



September 15, 2023

Committee on Social Concerns Maui Wildfire Relief Update

In the few short weeks since we launched the Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund, we have raised over **\$400,000** as of 9/12/2023! Mahalo for your generous contributions as we support our Dharma friends and Maui residents affected by the devastating wildfires. The outpouring of aloha has been inspiring and healing for our community. We are grateful for your continued support as we help the members of Lahaina Hongwanji and others along the long road to recovery.

The Committee on Social Concerns has made the following donations from the funds collected to support relief efforts and individuals impacted by the wildfires. Omimai is an expression of caring and concern for those affected by this disaster.

Organizational Support

\$10,000	Hawaii People's Fund Maui Aloha
\$5,000	Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement Kāko'o Maui Fund
\$5,000	Maui Mutal Aid via Grants Central Station

Omimai

\$1,400	Rev. Ai Hironaka of Lahaina Hongwanji Mission
\$1,000	Rev. Gensho Hara of Lahaina Jodo Mission
\$1,000	Rev. Takayuki Meguro of Lahaina Shingon Mission

We have also processed \$2,000 Omimai for each member of Lahaina Hongwanji and other members of our Hawaii Kyodan Ohana who have been impacted by the wildfires totalling **\$210,000**. The Maui Wildfire Emergency Response Ad-Hoc Committee provided the list of recipients.

Immediate Emergency Relief

Through our Social Welfare Fund, we were able to immediately support relief efforts on Maui in the aftermath of the devastating wildfires, giving **\$28,000** to various organizations and affected individuals. Your generous support of our Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive ensures we have the ability to respond quickly when disasters strike.

\$10,000	Hawaii Community Foundation Maui Strong Fund
\$10,000	Maui Food Bank
\$5,000	Hawaii Red Cross
\$1,000	Makawao Hongwanji to support evacuees and first responders at local evacuation center with food and water.
\$1,000	Rev. Ai Hironaka of Lahaina Hongwanji Mission (Omicimai)



\$500
\$500

Rev. Gensho Hara of Lahaina Jodo Mission (Omimai)
Rev. Takayuki Meguro of Lahaina Shingon Mission (Omimai)

Support from Japan

The Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha, our headquarters in Kyoto, Japan, also generously made an initial contribution towards our relief efforts.

- 10,000,000 Yen for Hawaii Kyodan
- 1,000,000 Yen for the State of Hawaii

Honzan has also launched a fundraising campaign and are actively soliciting donations from those who reside in Japan. <https://www.hongwanji.or.jp/news/cat5/002152.html>

Monshu Kojun Ohtani, Urakata Lady Ruzumi Ohtani, Monshu Emeritus Koshin Ohtani, and Urakata Emeritus Lady Noriko Ohtani also sent messages of condolences and sympathies to Rev. Ai Hironaka and Lahaina Hongwanji members.

The Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha Buddhist Women's Federation of Japan provided financial aid to Hawaii Kyodan to be used by Rev. Ai Hironaka to purchase the necessary robes and supplies for his ministerial duties.

You can find additional updates on the Maui fire disaster from Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, including ways to donate, by using the shortcut link <http://honpahi.link/fire>.

Mahalo for your continued support! Your Dana is truly making a difference during this extraordinary time of need.

In Gassho,

Rev. Blayne Higa, Chair
Committee on Social Concerns

About HHMH Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund

- *If you'd like to help Lahaina Hongwanji families displaced by the wildfires and support relief efforts on Maui, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii has established the Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund with three convenient and secure ways to donate:*
 - *via PayPal* <https://hongwanjihawaii.com/donate/>
 - *via GoFundMe* <https://gofund.me/ff77a520>
 - *via Check payable to Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii with memo: Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief*
 - *Mail to: Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, 1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813*

Headquarters



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About the Maui Strong Fund

- *If you'd like to donate to support relief efforts on Maui today, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii recommends the Hawaii Community Foundation Maui Strong Fund—100% of your donation goes directly to grants awarded to on-the-ground relief efforts by local and national relief agencies on Maui. <https://www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/maui-strong>*