

# FoodCorps Hawai'i Service Site Descriptions

Below you will find detailed descriptions of all of the service sites located in this state. Each description includes details about the community where the service site is based, the overall work and mission of the organization, and what an incoming servicemember can expect to do on a day-to-day basis at this site. We hope this document will help you to best determine where you are most interested in serving!

Please note that this is a list of FoodCorps service sites in the 2018-19 and is likely to change for the 2019-2020 service term. Some of the sites listed here may no longer host service members next year, and new sites may come on board

**While some service sites do not require a car for service, FoodCorps strongly recommends a car for commuting and living on the island.**

# Holualoa Elementary

## Holualoa

### **Community Description**

The Holualoa community is located on the slopes of Mt. Hualalai above the city of Kailua-Kona. Our community is comprised of coffee and other farms, art galleries, small stores and eateries. The community is a narrow strip of approximately 5-6 miles that exist along the Old Mamalahoa Highway which used to be the main road of travel on the West side of the island. The ethnic makeup of the community has shifted from primarily Japanese-Americans and Hawaiians to Caucasians, part-Hawaiian, Mexican nationals, and some Japanese American families. The school's population reflects the economic situation of the community's residents in that at our school over half of our students are on free/reduced lunch due to life below the poverty line while others come from parents who can afford to own homes in one of the most beautiful parts of Hawaii.

### **Organization Description**

We are a K-5 elementary school of approximately 475 students. Our Vision and Mission is "To Strive for Excellence through...Educating the whole child, A rigorous Standards Based Education, and Creating ethical Global citizens. Over the past few years, we have created and maintained a fledgling garden program created by students, staff, parents and the community. We have used the garden as a place for learning about plants, Hawaiian culture, and what it means to be part of a community.

### **Service Activities Description**

The service member will be serving Holualoa Elementary School. It is our belief that the service member will be creating a healthier school food environment through nutritional, agricultural, science, math and health education of students, staff, and community in the form of daily educational pieces, showcases, community events/initiatives, and outreach. Our plan is for the service member to become part of the larger school community and participate in educating around sustainability.

### **Skills, Interest, Knowledge Preferences**

Communication skills, knowledge of health/healthy diet, community outreach, how to educate others about nutrition, food sustainability, and connections to STEM and environmental education.

**Helpful Languages:** Spanish

**Service Members Need Car?** Helpful

## Honoka'a Elementary School

### Honoka'a

#### Community Description

The school is located in an area with a rich agricultural history and a climate that supports myriad plant species. The Hamakua Coast of Hawaii was home to some of the largest and most prosperous sugar cane operations in the state. The current community still has close ties and traditions to the sugar cane days (which began closing in the early 1990s), ranching, and hunting. This small community still celebrates its agricultural past and present with parades, farmer's markets, and support of local farmers.

A large percentage of our students' families work in the hotels of the North Kona coast, which is approximately an hour minimum commute (one way). Community members also work on local farms and ranches; at the elementary, intermediate, and high schools; at local businesses in the community; and in Hilo and Waimea (two of the closest cities). The largest immigration population is Filipinos who often work in the hotels and in agricultural. Our English language learner population continues to grow as we see more and more students coming in from the Philippines.

#### Organization Description

Honoka'a Elementary School (HES) services students from pre-K through the sixth grade. Approximately 400 students attend HES. There are, currently, one pre-k class; three kindergarten, first, and second grade classes; and two third, fourth, fifth, and sixth grade

classes. The campus is located in the middle of Honoka'a town and is adjacent to the intermediate and high school. HES students feed into Honoka'a Intermediate and High School.

The school has three different playground areas, two existing garden spaces, and a cafeteria that it shares with the adjacent intermediate and high school.

### **Service Activities Description**

The only school that the service member will be serving is Honoka'a Elementary School. To help create a healthier school food environment, the service member will be assisting the school with several small initiatives. First, helping classes and teachers in existing gardens with advice in planting and developing a school-wide garden program. Secondly, finding small areas on campus where students can participate in garden activities. Assisting teachers and administration with revamping/enforcing healthy snack rules. Assisting the school with the dissemination of knowledge and produce related to the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program. Lastly, the service member can help in organizing local gardening events (that the school has already established) such as farmer's markets and community cleanups.

### **Skills, Interest, Knowledge Preferences**

Foremost we would like a service member who is passionate; passionate people tend to find their way even in new experiences. Secondly, someone who embodies empathy will be beneficial to our school's positive behavior intervention system. Obviously, we would also be looking for someone with gardening skills and preferably experience working with children.

**Service Members Need Car?** Not necessary

# Ke Kula o Ehunuikaimalino

## Kealakekua

### **Community Description**

The student population is roughly 90% native Hawaiian. We are seeking to improve the dietary habits of our community, connecting them to the 'āina, and reconnecting them to their identity.

