



UNIVERSITY of HAWAI'I®

KAPI'OLANI

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Huliamahi - Joining Together to Support Guided Pathways to Success

Principal Investigator: Nāwa'a Napoleon, Dean of Arts & Sciences

ANNH Title III Part F
Discretionary Grant Application
CFDA 84.031W

Strong communities of practice are the foundation of thriving schools and students. To this end, Kapi'olani Community College will foster a community of practice through two faculty cohorts selected to participate in collaborative academic and student support strategies. This two-year project will increase the capacity of instructional faculty, counselors and Native Hawaiian student support personnel working in a community of practice to improve Native Hawaiian re-enrollment, degree completion and transfer. This award will provide a boost to campus funding for professional development and technology worth nearly \$700,000 over the next two years.

Performance period: 24 months; 2 years
10/1/2019-9/30/2021
Federal Investment: \$688,041

Project Abstract

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The University of Hawaii – Kapiolani Community College (Kapiolani CC, the “College”) is the largest two-year institution in the Honolulu urban area, currently serving 6,899 students in spring 2019; of which 1,242 (18%) are Native Hawaiians. Native Hawaiian students have lower persistence (fall-to-fall), transfer and graduation rates in comparison with all students. The College’s project embodies the spirit of the campus to *hulimahi*, to “collaborate, join together in cooperation.” In support of the career exploration and lifelong development of Native Hawaiian students, this project is rooted in *huli* (to seek, investigate, and change) and *mahi* (strong and energetic).

Kapiolani CC’s project will directly benefit its growing population of Native Hawaiian students actively recruited through ongoing campus efforts from Hawaiian language immersion schools and other public high schools. Currently, 48 percent of whom are pursuing associate degrees in Liberal Arts (498), Natural Sciences (63) and Hawaiian Studies (32). CTE majors make up the second largest group with 19.6 percent of all Native Hawaiian Students (248). To this end, **Kapiolani Community College will directly address ANNH program guidelines through one project activity - “Strengthen Academic and Student Support Services within Guided Degree Pathways to improve Native Hawaiian student re-enrollment toward degree completion and transfer to a four-year campus.”** The project will provide highly structured pathways for students to advance from basic skills to an associate degree and/or transfer.

The activity will address institutional strategic planning goals and performance measures through one project objective: **to increase the capacity of instructional faculty, counselors and Native Hawaiian student support personnel working together in a community of practice, selecting 20 participants in year one and 20 participants in year two, to develop collaborative academic and student support strategies to improve Native Hawaiian re-enrollment, degree completion and transfer.**

This project addresses the Competitive Preference Priority through a project designed to establish a Community of Practice reinforced through ongoing professional development that will “address supporting instruction in personal financial literacy, knowledge of markets and economics, knowledge of higher education financing and repayment (e.g., college savings and student loans), or other skills aimed at building personal financial understanding and responsibility.” The College will improve student support services through professional development of current faculty, counselors, and staff to fortify its academic pathways, access to financial aid, career exploration and professional development for Native Hawaiian students. Ultimately, the College seeks to close and eliminate achievement gaps and better prepare Native Hawaiian students for productive persistence to transfer and career opportunities.