



PROGRAMS & ELIGIBILITY



MAUI ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS & ELIGIBILITY



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Reintegration Services

BEST (Being Empowered and Safe Together)



- **Overview:** Program offers support and increases opportunities for successful reintegration of previously incarcerated individuals while promoting public safety. Assistance may include substance abuse assessments and referral, tuition support, and financial assistance to help clients obtain a driver's license and other required identification. Work clothing, food, bus passes and personal hygiene items may be provided to support employment and stability.
- **Eligibility:** Incarcerated or previously incarcerated individuals must be an adult 18 years or older. No income requirements. Previously incarcerated individuals may seek assistance through walk-in/telephone request or agency referral. Case management begins immediately after the initial intake and eligibility has been determined. Individual Service Plans (ISP) are developed, implemented and maintained by the case manager. Ongoing timely follow-ups and reviews of the client's ISP ensures client actively working toward accomplishing goals.
- **Hours:** 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, excluding holidays.
- **Contact:** Call MEO Community Services at (808) 249-2970 or email cs@meoinc.org.

Women's Reintegration Program



- **Overview:** Program assists Maui County women within the first three years of release from incarceration. WRP addresses housing barriers and pays for program fees, and utility and security deposits, and offers rental subsidies for transitional, temporary, and permanent housing.
- **Eligibility:** There is no income guidelines. Incarcerated or previously incarcerated women must be an adult, 18 years or older. Previously incarcerated individuals may seek assistance through walk-in/telephone request or agency referral. Case management begins immediately after the initial intake and eligibility has been determined. Individual Service Plans (ISP) are developed, implemented and maintained by the case manager. Ongoing timely follow-ups and reviews of the client's ISP ensures client actively working toward accomplishing goals.
- **Hours:** 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, excluding holidays.
- **Contact:** Call MEO Community Services at (808) 249-2970 or email cs@meoinc.org.

MAUI ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS & ELIGIBILITY



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Employment Services for Low-Income Persons & Legal Permanent Residents



- **Overview:** Assists low-income persons and legal permanent residents on Maui and Moloka'i to improve employment possibilities by enhancing their employment skills and helping them to overcome language and culture barriers. The goal is to gain and maintain meaningful employment that will lead to self-sufficiency. Individuals exiting the program earn a living wage and have learned the skills, behaviors, and methods of obtaining and keeping gainful employment.
- **Eligibility:** Family household income at or below 200% the federal Poverty Guidelines for Hawaii. Individuals are required to provide information to verify eligibility. Formal assessment is performed, and the individual makes a job choice. Individual Employment Plan (IEP) is developed to determine participants' needs, skills, career/employment goals, barriers to employment, and specific individual and family support needed.
- **Hours:** 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, excluding holidays
- **Contact:** Call MEO Community Services at (808) 249-2970 or email cs@meoinc.org.

Enlace Hispano



- **Overview:** The program improves the quality of life for the Hispanic community and fosters opportunities for inter-cultural experiences with Maui's general population. The program's interpretation, translation, supportive services and case management reduce communication barriers between the growing Hispanic/Latino community and service providers with a goal of enhancing self-sufficiency, civic engagement, acculturation and the ability to navigate government and education systems.
- **Eligibility:** There are no income limits. Individuals may seek assistance through walk-in/telephone or agency referral. Case manager will conduct an assessment to identify and determine service needs. Individual Service Plans (ISP) are developed, implemented and maintained by the case manager. Timely follow-ups and reviews of the client's ISP are ongoing to ensure the client is actively working toward accomplishing their goals.
- **Hours:** 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, excluding holidays. Appointments recommended.
- **Contact:** Call MEO Community Services at (808) 249-2970 or email cs@meoinc.org.