### **Organization Description**

Ehunuikaimalino is a public (not charter) K-12 Hawaiian language immersion school located in South Kona, Hawai'i. We have about 200 students and 35 staff. The student population is roughly 90% native Hawaiian. The nu'ukia (vision) and purpose of 'Ehunui is to educate the students of the Kona area through the medium of the Hawaiian language and surrounded by the Hawaiian culture preparing them to flourish in our community and beyond. We are moving toward project- and place-based learning.

### **Service Activities Description**

The service member will be helping the students learn about native Hawaiian plants, sustainable living, mālama 'āina (caring for the land), and making healthy choices. The native Hawaiian population has a high amount of chronic illnesses and the service member will be able to help the school align practices to wellness policies.

### **Skills, Interest, Knowledge Preferences**

Knowledge of the Hawaiian plants, culture and language. If not proficient, an interest in or desire to become proficient in the language is necessary. A background in working with native plants.

**Helpful Languages:** Hawaiian

**Service Members Need Car?** Helpful

# Kea'au Elementary School

## Keaau

### Community Description

Our community is quite financially impoverished but rich in social connections. Most of our teachers live outside of our community.

### Organization Description

We are a pre k thru grade 5 public school. We have been at our current site since 1999. We have over 150 staff members and over 905 students.

### Service Activities Description

Kea'au Elementary School - the service member will help build a herb garden and lo'i. S/he will also deliver wellness and garden curriculum and be a key resource for our Wellness Cmte. S/he will help us build community partnerships to help our school and community.

### Skills, Interest, Knowledge Preferences

Knowledge of Hawaiian culture and language a plus.

**Helpful Languages:** Hawaiian

**Service Members Need Car?** Helpful

# Kealakehe Elementary

## Kailua-Kona

### Community Description

Our community is made up of families - 75% who are receiving free or reduced meal help. It is located on the Ahupua'a of Kealakehe. In its area are a middle school and high school.

## **Organization Description**

Our organization info

- 1100 students

- 80 teachers

- Mission is to educate the whole child and our vision is to ensure our keiki are responsible, critical thinkers and problem solvers for a global world

- Purpose for this Food Corps project is to better serve our keiki learning through project based and problem based learning

## **Service Activities Description**

The service member will be servicing Kelakehe Elementary School. The service member will serve with a group of teachers and part time teachers to deliver lessons based on science standards to our keiki. The service member will engage the larger community by serving with other school leaders to deliver informational workshops for parents and keiki. The service member will also serve on the school's Wellness Committee and support our efforts to become Blue Zones Project certified.

## **Skills, Interest, Knowledge Preferences**

Our service member should be an adaptable, eager learner who loves engaging with students.

Our service member should be willing to discover and implement innovative ideas that promote critical thinking skills, healthy living, and collaboration.

**Helpful Languages:** Marshallese or Kosraen

**Service Members Need Car?** Not necessary

# Kohala Elementary

## Kapaau

### **Community Description**

Kohala is a beautiful, country town where people still maintain rural lifestyles yet strive to succeed in the 21st century. Tourism and agriculture are the primary sources of income for the local people. Public education plays a huge role in the community, as nearly all of Kohala's children attend one of the three schools (elementary, middle, high). The mountains and ocean dominate this beautiful landscape, and outdoor activities are mandatory. Country still exists here in Kohala, yet the people seek a sustainable future through proper health, nutrition, and medical care. Music and art thrive in Kohala.

### **Organization Description**

Kohala Elementary School serves approximately 350 students in grades K-5. The mission of Kohala Elementary is to provide an education for each student by implementing the Common Core State Standards with support from the school, the family, and the community. Our vision is that all students at Kohala Elementary School will be empowered to reach their full potential. We have a 2-acre Discovery Garden and outdoor classroom that serves as both a learning space and a source of food for our students and families.

### **Service Activities Description**

The Service Member will spend their time working with Kohala Elementary School and engaging the local community of North Kohala. This is the only public elementary school in the area, and community engagement is extremely important. The service member will engage the local community by hosting monthly garden workdays encouraging the students to bring their families to the garden, a summer fundraiser to help raise the appropriate funds to keep the program running, and constant outreach to community members for field trips, guest lessons, and general support.

### **Skills, Interest, Knowledge Preferences**

A positive attitude is very important. The service member will be working closely with all 352 students (K-5 grade), community members, and faculty at Kohala Elementary School. Good personal skills, networking, and a strong work ethic is necessary. Additional skills that we are



looking for, but are not limited to, include: classroom management, hand-on learning experience, Hawaiian plants and gardening, nutrition and/or cooking with kids experience.

