



# MALAMA KA'U FOUNDATION

## Bridging Hawai'i's Military Community and the Local People of Hawai'i

### Trusted Bridge

Malama Ka'u Foundation is a 501(c)(3) **Native Hawaiian Organization (NHO)** that serves as a trusted bridge between the U.S. military presence in Hawai'i and the local communities that host it. Guided by our NHO Board of Directors, we connect the defense mission to the island people who have long answered the nation's call — channeling federal opportunity back into our island economy and the Native Hawaiian families we serve.

### Why Our Bridge Is Credible

Our bridge is not theoretical. It rests on a Board with **70+ years** of combined active-duty military service, multiple combat deployments, and companies built — and sold — from the ground up:

- **Chaired by Mel Yokoyama**, a 10<sup>th</sup> generation Native Hawaiian and retired U.S. Navy captain (O-6): 28+ years in uniform, command of a Naval Aviation squadron and the Navy's largest Information Warfare center on the West Coast, with combat deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan and a decade flying operational missions throughout the Pacific theater. He's fluent in the Department of War's language, operational priorities, and combat-readiness needs.
- **Anchored by Vice Chairman Kauwilakalaokalani "K" Liufau**, born and raised in Hawaii and a lifelong resident from Wai'anae with deep family ties across the State and the broader Pacific. He is the driving force that holds every decision to one test: does it serve our local people and the generations to come?
- **Richard Chong, Executive Vice President** — a retired U.S. Air Force lieutenant colonel (O-5) and career space-operations officer, now executive director of the 15th Space Surveillance Squadron, the U.S. Space Force unit on Maui. Born and raised in Hawai'i with lineage going back generations, he pairs frontline space-domain expertise with island roots.
- **Jeff Schultz, Treasurer** — a retired U.S. Navy lieutenant commander (O-4) and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) special-operations veteran with multiple combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. Originally from Honolulu, Hawaii, keeps us grounded in what matters to the warfighter downrange, not behind a desk.
- **Alex Fielding, Director** — co-founder and CEO of Privateer Space, a Hawai'i-based space domain awareness company. A NASA, Apple, and Cisco engineer with a dozen-plus patents in robotics, machine learning, and AI, he extends our reach into the space, autonomy, and AI domains the joint force depends on.
- **Meredith Yokoyama-Cons, Secretary** — holds a master's in mental health counseling focused on Indigenous communities, with dual bachelor's degrees in biology and philosophy. She represents the next generation of Native Hawaiian leadership our NHO is building.

### What the Bridge Delivers: A Trusted Local Partner

For military and federal customers in Hawai'i, the Foundation offers something rare and valuable: a mission-capable partner that is **genuinely of the islands** — accountable to a real community, aligned with local values, and invested for the long term rather than the next quarter.

### Our Pledge

- Every dollar generated through our 8(a) businesses serves a mission larger than profit.
- The Foundation will mentor the next generation of Native Hawaiian-led organizations working alongside the military and federal mission — so a lack of resources is never the reason a good mission fails to launch.
- To the people of Hawaii: this bridge exists because of you, for you, and will always be accountable to you.