



Full of Happiness

# Piha me ka Hau'oli

*Meals from the Heart, Food for the Soul*

HAWAI'I MEALS ON WHEELS NEWSLETTER

FALL 2024

## Nourishing the Whole Person

*Easterseals Hawaii Volunteers Deliver Meals and Aloha to Homebound Kūpuna*



*Easterseals Hawaii Adult Day Center participants have volunteered with Hawai'i Meals on Wheels for more than 15 years! From left to right: Volunteers Kelli and Katrina, client Darlene, volunteer Caran, and Easterseals Hawaii staff Sierra.*

Every Tuesday and Thursday, **Sierra** and her dedicated crew roll up to the kitchen, ready for another meaningful day. Today, **Caran, Katrina, and Kelli**—three participants from Easterseals Hawaii's Adult Day Center—hop out of the car, each proudly wearing a blue Hawai'i Meals on Wheels T-shirt. They eagerly greet the kitchen manager and load up ten hot meals for their McCully delivery route.

"Delivering meals is a fun opportunity to practice important skills like communication and making eye contact," says **Sierra Fallau, DSW** (Direct Support Worker) at Easterseals Hawaii. "On the road, they rotate roles—helping with navigation, reviewing our binder of clients and their meal types, and interacting with clients. **They truly enjoy connecting with those they serve.**"

Volunteering not only helps Caran, Katrina, and Kelli develop social skills and engage with the community, but it also supports their journey towards greater independence. **Both Hawai'i Meals on Wheels and Easterseals Hawaii share this commitment to those we serve—to foster social connections and enhance independence.**

One of the volunteers' favorite stops is Darlene's home. Thanks to the generous support of friends like you, **Darlene** and her husband **Daniel** receive hot, medically tailored meals to meet their specific dietary needs. Kelli opens the trunk, unloads the meals, and hands them to Darlene with a warm smile.

*Continued inside...*

# Nourishing the Whole Person

Continued from cover

***"Meals mean so much to me and my husband," Darlene says, with tears of gratitude in her eyes. "We're living paycheck to paycheck on social security. Some days it feels hard to get by. Sierra and her team always brighten my day. They ask about my morning, how my husband is doing, and we talk story. I feel so comfortable sharing my concerns."***

For Caran, Katrina, and Kelli, their time on the road is more than just delivering meals. It's about building connections in their community and sharing experiences with each other. When asked about their favorite part of volunteering, Kelli shares:

***"My favorite part of delivering meals is seeing our clients every week. I'm having fun giving meals and checking in with them every week."***

Kelli has been an Adult Day Center participant for 12 years. **Ella Aiwohi**, Program Manager of Easterseals Hawaii's Adult Service Center, notes that opportunities like this have been instrumental in helping Kelli achieve her goals of improving social interactions and building meaningful connections with others.

***"It's wonderful to see how Kelli has become more confident in engaging with people and has formed genuine bonds with those she serves," Ella shares.***

**Michelle Cordero-Lee**, CEO of Hawai'i Meals on Wheels, highlights how well Hawai'i Meals on Wheels and Easterseals Hawaii's missions align.

**"Both Hawai'i Meals on Wheels and Easterseals Hawaii are deeply committed to caring for the whole person.** Whether it's offering volunteer opportunities for adults with disabilities or delivering nourishing meals to homebound kūpuna, we share a common mission of improving the quality of life for those we serve. This partnership beautifully demonstrates how we can work together to create a more inclusive and supportive community."

**Mahalo nui loa to Sierra and Easterseals Hawaii volunteers!** Their dedication and positive spirits are a beacon of hope and a testament to the power of volunteering.



## JOIN THE HUI

You're invited to join our meal delivery team as a volunteer! We welcome individuals, families, friends, coworkers, or church members with once a week availability between 9 AM and Noon. **Please call (808) 988-6747 or share your availability at [hmow.org/volunteer](https://hmow.org/volunteer).**



## Aloha Friends!

As we highlight the exceptional contributions of our Easterseals Hawaii volunteers, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to each of our 250 volunteers. They provide hundreds of homebound kūpuna with nourishing meals and build meaningful relationships, offering them a sense of belonging and care.

The overwhelming gratitude expressed by our clients underscores the vital role of our supporters and volunteers. Roy from Kaneohe shares:

"Meals are so helpful for people like me who cannot cook or stand for long periods of time. The volunteers who deliver are so friendly and kind. **Thank you for making a difference in my health!**"

Every kupuna deserves respect, care, and connection. Mahalo for your unwavering commitment to their well-being.

