

BFED Committee

From: County Clerk
Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 7:58 AM
To: BFED Committee
Subject: Fw: Stem works: Lokelani

From: Stacey Pilarca <tibz732@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 6, 2026 7:50 PM
To: County Clerk <County.Clerk@mauicounty.us>
Cc: lalaine@medb.org <lalaine@medb.org>; Stacey Pilarca <tibz732@yahoo.com>
Subject: Stem works: Lokelani

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Hi there,

I am a parent from Lokelani intermediate and I have a child who goes to stem works after school and it being in the stem made him more developed his interests towards gaming, 3d printing, robotics, and also I believe by being in that org it helps him to be more disciplined, attentive and it also helps his social skills especially my son is not too sociable so these kind organization after school helps not only my child but as a parent cause I know my son likes to go to stem cause he enjoys what they do plus they have a very friendly, knowledge instructor Mr Sean Yannel and I do hope and wish that county of Maui will never stop supporting these kind of organization. It's really beneficial for the school , kids and parents these kind of after work activity, thank you .,

BFED Committee

From: County Clerk
Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 7:59 AM
To: BFED Committee
Subject: Fw: Written testimony for MEO - Core Four Program.
Attachments: DMattos. County of Maui. Budget Testimony for MEO. 4.06.2026 signed.pdf

From: David Kawika Mattos <alakaina.consultinghawaii@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 6, 2026 4:22 PM
To: County Clerk <County.Clerk@mauicounty.us>
Subject: Written testimony for MEO - Core Four Program.

You don't often get email from alakaina.consultinghawaii@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)
To whom it may concern:

Please accept my attached written testimony for the MEO - Core Four Program.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email me or call me at 808-281-6682.

Regards,

David "Kawika" Mattos
dba Alaka'ina Consulting Hawai'i, LLC

David "Kawika" Mattos
Dbā Alaka'ina Consulting Hawai'i, LLC
86C Pilikana Place
Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793

April 6, 2026

**RE: Testimony in Strong Support of the FY 2027 Budget – Office of Economic Development
(MEO Core Four – Small Business Planning Program)**

I am writing this personal testimony to urge the County of Maui to continue its vital funding and support for the MEO Core Four Small Business Planning Program.

While I serve the community professionally as a Program Supervisor at Maui Family Support Services (MFSS) leading the Kāne Connections Program, I am writing today as a grateful graduate and a recipient of a \$5,000 business planning award through the Core Four program.

In the past, I attempted several small business ventures but always felt I lacked a thorough business plan and the foundational knowledge of business structures. This gap in expertise kept me hesitant to move forward with new ideas. After completing the Core Four course in August 2025, that hesitation was replaced by confidence.

The curriculum, engaging class discussions, and the direct mentorship of David Daly, Director of the Business Development Center, made a profound difference in my strategic planning. David's experience provided me with a defined roadmap for the new business I am currently launching. I now feel fully prepared to step into this venture and continue contributing to our local community.

Small businesses are the heart of Maui's economy. Programs like Core Four ensure that local entrepreneurs have the solid foundation and the technical roadmap to succeed, rather than just an idea. I am deeply grateful for the knowledge I received, and I strongly hope the County of Maui will continue to invest in this program so other local residents can turn their visions into reality.

Thank you for your time and for your continued support of our local workforce.

Sincerely,



David "Kawika" Mattos
808-281-6682
Owner, Alaka'ina Consulting Hawai'i, LLC