March 16, 2020

Dear Grantees of the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation,

COVID-19 is on the minds of everyone these days. The impact on our families, communities, nonprofit organizations, schools, businesses, healthcare system, and government agencies is profound. On behalf of all our board and staff members, I wanted to reach out to you during these difficult times to share a couple of simple thoughts and to invite you to share your mana’o.

First, we're making good on our promises to you. If you have a current grant that still has payments due, we intend to make those to you on schedule. We know that cashflow might be tight for many of you, so we hope that this promise helps ease your concerns a bit.

Second, we can't feel your pain if you don't tell us what your pain points are. Can I ask that you share with us what the main COVID-19 impacts are for your organization and for the people and communities you serve? The Hawaii Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations (HANO) is surveying nonprofits to find out what's happening; we encourage you to fill out the survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HANOCOVID19. But if you'd like, feel free to contact us directly. That will help the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation know what the greatest needs are. That in turn will help us know how to deploy the limited resources at our disposal for the greatest impact.

For ocean resiliency grantees statewide, email Eric Co at eco@castlefoundation.org. For education grantees statewide, email Alex Harris at aharris@castlefoundation.org. For Windward Oahu grantees, email Georgi DeCosta at gdecosta@castlefoundation.org. For grantees that don’t fit in the categories above, email Alex Harris at aharris@castlefoundation.org.

Third, we will get through this the way Hawai‘i always has: by taking care of each other. Our communities have strong DNA to tap into. Our centuries-old tradition is to share what we have, to help those less fortunate, and to support each other. Stay strong, and stay in touch.

Finally, if you have any further thoughts, stories, or ideas to share, don’t hesitate to contact me at tgeorge@castlefoundation.org. Our office remains open through today, March 16, 2020. Through March 27, all scheduled meetings will be converted to virtual meetings. But we’d love to hear from you. Together, we’ll get through this!

Malama pono,

[Signature]

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