MAUI ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS & ELIGIBILITY



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Planning & Coordinating Council (P&CC)



- **Overview:** P&CC assists senior clubs with recruitment and membership enrollment, advocacy, education and social activities and events. Program enhances the quality of life for seniors by helping them obtain knowledge, companionship, and better health. Senior coordinators help the clubs to get organized, elect officers, schedule guest speakers on topics critical to senior living, organize activities and excursions to improve their quality of life, and arrange transportation to meetings and events.
- **Eligibility:** Maui County residents 60 years and older. Seniors may contact the Senior Planning Coordinator for senior club opportunities.
- **Hours:** 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, excluding holidays. Appointments recommended.
- **Contact:** Call MEO Community Services at (808) 249-2970 or email cs@meoinc.org

Senior Discount Red Cards

- **Overview:** The Red Card program offers Maui County seniors, 60 years or older, discounts on food and merchandise to participating businesses.
- **Eligibility:** There are no income limits. Seniors 60 years and older residing in Maui County are eligible. Seniors may complete and submit an application to the Program Coordinator. Red Cards are distributed via mail to the applicant.
- **Hours:** 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, excluding holidays. Appointments recommended.
- **Contact:** Call MEO Community Services at (808) 249-2970 or email cs@meoinc.org.

Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP)



- **Overview:** SFMNP provides seniors with nutrition education and access to unprocessed locally grown produce. Participants receive \$50 in coupons to be redeemed with participating farmers, farmers' markets, or roadside stands for fruits, vegetables, herbs and honey. Program runs from April 1 to October 31.
- **Eligibility:** Maui Island residents, who are at least 60 years old and are at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level for Hawaii.
- **Contact:** Gay Sibonga, Chief Operating Officer, Call (808) 249-2990 or email gay.sibonga@meoinc.org.

MAUI ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS & ELIGIBILITY



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)



- **Overview:** SCSEP provides part-time employment training opportunities for low income seniors age 55 and older in non-profit organizations. Upon completion of the training period, Seniors are placed in full time or part time employment.
- **Eligibility:** Individuals must be 55 years or older and meet income eligibility of below 125% of the Federal Poverty level. Applicants must complete an intake, screening and background clearance and program orientation, which will potentially lead to an assignment to a host agency for work experience. Individual Employment Plans (IEP) are developed, implemented and maintained by the case manager. Timely follow-ups and reviews of the client's IEP ensure the client is actively working toward accomplishing their goals.
- **Hours:** 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, excluding holidays.
- **Contact:** Call MEO Community Services at (808) 249-2970 or email cs@meoinc.org.

Hawaii-Home Energy Assistance Program (H-HEAP) - Energy Crisis Intervention (ECI) & Energy Credits (EC)



- **Overview:** Two programs are offered through H-HEAP.
 - ECI offers financial assistance for households on the verge of utility termination or have been terminated within 60 days of the application.
 - EC offers annual energy credits to reduce energy burden for low-income households.
- **Eligibility:**
 - Individuals need to provide a current original (within 60 days of issuance) "Final Notice before Disconnection" (*for ECI only*).
 - Photo identification (for all household members 18 years and older).
 - Proof of residence.
 - Social Security verification.
 - Proof of income.

A case manager will determine eligibility. Individuals may seek assistance through walk-in/telephone or agency referral.

- **Hours:** 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, excluding holidays.
- **Contact:** Call MEO Community Services at (808) 249-2970 or email cs@meoinc.org.

MAUI ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS & ELIGIBILITY



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Rental Assistance Program (RAP)



- **Overview:** This program is a homelessness prevention initiative to help Maui County residents get into and sustain permanent housing. Rent subsidies at a declining schedule based on income and individual circumstances and rental and utility deposits offered. Payments are made directly to the landlord or utility company.
- **Eligibility:** Applicants need to provide a current rental agreement, have an income below 80% of the Median Family Income, have a stable income and be able to pay the required percentage of monthly rent and show that they will be self-sufficient when subsidies end after 6 months. A housing specialist will provide case management that includes a financial literacy component.
- **Hours:** 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, excluding holidays. Appointments recommended. (Program times may vary based upon program needs.)
- **Contact:** Call MEO Community Services at (808) 249-2970 or email cs@meoinc.org
- **Online Application:** <https://tinyurl.com/2s4j5rfw>.

