HO'ŌLA NĀ PUA

FOUNDERS' VISION FOR 2026

A NOTE FROM JESSICA R. MUÑOZ

Dear Friends of Hoʻōla Nā Pua and Pearl Haven,

As we step into 2026, I want to pause—together—and reflect on what has been built, what has been learned, and where we are being called next.

2025 was a year of alignment.

It was a year of bringing clarity to systems, leadership, programs, and purpose. Much of that work happened behind the scenes—strengthening infrastructure, refining operations, deepening accountability, and ensuring that Hoʻōla Nā Pua and Pearl Haven are positioned for long-term impact. It was not always visible work, but it was essential work.

Because of that alignment, youth were cared for with consistency and compassion. Teams showed up day after day to hold safety, structure, and hope. Community partners continued to walk alongside us. Donors and supporters remained faithful—believing in the mission even when the work was complex and demanding.

2025 IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

STARFISH MENTORING

- **3,752 mentorship hours**
- **39 new mentoring matches**

HOKU GROUP SERVICES

- **378 sessions**
- **Total Youth Served (Unduplicated): 1,389**
- **Total Youth Served (Duplicated): 3,288**

COCONUT WIRELESS

- **42 sessions**
- **Total Youth Served (Unduplicated): 28**
- **Total Youth Served (Duplicated): 270**

PREVENTION EDUCATION

- **4,970 hours spent teaching students, educators and community members** how to recognize and report exploitation.
- **78 sessions hosted**

PEARL HAVEN

- **27 youth served**

I am deeply grateful.

As we turn the page into a new year, the question before us is no longer simply what have we built? It ishow do we strengthen, sustain, and grow what has been entrusted to us?

That question led us to our **2026 Word of the Year:** *Cultivate*

To *cultivate* means to intentionally prepare, nurture, and strengthen something so it can grow and endure over time. *Cultivation* is active, patient, and relational. It honors what has already been planted, while recognizing that meaningful growth requires care, accountability, and shared responsibility.

Over the years, Ho'ōla Nā Pua has *cultivated* with faith, courage, and deep commitment—building safety, programs, and trust through countless relationships and acts of care. That faithful *cultivation* made this moment possible. In 2026, *Cultivate* reflects an intentional evolution in how we carry this work forward.

As our impact deepens and the complexity of the needs we serve becomes clearer, we are refining how we cultivate—across every interaction, every program, and every partnership. This includes shaping more intentional narratives around each young person's journey, strengthening how we measure long-term outcomes, and aligning our work toward lasting systems change and generational impact. This is not a departure from who we have been, but a deepening of it.

From the beginning, Ho'ōla Nā Pua has been guided by a call to **Shine the Light**—*to bring visibility to injustice, to awaken compassion, and to invite action.*

We continue to shine that light today. But as the work has matured, shining the light now also means illuminating what healing truly requires: depth, consistency, accountability, and sustained investment.

Cultivate is how we tend that light—so it does not flicker or fade but grows strong enough to carry forward into the next generation.

LOOKING AHEAD: *Cultivating the Future of Resilient Hope*

We have reached a new threshold. The foundation is strong. The data is clear.

And the need is undeniable.

Because of what has been cultivated over the past seventeen years—and strengthened through alignment in

2025—we now stand at a moment where the work expands beyond a singular place of healing into a movement of transformation, resilience, and replicable impact.

As we look toward 2026 and beyond, cultivation is guiding how we build responsibly, thoughtfully, and with care.

Our long-term vision is centered on four interconnected areas:

Cultivating **deeper healing at Pearl Haven.**

This includes continuing to strengthen our clinical and experiential model—expanding integrative and neurobiological therapies, deepening holistic and experiential programming that supports healing of body, mind, spirit, and emotion, and nurturing spiritual and emotional resilience for both youth and staff. It also includes building the physical space necessary to support this next level of care.

Cultivating a stronger bridge to adulthood.

Healing does not end when a young person leaves Pearl Haven—it evolves. We are cultivating pathways that support youth as they transition into adulthood through alumni connection, mentorship, and community-based support, so no young person walks forward alone.

Cultivating prevention and community education.

Transformation begins before harm occurs. As we shine the light outward, we are strengthening prevention education, community engagement, and demand reduction efforts—addressing exploitation at its roots through awareness, education, and collective action.

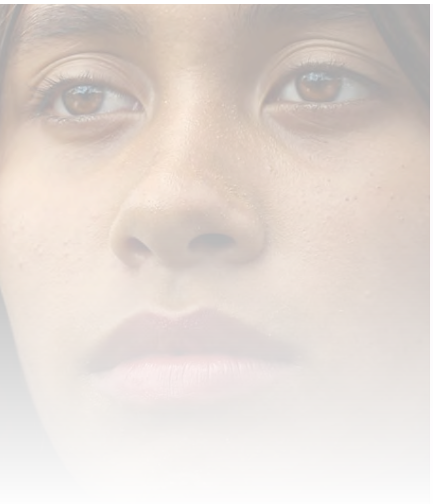
Cultivating a replicable model of healing and hope.

What began in Hawai'i carries lessons far beyond our islands. By strengthening data, training, and implementation frameworks, we are laying the groundwork to share what works—so more children, families, and communities can access trauma-informed, relationship-centered care wherever they live.

Every part of this vision begins and ends with one life at a time—*cultivated* with care, consistency, and hope.

At Ho'ōla Nā Pua, we do not believe healing happens in moments. It happens through years of intentional care, presence, and relationship.

I think of young people like Leilani, who arrived at Pearl Haven at thirteen—guarded, exhausted, and unsure if any place would truly last. She wasn't given a quick fix. She was given time. Time to build trust with consistent



staff. Time to engage in therapy at her own pace. Time to heal through experiential programs that helped her reconnect with her body, her voice, and her sense of safety. Over time, she began to sleep, to learn, to laugh, and to imagine a future again.

And as Leilani grew, another question emerged: How do we ensure that what has been *cultivated* here continues as she steps into the world?

That question sits at the heart of this next season.

Cultivate is an invitation—to our team, our board, our donors, and our community—to walk alongside young people not only through crisis, but through growth and into other seasons of their lives. To invest not only in programs, but in pathways. To strengthen relationships, deepen trust, and build the systems that allow healing to endure across years and generations.

As Founder, this word also reflects my own commitment to lead in a way that supports shared responsibility and long-term sustainability. This work has never belonged to one person. It has always been cultivated by many hearts and hands over time.

To those who have walked with us for years, thank you. To those considering deeper partnership, we invite you to grow with us. Together, we are *cultivating* something that endures—and keeping the light shining.

With gratitude and hope,

Jessica Munoz | Founder, MSN, APRN-RX, FNP-BC

> "*Cultivate* invites us to invest not just in what is needed today—but in what will endure for generations."
>
> *Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*
>
> — Galatians 6:9