



The Leeward Haleakalā Watershed Restoration Partnership

3620 Baldwin Ave., Suite 202/203, Makawao, HI 96768

Ph. (808) 573-8989

Fax (808) 573-1932

www.lhwrp.org

Dept. of Hawaiian Home Lands
Dept. of Land & Natural Resources
Haleakalā National Park
Haleakalā Ranch
Ka'ono'ulu Ranch
Kaupō Ranch
Nu'u Mauka Ranch
'Ulupalakua Ranch

June 26, 2018

Memo regarding LHWRP support for Montessori School of Maui's proposal to Atherton Family Foundation

Aloha no,

The Leeward Haleakalā Watershed Restoration Partnership (LHWRP) was formed in 2003 to protect and restore more than 43,000 acres of upper elevation watershed from Makawao through 'Ulupalakua to Kaupo. In doing so, freshwater availability, native biodiversity, cultural resources, and economic opportunities will also be perpetuated. Engaging the community - especially local youth - in conservation efforts is a central to LHWRP's approach to restoration. Ensuring that Maui youth gain an understanding of the unique natural and cultural history of the Hawaiian islands, develop a sense of stewardship for these resources, and are exposed to career paths in the fields of science, technology, and conservation is important to our landowners and our staff.

LHWRP developed a relationship with the Montessori School of Maui's Makawao campus nearly 15 years ago, working with the "wili wili class" to share the plight of the wili wili trees that were at that time being plagued by the invasive Erythrina gall wasp. This connection was deepened when one of our staff's children became a student at MOMI. LHWRP was invited to share our efforts with the school at a 2016 Earth Day event, and since then has continued to engage with Scott Lacasse and students of all ages in hands-on educational opportunities.

We are excited about the opportunity to further develop this relationship as well as the students' abilities to understand plant propagation, restoration processes, native species identification, and ethnobotany through the proposed Native Plant Propagation Program. This program will enable LHWRP to continue to engage with MOMI students in a novel and meaningful way, and to have an additional source for native plants to be used for restoration. LHWRP supports MOMI's application for funding, and looks forward to the opportunity to share our knowledge and contribute to Maui youth and native forest restoration efforts through this new collaboration. Please contact me with any questions.

Mahalo for your consideration and support,

Andrea Buckman, LHWRP Program Manager



June 25, 2018

Dear Atherton Review Committee,

Skyline Conservation Initiative (SCI) strongly supports Montessori School of Maui's (MOMI) proposal to establish a native plant propagation facility. This facility will support conservation programs Island-wide who depend on growing high quality native trees and shrubs for outplanting.

MOMI has provided remarkable support of SCI for many aspects of our conservation work. Every year, MOMI middle school students participate in a series of volunteer trips to help install and maintain the SCI native forest restoration project area on Haleakala Ranch. SCI supports MOMI's commitment to conservation and pursuit to expand their facility in order to propagate high quality plant material on campus.

SCI is excited to expand our experiential and educational partnership with MOMI. With the development of a plant propagation program, students will be able to help us collect seeds from wild native plants and learn how to germinate and care for them. These same students will be invited to return to our restoration site and plant the species they have nurtured and watch them grow in a place they will always be welcome to visit throughout their lives. This is a valuable tool for students to establish a deeply rooted respect for the importance of native habitat restoration in our island community.

Skyline Conservation looks forward to seeing continued success of MOMI's living classroom programs and is proud to call them a supporter and collaborator in conservation. We strongly recommend that the Atherton Family Foundation support the Montessori School of Maui's proposal for 2019 funding.

Thank you for this opportunity,

Sincerely,

Joseph Imhoff
Program Manager
Skyline Conservation Initiative