

Participant Position Description

Kupu 'Āina Corps Program

Position Details

Site Record: Site-ID-25-00003167

Position Title: KAC 2025-26-Clean Energy Wayfinder - Wildfire Prevention

Type of Position: 12 Month Full-time, up to 40 hours per week

Hours (may vary): Full-time, 40 hours per week. Typically Monday-Friday following the hours of the Hawaii State Energy Office or other hosting organizations. Wayfinders may be expected to attend community events or meetings in the evenings or on weekends, with hours adjusted accordingly.

Wayfinders will be expected to attend periodic training workshops on Oahu throughout the year, which will be organized and paid for through HSEO.

Responsibilities & Duties: The Clean Energy Wayfinders are community energy navigators who help Hawai'i residents, primarily in underserved and vulnerable communities, better understand and participate in Hawai'i's equitable renewable energy transition. Wayfinders work in the intersection of community, government, and the energy industry to build strong relationships and two-way communication channels, understand and facilitate discussions between different perspectives, and increase the accessibility of energy conversations. Many priority energy topics, including energy affordability and the importance of firm power generation, will need a new wave of trained professionals like the Wayfinders who can help bring people together to create better energy solutions. The Clean Energy Wayfinders will also support priority community energy discussions related to wildfire prevention and recovery.

Wayfinders will: share information with community members about clean energy topics to build foundational knowledge and equip community members to participate in energy planning and decision-making conversations; establish and maintain two-way communication channels between community members, HSEO, and other energy industry stakeholders; develop physical and digital educational materials about priority energy topics including the impact and role of energy infrastructure in wildfire prevention and

recovery; connect community members with programs and resources to help reduce energy consumption and improve energy efficiency in community activities and homes; perform energy conservation, efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation gap analyses or their focus communities; conduct community engagement strategic planning; support community-led energy initiatives; support the outreach and engagement for federally funded programs including efficiency rebate programs led by HSEO; connect students and community members with clean energy job opportunities; and recruit and recognize local small businesses for their sustainable practices through the Hawai'i Green Business Program.

The Clean Energy Wayfinders program is housed within HSEO's Jobs and Outreach Branch and supports HSEO's mission to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation to help achieve a resilient and affordable clean energy economy. The Clean Energy Wayfinders Coordinator will serve as the primary supervisor and will support the Wayfinders in all aspects of their roles and responsibilities including leading daily/weekly check-ins with individuals or the cohort, training and education, supporting community energy initiatives, statewide coordination of Wayfinders and their communities, and connecting Wayfinders with resources and experts within the energy industry or government. Wayfinders also work closely with local community organizations including a lead organization(s) that supports community coordination of energy discussions and planning.

Wayfinders will have the opportunity to support many ongoing priority energy programs and initiatives that are identified by their communities, HSEO, and/or their counties. Wayfinders can also develop and initiate their own projects which align with their skills, interests, and community priorities.

Host Site Environment: Wayfinders will spend most of their time in communities, in county energy offices, and the Hawai'i State Energy Office, and may also work remotely from their home. They may be in urban, suburban, or rural communities, and will not be expected to traverse rough terrain or stay outside in extreme weather. HSEO will seek to reimburse the Wayfinders or their travel expenses through this program.

Education Preferred: Associate's Degree or Trade School Diploma

Qualifications:

- Resident of Hawai'i with demonstrated understanding and preferably experience living or working in low-to-moderate income, ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) and vulnerable communities
- Demonstrates commitment to clean energy, equity, and climate justice in support of Hawai'i's communities
- Demonstrates excellent in-person and digital communications skills
- Strong active listening skills
- Strong analytical, organizational, and writing skills
- Ability to take initiative and share new ideas
- Some experience in clean energy, education, public outreach, social services, community organization, or related fields
- Has stable and consistent internet access to enable teleworking as needed, use video conference tools, and communicate through email in a timely, professional manner
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office applications including Teams, Outlook, Word, PowerPoint, and Excel
- Completion of the equivalent of an Associate's Degree from an accredited community college or commensurate experience
- Letters of recommendation including from a trusted community organization or community leader

Required to Camp: No

Indoor/Outdoor: Indoor