Maui Relief TANF Program



- **Overview:** Provides rental/mortgage and security deposit; vehicle loan and down payment; utility payments; clothing and school supply allowance to families with dependent children who were impacted by the August 8, 2023, wildfires.
- **Eligibility:**
 - Family with a dependent child.
 - Individuals and couples without children.
 - Home or place of employment damaged or destroyed by the wildfires or lived and worked in the burn zone and were unable to return home or work due to the recovery efforts.
 - Household income of 350% or below of the federal poverty level.
- **To apply:** Online at www.meoinc.org (go to "Quick Links" and "Maui Relief TANF Program") or in-person at MEO, 99 Mahalani St., Wailuku, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., weekdays (excluding holidays).
- **Contact:** Ph. (808) 243-4404; Email nrst@meoinc.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICES / RURAL FOOD RELIEF

National Dislocated Worker Grant (NDWG)



- **Overview:** Provides up to 300 temporary jobs to help with cleanup of debris and recovery from the Maui wildfire disaster and/or provide humanitarian services, such as distribution of food and clothing. Jobs start at \$20 an hour.
- **Eligibility:**
 - Resident of Maui on August 8, 2023, and meets one of the following:
 - Temporarily or permanently laid off as a consequence of the Maui wildfires.
 - Dislocated workers who were laid off for other reasons.
 - Unemployed for four weeks.
 - Self-employed individuals who became unemployed or significantly underemployed as a result of the Maui wildfires.
- **To apply:** Online at www.meoinc.org (go to “Quick Links” and “Maui Disaster Recovery National Dislocated Worker Grant”) or in-person at MEO, 99 Mahalani St., Wailuku, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays (excluding holidays).
- **Contact:** Ph. (808) 243-4404; Email ndwg@meoinc.org.

Temporary Emergency Food Assistance (TFAP)



- **Overview:** Minimize food insecurity for individuals and families by providing USDA food commodities monthly on Moloka'i and Lana'i.
- **Eligibility:** Families must be within 150% of the poverty level based on State of Hawaii income guidelines. Income is self-declared.
- **Contact:** Ph. (808) 565-6665 Lana'i, (808) 553-3216 Moloka'i, (808) 248-8282

MAUI ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS & ELIGIBILITY



EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES

Head Start



- **Overview:** Head Start is a national program that promotes school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through education, health, nutrition, social and other services to eligible children and their families. MEO Head Start has sites on Maui and Moloka'i. Families participating are able to work or attend school or job training programs. Federal funds cover program activity until noon; County of Maui funds cover noon to closing and summer school.
- **Eligibility:**
 - Families with children turning 3 years of age by July 31 are eligible to apply.
 - Priority is generally given to children who are/will be 4 years old by July 31 of the enrollment year and meet the criteria.
 - Children who are 3 years old are selected based on space availability.
 - Families who meet Federal Head Start Income Eligibility Guidelines for Hawai'i,
 - Families of children who are in foster care or enrolled in the following programs: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Social Security Insurance (SSI) or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).
 - Families with unstable housing or have temporary access to shelter.
 - Families of children with certified or suspected special needs who meet income guidelines. Families of children who exceed income guidelines may be eligible if selected by the state Department of Education with certified special needs and approved by Head Start officials for placement.
 - Families over income eligibility guidelines still may be eligible; these applicants are put on a waitlist for selection after all poverty-level families are enrolled.
- **Hours:** 7:15 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday - Friday, excluding holidays. (Program times may vary based upon program needs.)
- **Contact:** Early Childhood Services, Ph. (808) 249-2988, Email ecs@meoinc.org.

Kahi Kamali'i Infant Toddler Center



- **Overview:** Quality early childhood services for children 12 months to 3 years of age. Qualified caregivers are assigned to the same children each day to promote continuity of care. Services are offered year round. Facility is located at the J. Walter Cameron Center in Wailuku. The County of Maui provides subsidies to keep costs affordable for income-eligible families, teen families, and for families with children receiving early intervention support through IMUA Family Services.
- **Eligibility:**
 - Children 12 months to 3 years of age.
- **Hours:** 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday - Friday, excluding holidays.
- **Contact:** Early Childhood Services, Ph. (808) 249-2988, Email ecs@meoinc.org.

