



Aloha HSTA-Retired Members,

We are all devastated by the news of our beloved and historic Lahaina town being devoured by fire and leaving in its wake devastation and despair. We feel so helpless and hopeless. What can we do? Of course, we must all ask ourselves that question individually. On behalf of our members, your Board of Directors asked that question as an organization.

We have reached out to our 31 Members with addresses in Lahaina. We have been able to communicate with 23 members.

- ❖ Eight have lost their home
- ❖ One lost their spouse
- ❖ One had no family to evacuate to and spent two nights in a car and two nights at a shelter before being placed in a home upcountry.
- ❖ Some have damage to their homes, but it is repairable.
- ❖ One evacuated to Oahu for dialysis

We also have members from Lāna`i who lost their medical providers in Lahaina and have to figure out the logistics of getting their needs met.

Many would take the ferry to Maui to do most of their shopping.

In upcountry 19 families also lost homes. We don't yet know if any were our members.

On August 15, 2023, our HSTA-Retired Board of directors made the unanimous decision to take the following actions:

- ✓ Sent \$10,000 to the Red Cross
- ✓ Sent \$10,000 to HSTA to assist with the Active Teacher Project
- ✓ Set up a disaster relief fund to which our members can contribute to help us assist our Retired members impacted by the disaster.

- ✓ Set aside \$20,000 for direct relief to our members (\$500)
- ✓ Set aside \$10,000 for our members to have seed money to help in the schools, including funding to members who volunteer in the schools for supplies or snacks.

Many of our members are asking how they can help.

\$ You can donate to our fund by mailing a check to
HSTA-Retired- Disaster Fund
1200 Ala Kapuna St.
Honolulu HI 96819-4651

(not tax deductible)

\$ You can donate to HSTA Maui Fire fund by going to the HSTA.Org website. They have crowding funding links for individual teachers who lost their home and/or classroom (not tax deductible)

\$ You can donate to [Home - Public Schools Of Hawaii Foundation \(pshf.org\)](http://pshf.org) to assist Maui Schools.

\$ You can check out various local churches and support their efforts.

If you have housing opportunities for retired teachers, please contact us.

We are glad we're in a position to help. We can't do it all, but we can all do something.

In Unity,

Jonathan Gillentine

HSTA-Retired President