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INPEACE’S KUKULUAO AND KA LAMA EDUCATION ACADEMY RECEIVES \$25,000 FROM THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Honolulu, Hawai‘i — The Institute for Native Pacific Education and Culture (INPEACE) is pleased to announce that its teacher recruitment, support and retention program, Kūkuluao and Ka Lama Education Academy (KKLEA), received a grant of \$25,000 from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

“Funding from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs will allow us to expand upon our work in the communities of Wai‘anae and Kapolei,” said Dr. Kanoë Nāone, INPEACE’s Chief Executive Officer. “INPEACE recruits community members to become teachers in schools on the Wai‘anae coast in order to stabilize the teacher turnover in schools in the area and act as an economic engine for that community,” she explained.

The award will be used to support the KKLEA program which is committed to improving academic outcomes and the well-being of Native Hawaiians by recruiting community members who want to attend college and become K-12 teachers. The grant will service individuals in the Wai‘anae community and also increase its reach to the Kapolei area which has a growing Native Hawaiian population.

The program supports individuals who are pursuing licensure, National Board Certification, and graduate degrees in the field of education through professional development and career counseling. This grass-roots, community-based program is free of charge due impart to the generous funding by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

“With the critical shortage of licensed teachers on the Wai‘anae Coast, and with a growing Native Hawaiian population in Kapolei, KKLEA is helping to provide stability in the Wai‘anae and Kapolei community, thereby leading to higher rates of school success,” Nāone concluded.

Participants of KKLEA benefit from the following services: assistance with applying to college, finding financial aid resources for higher education, and support throughout college coursework and assistance with gaining acceptance to a state-approved teacher education and certification program. For more information about KKLEA, visit www.inpeace-hawaii.org.

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INPEACE is dedicated to improving the quality of life for Native Hawaiians through community partnerships that provide educational opportunities and promote self-sufficiency. Our focus is in three areas: early childhood, higher education, and leadership development. We run family-child interaction learning programs, transition to kindergarten programs, and we hire and train community members to staff these programs. INPEACE also offers services to develop leadership within communities.