Michelle Cordero-Lee, CEO

## Join us in making a difference!

- Join the **Gold Plate Club** by making a monthly donation! \$45 will help provide one week of meals to a homebound kupuna.
- Become a volunteer on a holiday or deliver meals whenever your schedule allows.
- Participate in our annual Matching Challenge fundraiser!

Learn more at [hmow.org](http://hmow.org).

## A Beautiful Day on the Green With Par Hawaii

Mahalo to **Par Hawaii** for selecting Hawai'i Meals on Wheels as the beneficiary of their sixth annual Charity Golf Tournament on August 16. Thanks to the incredible support from all involved, we are overjoyed to share that more than \$25,000 was raised! This gift will provide nutritious, home-delivered meals for homebound kūpuna.

Mahalo to the generosity of sponsors, golfers, and volunteers, who came together for a beautiful day on the green!

Top photo from left to right: **Lillie Tekie**, Project Management Office Manager, Par Pacific, and Golf Tournament Chair; **Michelle Cordero-Lee**, CEO, Hawai'i Meals on Wheels; and **Marc Inouye**, Director of Government & Public Affairs, Par Hawaii.



# SKIP THE COOKING ON THANKSGIVING DAY AND DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!

Drive Thru-Pick Up at Hawaii Okinawa Center (Waipio)  
Thursday, November 28, 2024 between 9am-Noon

**HMoW Thanksgiving Meal Pack**  
prepared by A Catered Experience includes:

- 10-12 lbs Whole Turkey (Ready-to-eat!)
- 1 lb Cranberry Relish
- 4 lbs Real Mashed Potatoes
- 12 Sweet Dinner Rolls
- 4 lbs Poultry Gravy
- Napoleon's Bakery
- 3 lbs Stuffing
- Pumpkin Pie

**EACH \$250 MEAL PACK FEEDS 8**

**EACH MEAL PACK INCLUDES A SURPRISE GIFT BAG!**

CUT HERE

You're invited to participate in our **5th Annual Thanksgiving Meal Drive-Thru Fundraiser!** Our delicious meal packs include a ready-to-eat turkey with all the fixings. Just pop them in the microwave to reheat. **Be the first to order your feast before we're sold out!**

As part of this year's fall benefit, generous supporters, including **First Hawaiian Bank, Par Hawaii, the Pettus Foundation, The Queen's Health Systems, and UHA Health Insurance** have offered to match every gift you give by Thanksgiving, up to \$55,000! That means every \$1 you give will be matched to become \$2.



**Together we can raise \$100,000 to help more kūpuna!** Can we count on your support to help those like HMoW meal recipient Gene?

*"I am always grateful for the delicious meals. My wife takes care of me and she has a part time job. So Hawaii Meals on Wheels help me to eat during the day. I am very grateful. Mahalo for caring."*

- Gene, McCully

Visit [hmow.org/thanksgiving](http://hmow.org/thanksgiving) or mail the enclosed donation/order form. Orders must be received by Friday, November 15, and matching gift must be received by Thanksgiving.

For questions, please contact **Evelyn Fonseca** at (808) 784-2761 or [efonseca@hmow.org](mailto:efonseca@hmow.org).

Place your order online and double your impact today!



**MATCHING GIFT DEADLINE NOV 28 THANKSGIVING**

## MĀLAMA OUR KUPŪNA

A Thanksgiving Day Benefit for Hawai'i Meals on Wheels

# DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT GIFT FORM

**YES! I would like my gift to be matched!** Please complete the form and return in enclosed envelope.

### Contact Information

Organization/Individual \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### I do not want a Thanksgiving Meal Pack but would like my gift to be matched:

- \$35.00 to be matched to \$70.00 Feed one person for TWO weeks!
- \$75.00 to be matched to \$150.00 Feed an elderly couple for TWO weeks!
- \$150.00 to be matched to \$300.00 Feed one person for TWO weeks!
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ to be matched.

### Sponsorship commitments and meal pack orders must be received by Nov 15.

Quantity (Please specify number desired)	Tax Deductible Portion
Platinum Sponsor: _____ @ \$10,000 = _____	\$8,625 to be matched to \$17,250
Gold Sponsor: _____ @ \$7,500 = _____	\$6,675 to be matched to \$13,350
Silver Sponsor: _____ @ \$5,000 = _____	\$4,450 to be matched to \$8,900
Bronze Sponsor: _____ @ \$2,500 = _____	\$2,225 to be matched to \$4,450
8-person Meal Pack: _____ @ \$250 = _____	\$25.00/meal pack to be matched
<b>TOTAL</b> _____	

### Payment Method (Please check one)

- Check: Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_. Please make checks payable to: Hawai'i Meals on Wheels and mail to: P.O. Box 236099, Honolulu, HI 96823-3520
- Credit Card: You can make purchases or donate securely online at [hmow.org/thanksgiving](http://hmow.org/thanksgiving) or list your information below.

