

Hawaii Association of the Blind Summary

Mission: To promote and support blind individuals in advocacy, orientation, mobility, and general daily living skills.

Category: Community support services

Contact: Roberta Tomas, Grant Writer

Address: 1550 Ainokoa Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96821

Grant History: 2022: \$25,000
2023: \$25,000
TOTAL GRANTS TO DATE: \$50,000

2024 Request: \$100,000 for adaptive aids and technology
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Notes:

- Provides college scholarships and supplies learning activities and equipment to grade schools.
- Parents and Youth Committee (PAY) works with advocacy on behalf of blind students to ensure their educational rights are met.
- Provides adaptive equipment and training to low-income blind individuals.
- Schools do not have enough BrailleNote computers. These are either braille or QWERTY keyboards with speech synthesizers to help vision impaired students complete their lessons.
- Provides expanded orientation and mobility skills training.
- Social activities and school excursions designed to meet needs of blind students.
- In 2021, served 83 of 502 Hawaiian blind youth. Wishes to expand this to meet needs of all blind students.

2023: 135 blind students served.

- Last year's grant applied to purchase Braille embosser and a reader ~ \$15,000. Purchased navigation canes. Sent representative to national conference to learn advocacy skills. Increased social activities and networking programs.

2024: Increased demand for adaptive aids and technology. Majority of clients are unemployed and not able to purchase for themselves.

- Airport navigation tools from curb to gate.
- Personal navigation training, canes, etc.
- Office rental.





Hawaii Association of the Blind (HAB)

1550 Ainakoa Avenue Honolulu, HI 96821

Date: 31, January 2024

To: Laurence H. Dorcy Hawaiian Foundation
81 East 7th Street, Suite 125,
St. Paul, MN 55101
Email: tammy@dorcyfdn.org

RE: Capital Campaign Grant Application

Dear Tammy Davis-Cownie, Administrator, and Board of Directors,

We are Hawaii Association of the Blind (HAB,) a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization based on the island of O'ahu. We support and assist the Blind throughout the state of Hawaii by promoting advocacy, independence, equality and opportunity for the Blind. Last year with the grant amount of \$25,000 provided by the Laurence H. Dorcy Hawaiian Foundation and \$86,880 from the Hawaii Foundation for the Blind, HAB's outreach efforts were able to serve 1.23% of 35,878 Blind, Visually Impaired and persons who suffer from vision loss in the State of Hawaii. Data collected as of October 2023 estimated reports of Blind, VI or Low Vision comes from the following resources, U. S. Census Bureau, Hawaii State Census Bureau, Department of Health Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DHS/DVR) and the Department of Education (DOE) respectively. The data also includes those who are institutionalized.

We would like to take a moment to truly thank you for your generous support of \$25,000 for fiscal year 2023 and that without your support HAB would not have been able to serve the 442 Blind and Visually Impaired statewide.

Here are some of the ways your grant has made a difference: promoting advocacy through Blind Awareness efforts.

Every year our organization host our Annual State Convention on the first weekend of March. We invite a guest speaker from our American Council of the Blind Affiliate to be our Keynote speaker. He or she will speak on key issues that affect the blind on a national level and we learn how we as a state affiliate can support these issues on the state level. We invite our Governor, congressman, senators, representatives and Mayor each year and if they are indisposed they often send a proclamation letter in support of our organization. We have key speakers such as the librarian from the Library for the Blind and Print Disabled, the director of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), the administrator of Ho'opono Blind Adjustment Services, the director or a representative from the Department of Education (DOE), Teachers for the Visually Impaired (TVI), and other agencies that support our advocacy efforts.



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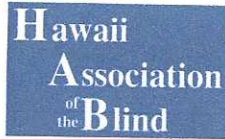
Since, our state convention HAB was invited to host a booth at the Active Senior Expo on June 9 & 10, 2023 and the Mayors craft fair on November 18, 2023. We also provided a Blind Awareness Training for sighted people to learn how to be a human guide to the Blind and how to descriptively show a blind person how to navigate through narrow passages, stairs, escalators and rough terrain. This Blind Awareness workshop helped to prepare our volunteers for our upcoming Blind Awareness Fundraiser that was held on October 7, 2023 where we invited the community and other groups who serve the Blind in Hawaii. It was a great way for the community at large to receive information about blindness and vision loss. HAB was able to give out helpful resources to the community and at the same time educate them about vision loss.

In July of this year HAB was able to send two new members of our organization to the American Council of the Blind (ACB) National Convention which was held in Schaumburg, Illinois. (ACB is the parent organization for which HAB is one of many affiliates nationwide.) These two new members learned about advocacy issues such as Audible Pedestrian Signals and how our state only has traffic signals that beep or crow. Audible Pedestrian Signals can verbally speak and let a Blind person know when it is safe to cross the street. These members learned how there are many challenges that Blind people face daily. Therefore our organization will continue advocating for the Blind.

