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## FARM-TO-SCHOOL PROJECT NETS DONATION FROM RESORT EMPLOYEES Mauna Kea Resort Donates Staff Sale Proceeds for Equipment Purchase

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**MAUNA KEA RESORT, HI** – Some gently used furniture, an eager group of employees looking for a bargain and together, you have the recipe for a generous donation.

Mauna Kea Resort recently concluded the sale of furniture that had been replaced in various areas of Mauna Kea Beach Hotel. One hundred percent of the money from that sale was donated to the nonprofit North Kohala Community Resource Center and earmarked for the Kohala complex Farm to School Project, which is among NKCRC's nearly 100 sponsored projects.

The amount, \$2,052, was just enough for Chef Greg Christian, president and founder of Beyond Green Sustainable Food Partners, who has been selected to work with Kohala Complex Cafeteria Manager Priscilla Galan and her staff to bring delicious local, fresh scratch-cooked food to students, to order a much-needed bread slicer.

"I was at my wits end as to how we were going to purchase needed equipment and then Mauna Kea Resort stepped forward and made a difference," Christian said. "Sarah Pule, the lead baker in the Kohala cafeteria, is currently hand slicing more than 1,000 pieces of bread each week. She is so excited about the new, time-saving slicer!" Christian's goal through the project is to replace packaged and processed foods, as much as possible, with scratch-cooked local foods at the Kohala Schools Complex, a pilot site for the statewide initiative. A milk dispenser remains on the list of much-needed equipment.

"I would like to thank Mauna Kea Resort and its employees for its generous donation to the Kohala Complex cafeteria, which will go towards purchasing some small kitchen equipment. This will undoubtedly help the kitchen staff as they prepare meals to meet the objectives of the Hawaii Farm to School Initiative's Pilot Project," said Lt. Governor Shan Tsutsui., who is spearheading the Hawaii Farm to School Initiative's Pilot Project in collaboration with the Hawaii State Department of Education, Department of Agriculture and The Kohala Center. "Mauna Kea Resort's interest in lending a hand to Mauna Kea Resort Farm to School Donation Page 2

the Kohala Complex is a prime example of how public-private partnerships can work together to positively benefit our children and schools."

## About Hawaii Farm to School Project

Spearheaded by Lt. Governor Shan Tsutsui, the Hawaii State Department of Education (HIDOE), the Hawaii Department of Agriculture and The Kohala Center are working collaboratively on the Farm to School Initiative. Across the nation, farm to school programs are reconnecting students to a better understanding of the food system and where their food comes from. Farm to school programs introduce students to healthier eating habits and help them become familiar with new vegetables and fruits that they and their families will then be more willing to incorporate into their own diets. Learn more at <a href="http://ltgov.hawaii.gov/farm-to-school-initiative/">http://ltgov.hawaii.gov/farm-to-school-initiative/</a>.

## About Prince Resorts Hawaii

Prince Resorts Hawaii Inc., operates three luxury hotels and golf courses on two of the Hawaiian Islands: The newly renovated Prince Waikiki on the Island of Oahu, and on the Island of Hawaii, Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel and Golf Course and Mauna Kea Beach Hotel and Golf Course at Mauna Kea Resort on the Kohala Coast. Prince Resorts Hawaii is unique in offering all oceanfront locations along with championship golf courses, gracious island hospitality and award-winning cuisine. For more information, call 1-866-PRINCE6 (866-774-6236) or visit <u>PrinceResortsHawaii.com</u>.

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