

TO: Budget and Finance Committee
County of Maui

FROM: Yvonne Wright and Joe Swartz, MD
242 Kenolio Rd.
Kihei, HI 96753
4/11/22

Aloha:

We ask that you grant 18 lots in Central Maui to Na Hale O Maui for the purpose of building homes and making them available to low- and moderate-income households that have successfully completed the 4-Step program. NHOM homes remain truly affordable in perpetuity.

We both have our own businesses here in Maui serving people to help them return to health. We live in a lovely Kihei home that was made possible with the assistance of Maui's community land trust, Na Hale O Maui.

We were very fortunate to have been rescued by NHOM from the predominant Maui predicament of substandard, overpriced, inadequate housing. We had actually become homeless for several months before our NHOM home became available for us to move in. Our lease on our cottage expired and we were forced to leave with no place to go. We bounced from motels to friends' couches looking for a place to stay.

Our financial situation did not allow us to buy a home at typical island prices. We had tried all of the other affordable housing options and had come up empty.

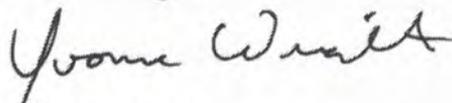
Needless to say, when we finally were able to move into our home on 12/12/12, we were thankful beyond words. This fortunate blessing could not have happened without grants from many sources, including the county.

Our NHOM home is affordable in perpetuity. It is such a relief to know that our children, grandchildren, and their children will always have a house to live in, no matter how high real estate prices skyrocket.

By granting the 18 lots in Central Maui, you will be making a big difference in the lives of 18 families who have been struggling to survive in inadequate housing. Please grant the lots to NHOM and give these families this opportunity to have a home of their own, just as was done for us.

Mahalo for your support of Na Hale O Maui,

Yvonne Wright



Joe Swartz, MD