Here are three areas of need that was supported by the grant we received from your organization and other funding resources that helped to promote independence, equality and opportunity to 442 Blind and Visually Impaired persons in the state of Hawaii.

The first is **technology aids and training**. We were able to provide a blind female with a Braille Embosser, Braille paper and the training needed to operate and use the embosser for her daily needs. This female has been blind since birth and is an active member in her church. She is a part of the music ministry and in order for her to learn a song it has to be accessible to her in Braille format. After receiving the technology and the training she wanted to express her gratitude to Dorcy Foundation and she said "It was an answer to my prayer when I received the technology and the training and I would like to thank the Laurence H. Dorcy Foundation and HAB because I would not have been able to afford to pay for this embosser since I live on a fixed income. I want both organizations to know that you will always be in my prayers. Mahalo Nui Loa, Jolene". This woman is one of many who can't afford technology aids and unfortunately she would not qualify for services from the Division of vocational Rehabilitation since she is not gainfully employed nor does she have an employment goal. So, therefore our organization strives to help people like Jolene maintain a level of independence.

Secondly, HAB launched its **Travel Program** which encompasses one-to-one orientation and mobility (O&M) assessment and training by a certified orientation and mobility instructor, our Holoholo Project that occurs twice a month at various stores and shopping malls, Mobility canes drive that provides a cane to a Blind or Visually Impaired person after they have completed their O&M assessment, and our STEAM Program that provides Blind and Visually impaired students the opportunity an avenue to learn about their environment outside of the



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classroom. STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math. It was adapted for blind students since they perceive the world around them by using their other 4 senses. So far through these programs we were able to serve 72 Blind and visually impaired students, and 370 Adults statewide.

Thirdly our organization is made up of Blind, Visually Impaired and sighted volunteers. We do not have a headquarters or office space and we depend on grants, donations and our fundraising efforts to pay for a space large enough to host our general meetings, and venues for our annual convention, Thnksmas and New Year's gathering. Our organization has grown from 23-75 members' state wide. At our monthly meetings we have about 45-50 members who attend in person and about 15-20 who attend via zoom. We thank you again for your generous support.

2024 request
①

In fiscal year 2024 we would like to apply for the Capital Campaign grant since we are beginning to serve more of the targeted population of Blind and visually impaired in our state. We are requesting the amount of \$100,000.00 to fund the following areas of need:

The first area of need is technology aids for the Blind and Visually Impaired. As we look towards 2024 we've noticed that technology and adaptive aids for the Blind is increasing and according to the data collected as of October 2023 only 2.5% of people who reported blindness or vision loss have part to full-time employment. As far as the number of working Blind in our state that number is 896 out of 35,878. Therefore the majority of this population can't afford to buy technology aids. Every year we have Blind applicants who contact our organization and request for a technology aid and training but unfortunately we can't provide all of them with the type of device due to the cost. We would like to help even with subsidizing some of the cost. Therefore if we are granted the Capital Campaign request our organization can put technology aids in the hands of more Blind individuals who most likely would not be able to afford to purchase the device on their own. Below is a Chart of adaptive aids and technology that HAB often receives a request for by a Blind or Visually Impaired resident of Hawaii.

Technology Aids Cost Sheet Updated January 1, 2024:

Technology	Cost
BrailleNote Touch Plus 32 Tablet and Note taker	\$5,795.00
BrailleNote Touch Plus 18 Tablet and Note taker	\$4,795.00
Brailliant Braille Display	\$3,695.00
Mantis Q40 Braille Display	\$2,695.00
Juliet 120 Braille Embosser	\$4,695.00
Romeo 60 Braille Embosser	\$3,695.00
Braille Labeler	\$1335.00
Perkins Electric Brailler-Braille Typewriter	\$998.99
Uni Manual Perkins Brailler-Braille Typewriter	\$795.99
Braille E Reader	\$2,995.00



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Braille Paper continuous feed-1000 CT	\$74.95
Victor Reader Stream 3-Audio Book reader	\$550.00
Enhanced Vision 15 Low Vision Magnifier	\$3195.00
PenFriend 3 Voice Labeling System	\$153.75
Mac Book Pro	\$1599.00
iPad Pro	\$799.00
Envision Glasses: Home edition Smart Glasses with titanium frame for Blind with AI and Blue tooth capabilities	\$2499.00
Envision Glasses: Pro edition Smart Glasses with titanium frame for Blind with AI and Blue tooth capabilities	\$3499.00
Technology Training 5 hours minimum at rate of \$150 per hour	\$750

