



# MĀLAMA HONUUA CHARTER SCHOOL

December 11, 2017

Aloha:

Mālama Honua Public Charter School is a K-5 Native Hawaiian Focus public school of choice located in Waimānalo, on the island of Oahu. Our student population is over 70% Native Hawaiian and more than 50% of our students qualify for free and reduced lunch. Our mission is to prepare young students with the values, knowledge, and skills to be leaders in our islands and the world. MHPCS distinguishes itself with its commitment to excellence through Hawaiian place-based education. "Mālama honua" is a Hawaiian concept that means to care for our Island Earth. MHPCS is dedicated to indigenous cultural values that nourish goodness; in addition to helping students develop into wise, compassionate navigators of their learning, lives and 21st century global world.

We are excited and in full support of Sustain Hawai'i's new project 'Healthies'. Sustain Hawaii has been a partner in providing curriculum and expertise in health and well-being of our land and community since we opened our doors in 2014. In the current capacity, Sustain Hawaii has provided hands on learning opportunities at Palaka Moon Farm, their affiliated restaurant 'Ai Love Nalo, and has come into the classroom to provide lessons and experiences for our children to better understand and create more sustainable and healthy food systems. As a small school with limited staff and resources Sustain has allowed us to provide high quality science education to our children.

We are thrilled to explore options allowing us to better support our children, families, and Waimānalo community in living healthier and looking forward to our future with Sustain Hawai'i and the 'Healthies' program!

Mahalo nui,

Denise Y Espania  
School Director  
Mālama Honua Public Charter School