



## MKCF NEWSLETTER

June 2021

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Since MKCF was founded in 2016, we've contributed nearly \$500,000 of your money to Lanai community causes ranging from education and the arts to senior care and careers in healthcare. All this has taken careful vetting, knowledge of the Lanai culture and the social mores of our community. Occasionally we've been wrong but learned from our mistakes. And that's made the six board members better vetters and hence more impactful stewards of your contributions.

**One example:** MKCF provided a relatively small amount of money to the robotics club headed by the school's top science teacher for a trip to Maui and overnight accommodations for a half dozen students. We were duly thanked by Kapua Weinhouse for the students' learning opportunity but there was more.

It turns out that some kids on Lanai suffer from the remoteness of this island. Many are terribly shy and actually afraid to visit other islands, including even Maui next door, But this robotics competition was actually an exercise in cooperation. Teams from other islands visited our team to provide both advice and even physical extensions which improved the performance of Lanai's robots. The kids returned with much greater confidence...Next time, Honolulu ...or even beyond.

Another case: We were about to make a fairly sizeable contribution to our local Hospice. But careful vetting determined that the seniors and their families would rather keep their fading families at home, both because that was the local if unspoken culture and because they had real doubts on the quality of care at this facility. The vetting allowed us to redirect the money elsewhere.

Future Goals: In addition to the four areas of focus referred to in the first paragraph, we have identified 2 needs that we will be focusing on:

1) Teacher support at Lanai High & Elementary School, hopefully increasing retention.

2) Careers in hydroponics for students working part time at Sensei Farms. This won't be easy given the inherent complexities of these problems but we'll report our progress in the months ahead.

We hope you have found this update informative and inspiring, and that you will continue supporting us in 2021 in helping make our community a better place with a brighter future!

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### MKCF Board of Directors

Sally Clemens  
Stu Marlowe  
Dave Green

Teddy McDermott  
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