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The next area of need is our travel program. HAB would like to expand our travel program to include the AIRA Project to help Blind travelers navigate through our airports. In order to make the airports in our island accessible for Blind travelers, we would have to raise \$10,000.00 per airport to become an AIRA free zone. Last year HAB was able to do this for the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport (Oahu), and as of July 1, 2023 blind Travelers who have smart phones can download the free AIRA App and use it to navigate from curbside to their departure gate and do the same when they return to Hawaii. The AIRA Program has also benefited our Blind Vendors who work at the airport. Our goal this year is to be able to make the following airports AIRA free zones.

1. Daniel K. Inouye International Airport (Oahu) - \$10,000.00
2. Kahului Airport (Maui) - \$10,000.00
3. Ellison Onizuka International Airport (Kona, Hawaii) - \$10,000.00
4. Hilo Airport (Hilo, Hawaii) - \$10,000.00
5. Lihue Airport (Kauai) - \$10,000.00

If HAB is able to get more grant opportunities we would like to continue with our travel programs such as:

1. Orientation and Mobility Assessment and Training
 - a. \$150.00 per hour minimum Assessment 3 hours with a Certified Mobility Instructor
 - b. \$150.00 Per hour for continuous training minimum 15 hours
2. Holoholo Program \$450.00 per instructor for 4-6 Blind participants
3. Walking Club Program focus on keeping active minimum 1 hour a week cost \$150.00 per instructor for 4-6 Blind participants
4. STEAM Program \$450.00 per instructor for 4-6 Blind participants
5. Mobility Canes and Tips
 - a. Standard Mobility Straight cane -\$60-\$80 price range due to inches
 - b. Red and White Folding Canes-\$75-\$90 price range due to # of folds and inches
 - c. Telescopic Canes-\$65-\$85 Price range due to # of joints and inches



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- d. Ceramic hook tips \$3.50
- e. Large Roller Ball Marshmallow tips \$3.50
- f. Small Roller Ball Marshmallow tips \$2.50
- g. Metal tips \$1.50
- h. Pencil tips \$1.50

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Lastly, our organization is seeking a permanent place to host our general monthly meetings but due to the cost of leasing a space large enough to accommodate our group since it has grown we have not yet succeeded in acquiring such a space. The market value for an office space for lease is approximately \$2500 a month not including utilities. So the cost was estimated at approximately \$42,000.00 year with utilities and insurance.

We would like to thank you in advance for your consideration of this Capital Campaign grant request of \$100,000.00.

Sincerely,
Roberta K. Tomas
HAB Grant Writer

EXTENDED TO MARCH 15, 2023

Form **990**

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No. 1545-0047

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

2021

Open to Public Inspection

Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.

Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

A For the 2021 calendar year, or tax year beginning MAY 1, 2021 and ending APR 30, 2022

B Check if applicable: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Address change <input type="checkbox"/> Name change <input type="checkbox"/> Initial return <input type="checkbox"/> Final return/terminated <input type="checkbox"/> Amended return <input type="checkbox"/> Application pending	C Name of organization		D Employer identification number
	HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND		99-6015046
	Doing business as		E Telephone number
	Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address)	Room/suite	8085216213
	47-598 AHUIMANU ROAD		G Gross receipts \$
City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code		85,701.	
KANEOHE, HI 96744		H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
F Name and address of principal officer: JODI ASATO		H(b) Are all subordinates included? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
47-598 AHUIMANU ROAD, KANEOHE, HI 96744		If "No," attach a list. See instructions	
I Tax-exempt status: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 501(c)(3) <input type="checkbox"/> 501(c) () (insert no.) <input type="checkbox"/> 4947(a)(1) or <input type="checkbox"/> 527			
J Website: WWW.ACB.ORG/HAWAII			
K Form of organization: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Trust <input type="checkbox"/> Association <input type="checkbox"/> Other			L Year of formation: 1967
			M State of legal domicile: HI

Part I Summary		Prior Year	Current Year
Activities & Governance	1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: TO PROMOTE THE GENERAL WELFARE OF THE BLIND AND SPONSOR VARIOUS ACTIVITIES RELATED THERETO		
	2 Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets.		
	3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	3	10
	4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	10
	5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2021 (Part V, line 2a)	5	0
	6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	35
	7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	0.
b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, Part I, line 11	7b	0.	
Revenue	8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	102,331.	78,445.
	9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	0.	0.
	10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	3.	3.
	11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	1,354.	-127.
	12 Total revenue - add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	103,688.	78,321.
Expenses	13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3)	51,325.	37,903.
	14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	0.	0.
	15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5-10)	0.	0.
	16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	0.	0.
	b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25)	0.	
	17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24e)	60,085.	25,649.
	18 Total expenses. Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	111,410.	63,552.
19 Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12	-7,722.	14,769.	
Net Assets or Fund Balances	20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	Beginning of Current Year 78,549.	End of Year 93,318.
	21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	0.	0.
	22 Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20	78,549.	93,318.