MAUI ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS & ELIGIBILITY



TRANSPORTATION



Human Services Transportation

- **Overview:** Rides offered - by reservation only - without cost for specific purposes on Maui, including East Maui, Lana'i and Moloka'i. Goals include eliminating mobility barriers for low-income and disadvantaged individuals, persons with disabilities living outside the paratransit service area, seniors and youth. This specialized transportation improves quality of life, reduces barriers to employment and training and youth from engaging in risk-taking behavior - leading to economic stability.
- **Hours:** 4 a.m. - 10 p.m., Monday - Saturday.
- **Contact:** (808) 877-7651.
- **Specific Programs:**
 - **Senior Services.** Transports kupuna to activities and events at Kaunoa Senior Center and to senior club meetings, excursions and special events, such as the Kupuna Aloha Luncheon. Eligibility and times determined by Kaunoa Senior Services and MEO Planning & Coordinating Council staff.
 - **Nutrition Program.** Transports elderly and disabled clients from home or designated pickup sites to congregate dining sites throughout Maui County. Eligibility determined by Kaunoa Senior Services.
 - **Specialized Transportation.** Transports clients with special needs that include those who are chronically mentally ill, physically disabled, developmentally disabled, and economically disadvantaged to partner agency programs like Ka Lima O Maui, Arc of Maui, La'akea Village and Easter Seals. Eligibility determined by partner agencies.
 - **Employment Transportation.** Transports to places of employment and back adults who are at or below 125% of the Federal Poverty Level or those with special needs whose work times or locations are not serviced by the Maui Bus.
 - **Rural Shuttle.** To meet needs of outlying rural communities to areas primarily within the central corridor of the islands of Maui and Moloka'i, as well as within Hana, Lana'i City and the Upcountry area. Eligibility includes Maui County residents registered with MEO with a location accessible to buses.
 - **Youth Transportation.** Transports Maui County youth to public programs, such as paddling and regattas, and facility locations, such as youth centers. Eligibility includes registered youth between the ages of 5 and 18. Registration is completed through partner agencies.
 - **Ala Hou Transportation.** Transports disabled individuals who need accessible transportation in areas of Maui County not serviced by ADA Paratransit services. Participants need to have a physician or regulatory agency certify disability.
 - **Dialysis Treatment Transportation.** Provides non-emergency medical transportation for kidney dialysis patients in Maui County to and from treatment facilities for life-sustaining treatment. Participants need to be qualified by Liberty and Rainbow Dialysis Centers.

MAUI ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS & ELIGIBILITY



TRANSPORTATION / YOUTH SERVICES

Paratransit Transportation



- **Overview:** The Maui Bus paratransit service is a reservation, curb-to-curb service for persons with disabilities who are unable to use the regular fixed route Maui Bus service. The County of Maui Department of Transportation (MDOT) provides ADA paratransit service.
- **Service Area:** Paratransit service is available within corridors extending three-fourths of a mile on each side of each fixed Maui Bus route. The corridor includes a three-fourths of a mile radius at the ends of each fixed route.
- **Eligibility:** Individuals may qualify for paratransit service if they meet at least one of the following:
 - A person who is unable, because of a disability, to independently board, ride, and/or disembark from a lift- or ramp-equipped bus. This includes individuals who are unable to “navigate” the Maui Bus system without the assistance of another person. Examples of the inability to navigate include being unable to board or disembark a bus without assistance, to maintain balance while seated on a moving bus, to identify the correct bus or bus stop or to understand transfer directions needed to complete the trip.
 - A person who is able to use a lift- or ramp-equipped bus but needs to catch a bus without a lift or ramp.
 - A person with a disability who has a specific impairment that prevents them from traveling to or from a boarding or bus stop. Only a specific impairment-related condition, which prevents the individual from traveling to or from a bus stop, is a basis for eligibility under this category. A condition that causes difficulty but does not prohibit travel to a bus stop does not qualify.
- **Long-Term or Temporary Eligibility:** A person with a long-term or temporary disability will be eligible for service if the disability results in his/her functional inability to use the regular Maui Bus under the 3 conditions outlined above.
- **Contact:** (808) 877-7651.

