Harold K.L. Castle Foundation gives $2.1M to environment, education programs

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The Harold K.L. Castle Foundation plans to give approximately $2.1 million to Hawaii organizations that work to improve public education and support marine conservation, including a $400,000 grant to The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii to support strategic planning, policy research and scientific monitoring of the marine environment.

"We are confident the grant to The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii is an investment in one of our core values as well as in sustaining nearshore fisheries for generations to come," Terry George, Harold K. L. Castle Foundation president and CEO, said in a statement.

The University of Hawaii Foundation for the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology will use a $360,000 grant for the Kaneohe Bay Moku o Loe, or Coconut Island, program for students in grades K-12.

"This grant will provide opportunities for students to actively engage in Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology research, explore career pathways and ensure Windward Oahu students graduate from high school with the value of malama aina, and the civic tools necessary to improve the area's natural resources," George added.

The Castle Foundation in December also awarded $267,627 to Chaminade University of Honolulu in partnership with the Pacific American Foundation, to launch the Castle Complex K-12 Engineering Pipeline Project that will focus on engineering and STEM education curricula for elementary, intermediate and high school students in Windward Oahu.

Hale Kipa was awarded $250,000 to assist in its consolidation of four leased sites into one permanent home in Ewa Beach, which will provide emergency shelter, caring foster homes, intensive residential therapy, outreach services, and educational programs for at-risk youth.

Hina Mauka received $200,000 which will cover the cost of 16 more residential at the intensive treatment center for chronic substance abuse.

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