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here	Signature of officer		Date
	JODI ASATO, TREASURER		
Paid Preparer Use Only	Print/Type preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date
	ALAN E. KOBAYASHI	ALAN E. KOBAYASHI	03/13/23
	Firm's name	Firm's EIN	Check if self-employed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PTIN
	KDL CPAS LLC	85-1810423	P00370602
	Firm's address	Phone no.	
	745 FORT ST, STE 1415 HONOLULU, HI 96813	808-784-3757	

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions Yes No

Part VIII Statement of Revenue

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII

				(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	
				Total revenue	Related or exempt function revenue	Unrelated business revenue	Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512 - 514	
Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts	1 a	Federated campaigns	1a					
	b	Membership dues	1b	1,061.				
	c	Fundraising events	1c					
	d	Related organizations	1d	76,803.				
	e	Government grants (contributions)	1e					
	f	All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1f	581.				
	g	Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f	1g	\$				
	h	Total. Add lines 1a-1f			78,445.			
	Program Service Revenue	2 a		Business Code				
b								
c								
d								
e								
f		All other program service revenue						
g		Total. Add lines 2a-2f						
Other Revenue	3	Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)			3.		3.	
	4	Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds						
	5	Royalties						
	6 a	Gross rents	(i) Real	6a				
			(ii) Personal	6b				
				6c				
	d	Net rental income or (loss)						
	7 a	Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	7a				
			(ii) Other	7b				
				7c				
	d	Net gain or (loss)						
	8 a	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18		8a	7,253.			
				8b	7,380.			
c	Net income or (loss) from fundraising events			-127.		-127.		
9 a	Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19		9a					
			9b					
c	Net income or (loss) from gaming activities							
10 a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances		10a					
			10b					
c	Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory							
Miscellaneous Revenue	11 a		Business Code					
	b							
	c							
	d	All other revenue						
	e	Total. Add lines 11a-11d						
12	Total revenue. See instructions			78,321.	0.	0.	-124.	

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A).

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1 Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments. See Part IV, line 21	33,903.	33,903.		
2 Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22	4,000.	4,000.		
3 Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16				
4 Benefits paid to or for members				
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees				
6 Compensation not included above to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)				
7 Other salaries and wages				
8 Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)				
9 Other employee benefits				
10 Payroll taxes				
11 Fees for services (nonemployees):				
a Management	1,172.		1,172.	
b Legal	1,046.		1,046.	
c Accounting	7,257.		7,257.	
d Lobbying				
e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17				
f Investment management fees				
g Other. (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A), amount, list line 11g expenses on Sch O.)				
12 Advertising and promotion				
13 Office expenses	430.		430.	
14 Information technology				
15 Royalties				
16 Occupancy				
17 Travel				
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials				
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings	4,470.	4,470.		
20 Interest				
21 Payments to affiliates				
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization				
23 Insurance	1,344.		1,344.	
24 Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above. (List miscellaneous expenses on line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A), amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O.)				
a EQUIPMENT	4,112.		4,112.	
b WEBSITE	3,222.		3,222.	
c STORAGE	1,685.		1,685.	
d SUBSCRIPTIONS	357.		357.	
e All other expenses	554.		554.	
25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	63,552.	42,373.	21,179.	0.
26 Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation.				

Check here if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720)

Part X Balance Sheet

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part X

		(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
Assets	1	63,848.	1	78,614.
	2	12,754.	2	12,757.
	3		3	
	4		4	
	5		5	
	6		6	
	7		7	
	8		8	
	9		9	
	10a	19,716.		
	10b	17,769.	1,947.	10c 1,947.
	11			11
	12			12
	13			13
	14			14
	15			15
16		78,549.	16	93,318.
Liabilities	17		17	
	18		18	
	19		19	
	20		20	
	21		21	
	22		22	
	23		23	
	24		24	
	25		25	
	26		0.	26
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow FASB ASC 958, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27, 28, 32, and 33.			
	27		27	
	28		28	
	Organizations that do not follow FASB ASC 958, check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 29 through 33.			
	29	0.	29	0.
	30	0.	30	0.
	31	78,549.	31	93,318.
32	78,549.	32	93,318.	
33	78,549.	33	93,318.	