Youth Services



- **Overview:** After-, out of school-, in-school youth development program with focus on life/career skills, leadership, and cultural awareness along with prevention education for youths on Maui and Moloka'i. Activities give youth skills to make the right decisions and empower them to control their own destiny.
- **Eligibility:** 6th to 12th grade students. Typically, participants are from low-income or high risk families; however, no student is turned away.
- **Hours:** 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m./Monday - Friday, excluding Holidays
- **Contact:** Dane Ka'ae, Youth Services Director; Ph. (808) 243-4315, e-mail dane.kaae@meoinc.org.

MAUI ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS & ELIGIBILITY



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER



MEO Business Development Center

- **Overview:** Offerings include:
 - Microenterprise financing and education
 - Technical assistance to those interested in starting, expanding, or purchasing a business.
 - The Core Four Business Planning Course offered on Maui, Lana'i, and Moloka'i throughout the year.
 - Teen and Adult Financial Literacy
 - Seminars for Maui County Business Resource Center on Credit Readiness, How to Obtain Business Loans, and Starting a Business.
 - Credit counseling.
- **Eligibility:**
 - Core Four, Financial Literacy and Credit Counseling open to the public.
 - For Microloans:
 - Sufficient experience in the particular field of business chosen.
 - Business must be located in Maui County.
 - Business must be judged viable with reasonable market potential.
 - Business may be run on a part-time basis.
 - Business owners may be a recipient of public assistance.
 - Collateral / Co-Signer: Although obtaining collateral for each microloan is not required, the Program makes every attempt to cover the loan amount with collateral which, in case of default, can be used to repay the loan. Loan may be subject to a co-signer to strengthen the applicant's loan.
- **Hours:** 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday, excluding holidays. (Program times may vary based upon program needs.)
- **Contact:** David Daly, Business Development Center Director; Ph. (808) 243-4318, email david.daly@meoinc.org.

Agape Lana'i Loan Fund

- **Overview:** Loans for Lana'i small businesses in the amount of up to \$30,000 with an interest rate of 5%.
- **Eligibility:**
 - Lanai residents of at least six (6) consecutive months.
 - Loan application: Credit report, written quotes on business use of loan proceeds.
- **Hours:** 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday, excluding holidays. (Program times may vary based upon program needs.)
- **Contact:** David Daly, Business Development Center Director; Ph. (808) 243-4318, email david.daly@meoinc.org.

MAUI ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS & ELIGIBILITY



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Agriculture Microgrants



- **Overview:** Maui, Moloka'i and Lana'i farms can access grants that will have a direct impact on increasing local produce, livestock, poultry and products by expanding the farm's capacity, productivity, name recognition and income.
- **Eligibility:**
 - Food producing farms and ranches throughout Maui County on less than an aggregate of 12 acres for farms and .
 - Possess a General Excise Tax license.
 - Preference given to socially disadvantaged farms, such as women and Native Hawaiians.
- **Hours:** 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday, excluding holidays. (Program times may vary based upon program needs.)
- **Contact:** David Daly, Business Development Center Director; Ph. (808) 243-4318, email david.daly@meoinc.org.

Maui Business Bridge Grants



- **Overview:** Provides grants to support Maui-based businesses directly or indirectly impacted by the August 8, 2023, Lahaina and Upcountry fires. MEO Business Development Center handling small businesses with gross annual incomes of up to \$300,000 for 2022. Grants range from \$1,000 to \$20,000 and may be used for:
 - Rent, lease payments or mortgage payments on new property secured as replacement for property destroyed or damaged during the August 8 2023, wildfires.
 - Utility deposits and bills for a new business location secured as a replacement for property destroyed or damaged during the August 8, 2023 wildfires.
 - Insurance premiums.
 - Inventory - Equipment, supplies and marketing.
- **Eligibility:**
 - Active registration license, established prior to August 1, 2023.
 - Primary business operating location on Maui as of July 31, 2023.
 - Active Hawaii General Excise Tax with registered business address on Maui.
 - Copy of recent Hawaii GET filing, dated within the period August 31, 2022, to July 31, 2023.
- **To apply.** Online at www.meoinc.org (go to "Quick Links" and "Maui Business Bridge Grants").
- **Hours:** 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday, excluding holidays. (Program times may vary based upon program needs.)
- **Contact:** Email info@mauibusinessbridgegrants.org.