

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nareit Hawaii Donating \$20,000 to Zonta Club of Kauai Christmas Fund

HONOLULU – Dec. 17, 2021 – Inspired by the dedication of Zonta Club of Kauai to help families in need during the holidays, Nareit Hawaii is donating \$20,000 to support its Christmas Fund program.

Nareit Hawaii's donation is the largest one received this year for the Christmas Fund, according to Cyndi Ayonon, Christmas Fund Chair and Treasurer for the Zonta Club of Kauai Foundation. Ayonon said the donation will help the nonprofit immensely in fulfilling the 500 applications for assistance that have been submitted by families and individuals on Kauai.

"We are honored to be the recipient of this generous gift knowing how much it will help make people's lives a bit more festive this holiday season, especially since so many families on Kauai are still being challenged by the impacts of the pandemic," said Ayonon. "Thank you Nareit Hawaii for investing in our island community for the less fortunate."

Nareit Hawaii Executive Director Gladys Quinto Marrone commented, "We share the ideals of what the Zonta Club of Kauai stands for and are so appreciative of everything being done to help those needing assistance. This donation to the Christmas Fund is proudly presented on behalf of REITs in Hawaii, as it is through their generosity that we are able to support Zonta's mission for the people of Kauai."

Ayonon noted Nareit Hawaii's donation is especially timely and uplifting to the Christmas Fund, as overall donations to this point have been light in 2021 compared to a year ago. "I'm hopeful our many philanthropic-minded residents will realize the impact of Nareit Hawaii's donation to our community and also contribute to the Christmas Fund as they have done so many times before," said Ayonon.

The Zonta Club of Kauai Foundation Christmas Fund, in partnership with The Garden Island newspaper, supports families and individuals of all ages on Kauai, providing nonprofit agency social workers with funding to fulfill essential needs for the disadvantaged, developmental and mentally challenged, and homeless during the holidays.

Nareit Hawaii represents the interests of REITs in Hawaii and their participation in civic, community, and policy initiatives to benefit residents statewide, while also supporting community and charitable organizations that address social issues of importance. REITs are long-term property holders that own, renovate and manage affordable housing projects, commercial buildings, medical facilities, shopping centers, cell phone towers, public storage facilities, and hotels in Hawaii.

In January 2020, the Nareit Foundation and Nareit Hawaii presented a \$120,000 grant to Kauai Habitat for Humanity to support the construction of a new, four-bedroom, two-bathroom home in Eleele for a low-income family. Next month, the Nareit Foundation and Nareit Hawaii are planning to present a grant to the Kauai Housing Development Corporation to support the building of a new affordable home in Lihue, the details of which will be announced at that time.

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