



“We elevate Hawaii’s construction industry and strengthen the foundation of our community.”

–GCA of Hawaii Mission Statement

We Give Our All

Last year, the General Contractors Association of Hawaii members gave their all to HUGS Hawaii, an especially compelling cause in these challenging times.

HUGS supports Hawaii families with a child up to age 21 who has been diagnosed with a life-threatening illness or disease. The nonprofit provides comprehensive, long-term support to each member of the child’s family.

GCA of Hawaii donated \$35,577 to HUGS Hawaii in 2021 as part of its “Give Back to the Community” program.



From left: 2019 GCA of Hawaii President Layne Machida and Healy Tibbitts Builders Co. President and AGC Governor Rick Heltzel participated in the dedication of the Marina Breezeway at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, a 2019 GCA construction donation project.

PHOTO COURTESY GCA OF HAWAII

“The GCA has found that the best way to have the most impact in the community is to focus our philanthropic support to one nonprofit organization each year,” says GCA of Hawaii Executive Director Cheryl Walthall. “This allows GCA members to rally around a singular cause each year and dedicate their time, energy and resources to a specific nonprofit organization.”

“Give Back to the Community” is making a big difference to HUGS. “The GCA of Hawaii’s generous donation has really impacted the lives of our HUGS children and families,” says Joan Naguwa, HUGS Hawaii executive director. “With your dona-



Joan Naguwa
HUGS Hawaii executive director.



GCA of Hawaii donated \$35,577 to HUGS Hawaii in 2021 as part of its “Give Back to the Community” program. From left: Cheryl Walthall, GCA of Hawaii executive director; Joan Naguwa, HUGS Hawaii executive director; Emmett Kinney, 2021 GCA of Hawaii president.
PHOTO COURTESY GCA OF HAWAII

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GCA Executive Director Cheryl Walthall and GCA board members presented a \$103,350 check to Child & Family Service President and CEO Karen Tan at the CFS Festival of Hope in Ewa Beach on Nov. 21, 2020. From left: Steve Baginski, Kaikor Construction Co. Inc. (GCA board member); Emmett Kinney, Healy Tibbitts Builders Inc. (GCA 2020 1st vice president); Karen Tan; Cheryl Walthall; and Lori Isara, Koga Engineering & Construction Inc. (GCA treasurer)
PHOTO COURTESY CHILD & FAMILY SERVICE

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GCA of Hawaii 2020 "Give Back to the Community." From left: Christine Terry, Child & Family Service East Hawaii Programs director; and 2020 GCA President Leslie Isemoto
 PHOTO COURTESY CHILD & FAMILY SERVICE

tion, we have been able to respond to the financial challenges of families by providing them with food baskets, diapers and connections to community resources they need, as well as providing them opportunities to build much-needed support networks with other families in similar situations. These help them to strengthen their resiliency throughout the many long emotional and financial challenges of life-threatening childhood illness."

This year, GCA's "Give Back to the Community" beneficiary will be the Institute of Human Services (IHS). "GCA presidents have the latitude to designate a nonprofit organization of their choice," Walthall says. Past beneficiaries include Child & Family Service in 2020 (\$103,350); Kaiser High School and Marine Corps Base Hawaii in 2019 (construction of "The Gathering Place" at Kaiser and the Marina Breezeway at MCBH); Carole Kai Charities-The Great Aloha Run and HomeAid Hawaii in 2018 (\$20,600); and IHS (\$31,250) and Kokua Hawaii Foundation (\$5,500) in 2017.

"The GCA's overall mission is to elevate Hawaii's construction industry and strengthen the foundation of our community," Walthall says. "We believe we accomplish this not only through built environments, but also by the way in which we support the community."

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