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## **Ho'okulāiwi: 'Aha Ho'ona'auao 'Ōiwi (Center for Native Hawaiian and Indigenous Education) Receives \$750K Award from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs**

Myron Brumaghim, principal of Nānāikapono Elementary School in Nānākuli, describes the dreams that he and the community have for their children, saying, “We want our children to live their dreams. We want educational opportunities for our children that focus energies and resources on guiding and supporting them as they journey towards success in life. We want to ensure that our children receive rich educational opportunities that prepare them for good jobs, to be good people who live healthy lives and who raise healthy families, to be good citizens, and to have passions for learning beyond their formal educations. And, most important, we want to be self-determining in this process.”

Recently, Brumaghim and the community's dream took a step closer to realization when the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Education Ho'okulāiwi: 'Aha Ho'ona'auao 'Ōiwi (Center for Native Hawaiian and Indigenous Education) received a grant of \$750,000 from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. This award was made in conjunction with a legislative appropriation of \$750,000 over two years to establish Ho'okulāiwi at the College of Education at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. “Funding from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the legislature will enable us to institutionalize our Center at Mānoa, thereby allowing us to work more effectively with Native Hawaiian communities and schools to provide improved educational opportunities for children,” added Margaret Maaka, Director of Ho'okulāiwi.

Ho'okulāiwi aims to provide programs of study in teacher education and curriculum research to prepare teachers for Hawai'i Department of Education Title I schools with large numbers of Hawaiian children, for Hawaiian Language Immersion schools, and for Hawaiian charter schools. In addition, Ho'okulāiwi works to prepare Native Hawaiian educational leaders in areas such as curriculum research, school administration, and teacher education through study at the masters and doctoral levels. Programs under Ho'okulāiwi focus on educational reform within the broader context of school and community development.

Kamaki Kanahale, President of the Nānākuli Hawaiian Homestead Association and community partner commented on the importance of this community-based initiative: “Ho'okulāiwi creates the state's major movement in teacher retention, cultural sensitivity, community identity and recognition, and an overall sense of place in education.”

For more information about Ho'okulāiwi, please contact Margie Maaka at [marg@hawaii.edu](mailto:marg@hawaii.edu) or Pohai Kukea Shultz at [pohai@hawaii.edu](mailto:pohai@hawaii.edu).