Active Status with the Hawaii AG



Certificate of Good Standing by the DCCA



By-laws or Corporate Resolutions



Signee Title

President & CEO

System Information

Application Type Act 310 Nonprofit Grant Application

Applied Date 10/23/2025, 8:42 PM

Owner Name

Category Grant Application

Created By Elia Herman, 10/20/2025, 4:41 PM

Created Date 10/20/2025, 4:41 PM

Last Modified By Elia Herman, 10/23/2025, 8:42 PM

Last Modified Date 10/23/2025, 8:42 PM

Federal Grants

The Emergency Food Assistance Program – Commodity Credit Corporation

Name of Program **Program 1**
Original Funding Award **\$5,086,032.00**
Amount Reduced or Cut **\$4,729,030.00**
Grant Cycle of Award **Jan. 1, 2025 - Dec. 31, 2026**

Commodity Supplemental Food Program

Name of Program **Program 2**
Original Funding Award **\$3,187,676.00**
Amount Reduced or Cut **\$405,498.18**
Grant Cycle of Award **Oct. 1, 2024 - Sep. 30, 2026**

Federal Shut Down

Name of Program **Program 3**
Original Funding Award **\$0.00**
Amount Reduced or Cut **\$509,725.55**
Grant Cycle of Award **N/A**

Files

HFB Future Sustainability Plan

Last Modified **10/23/2025, 6:58 PM**

Created By **Elia Herman**

p9 Records Retention Policy_Amended Bylaws_Hawaii Foodbank - Signed -06.13.2024

Last Modified **10/23/2025, 5:13 PM**

Created By **Elia Herman**

Hawai'i Foodbank_Impact Docs

Last Modified **10/23/2025, 4:59 PM**

Created By **Elia Herman**

AG Registration Confirmation 10.23.2025

Last Modified **10/23/2025, 4:56 PM**

Created By **Elia Herman**

Hawaii Foodbank - IRS Determination Letter

Last Modified **10/23/2025, 4:35 PM**Created By **Elia Herman****9-DCCA Cert of Good Standing 10.15.25**

Last Modified **10/23/2025, 4:21 PM**Created By **Elia Herman****6-HFB List of Government Contracts, Grants, GIAs**

Last Modified **10/23/2025, 4:04 PM**Created By **Elia Herman****5-Hawaii Foodbank BUDGET JUSTIFICATION -
EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES**

Last Modified **10/23/2025, 3:41 PM**Created By **Elia Herman****2-20251021 Certificate of Vendor Compliance**

Last Modified **10/23/2025, 3:37 PM**Created By **Elia Herman****5-DCCA Cert of Good Standing 10.15.25**

Last Modified **10/22/2025, 1:34 PM**Created By **Elia Herman****1-Org Chart 07.11.25 CSL**

Last Modified **10/22/2025, 1:34 PM**Created By **Elia Herman****10 -Board Resolution re Signing Authority 10292024**

Last Modified **10/23/2025, 4:24 PM**Created By **Elia Herman****7-Org Chart 07.11.25 CSL**

Last Modified **10/23/2025, 4:06 PM**Created By **Elia Herman****4-Hawaii Foodbank BUDGET JUSTIFICATION -
PERSONNEL SALARIES AND WAGES**

Last Modified **10/23/2025, 3:41 PM**Created By **Elia Herman****3-Hawaii Foodbank Budget Request by Source of Funds**

Last Modified **10/23/2025, 3:40 PM**Created By **Elia Herman****4 -AG Registration Confirmation 10.15.2025**

Last Modified **10/22/2025, 1:34 PM**Created By **Elia Herman****7-Hawaii Foodbank - IRS Determination Letter**

Last Modified **10/22/2025, 1:34 PM**Created By **Elia Herman****3 - 20251021 Certificate of Vendor Compliance**

Last Modified **10/22/2025, 1:34 PM**Created By **Elia Herman**