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_ CCV \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Hawai'i Meals on Wheels is a private, not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization. All financial contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent under the law. Acknowledgment letters will document the amount that is tax deductible.



# 2024 Sponsorship Levels and Benefits

## A Thanksgiving Day Benefit for Hawai'i Meals on Wheels

Hawai'i Okinawa Center • Thursday, November 28, 2024 • 9 AM – Noon

Your response by Friday, November 15, 2024 is appreciated. Mahalo!

Recognition and Benefits	Bronze \$2,500	Silver \$5,000	Gold \$7,500	Platinum \$10,000+
Opportunity to share company branded items to fundraiser participants on the event day				X
Year-round display of logo or name on event website	Name	Logo (Medium)	Logo (Large)	Logo with link to website
Logo or name prominently displayed in Hawai'i Meals on Wheels' eNews, before and after event	Name	Logo (Medium)	Logo (Large)	Logo with link to website
Pre-event and post-event acknowledgment on social media	X	X	X	Recognition with logo as top sponsor
Logo or name in a mahalo ad in Honolulu Star-Advertiser post-event	Name	Logo (Medium)	Logo (Large)	Logo (Large)
A Thanksgiving Meal Pack prepared by A Catered Experience includes: 10 -12 lbs Whole Turkey (Ready-to-eat!) 4 lbs Real Mashed Potatoes 4 lbs Poultry Gravy 3 lbs Stuffing 1 lb Cranberry Relish 12 Sweet Dinner Rolls Napoleon's Bakery Pumpkin Pie	One (1) A Catered Experience Thanksgiving Meal Pack	Two (2) A Catered Experience Thanksgiving Meal Packs	Three (3) A Catered Experience Thanksgiving Meal Packs	Five (5) A Catered Experience Thanksgiving Meal Packs

Each meal pack serves approx. 8 people. For questions, please contact Evelyn Fonseca at (808) 784-2761 or [efonseca@hmow.org](mailto:efonseca@hmow.org).

## 'Ohana Meal Pack Fundraiser Raises \$22,000 for Home-Delivered Meals

This summer, our 'Ohana Feast Pack Fundraiser raised more than \$22,000 to support homebound kūpuna! Thank you to those who purchased our Feast Packs full of delicious Hawaiian food prepared by Local 5 hotel chefs.

Special thanks to Board Member **Stacy Nakano** for her leadership and rallying volunteers from **Boy Scout Troop 42**, the **Beta Beta Gamma (BBG) Foundation**, and many longtime supporters, who helped with sign-waving and meal packing.

We are especially grateful to **James Hardway**, Executive Director at HARIETT, and Program Manager **Keith Nakano** for their unwavering support throughout the year. Mahalo also to the businesses that donated hundreds of pounds of meat and fresh produce our Feast Packs!



## A Lifeline in Crisis: Restoring Hope for Jewell

**Jewell** reached out in a state of emergency a few months ago. Her electricity had been shut off, leaving her unable to cook or refrigerate food.

Our **Social Services Team** visited Jewell at home the next day, and learned that despite limited mobility and multiple health conditions, Jewell could manage taking the bus to the grocery store. But without electricity, every meal was sandwiches. We immediately began delivering hot meals.



Facing a electric bill she could not pay, we connected Jewell to the Salvation Army and their Utility Bill Assistance program. Meal delivery volunteers checked in daily, while our team worked quickly to help her access additional services.

Within a week, she received financial assistance for her bill and electricity was restored soon after. Anticipating the arrival of her social security payment, Jewell called to let us know that she would no longer be needing meals.

She is incredibly grateful for the short-term emergency support. **Because of support from friends like you, kūpuna like Jewell can receive nutritious meals and care coordination across providers. Mahalo!**



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**DOUBLE your IMPACT!**  
As part of this year's Thanksgiving benefit, generous donors have offered to match every gift friends like you give – up to \$55,000. *Return the enclosed gift form by November 28.*



**Stay up to date on the latest HMoW news by joining our email list!**