**Service Members Need Car?** Not necessary

## **Mountain View Elementary School**

### **Mountain View**

#### **Community Description**

The Mountain View area is known for high rainfall and cooler temperatures. Our community is rural and demographically diverse. We have a high rate of poverty and homelessness; however, community is self sufficient, and contains a multitude of small businesses and farms. We have many people who have moved to our community for the low cost of land and property taxes. The community consists of 27 subdivisions that extend from Kurtistown to Volcano. We have an extensive multicultural population with about 50% being of Hawaiian ancestry.

#### **Organization Description**

Mountain View Elementary School (MVES) is a Preschool-Grade 5 school, located in the rural community of Mountain View on the island of Hawai'i. The school services 22 subdivisions that extend from Hawaiian Acres to Volcano Village. Over 97% of students ride the bus or are driven to school. The school continues to serve a multicultural student population (approximately 53% of Hawaiian/Part Hawaiian ancestry) and takes pride in the integration traditional academics with culture-based learning. The majority of students (94%) qualify for free and reduced lunch with an average enrollment of 556 students. The school participated in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program during the 2015- 2016 school year, which provided free meals and allowed for free bus transportation for all students. This program will continue for the next three school years.

#### **Service Activities Description**

The service member will be servicing Mountain View Elementary School solely. They will support our efforts in creating a school garden. The service member will support teaching and developing lessons and activities around using the school gardens and products of the school garden in science, culture based education, technology, health, math, economics etc. They will work directly with our school cafeteria to help implement healthy breakfast and lunch options and utilize our gardens in this efforts. The ultimate goal for our school is to become a Farm to

Table school and the service member chosen will help our school in this movement towards connecting culture, health, well being and sense of place.

### **Skills, Interest, Knowledge Preferences**

The FoodCorps service member will need to be able to integrate garden curriculum in to the youngest to the oldest members of our school. They will need to be able to work alongside students as well as teachers. Service members will need to be organized and able to collect and report on data summaries of the success of the gardens and effects on our school and community. They will need to be able to knowledgeable in all aspects of gardening from pest management to sustainability.

**Service Members Need Car?** Not necessary

## **Paauilo Elementary and Intermediate Paauilo**

### **Community Description**

Pa'auilo Elementary and Intermediate School is located on the Hamakua coast on the island of Hawaii, approximately thirty-five miles north of Hilo. The school has been at its present site since 1948, and its school district includes Kuka'iau, Pa'auilo, Ka'apahu, Pohakea, and Kalopa. Many students come from families who were once associated with Hamakua Sugar Plantation that closed in 1993. Since the closing of the plantation, the residential areas that were once plantation owned and operated are now mostly owned by the residents. Other residential areas are spread out in a rural pattern toward the sea below the main road and toward Mauna Kea above the main road, Mamalahoa Highway that bisects the community. Most of the commercial activity supporting the communities is located in Honoka'a, six miles north of Pa'auilo.

### **Organization Description**

Pa'auilo Elementary and Intermediate School (PEIS) is the last remaining kindergarten through ninth grade school in the State of Hawaii Department of Education (DOE) system. The school is part of the Honoka'a complex, which includes Waimea Elementary, Honoka'a Elementary, and Honoka'a High and Intermediate School. Additionally, PEIS is part of the West Hawaii Complex Area, under the direction of Arthur Souza, Complex Area Superintendent. The school's current enrollment is 201 students, with an average class size of 24.

### **Service Activities Description**

The service member serving Pa'auilo School will support the creation of a healthier school food environment by collaborating with teachers to implement garden and nutrition lessons in their classrooms, hosting family cooking nights, encouraging students to taste nutritious foods, and assessing the progress of these activities with the healthy school toolkit. Our service member will need to work with community members like the Boy Scouts, local cultural groups like Hui Mau, and regional farms like Big Buddha Farms and Mother Nature's Miracle to organize class visitors, events, and field trips that expose students to real people working in food production and nutrition.

### **Skills, Interest, Knowledge Preferences**

We need a service member who is especially interested in gardening and worms. He or she would hopefully be comfortable and experienced with teaching and classroom management through positive behavior support. The service member should be eager to engage with community partners and an effective communicator who can create buy-in and find and explain mutual benefits for all stakeholders. We would like our service member to be enthusiastic about incorporating Hawaiian cultural practices and learning to deliver Hawaii specific lessons along with more general content.

**Service Members Need Car?** Required

## **Waimea Elementary**

### **Kamuela**

#### **Community Description**

The area's average income is about 4% higher than the state average, although family incomes at WES lag significantly with 75% of children qualifying for free or reduced meals. The diverse student population has remained relatively stable with a significant number of Pacific Islanders and Native Hawaiians (Native Hawaiian 45%, Pacific Island 13%, Filipinos 12%).

Waimea Elementary School has a 13% ELL and 10% Special Education population. Both subgroups face academic challenges and require additional support.

### **Organization Description**

Founded in 1916, Waimea School was a one-building schoolhouse containing eight classrooms. Today, Waimea Elementary School (WES) has approximately 558 students from preschool through grade five. WES is the only public school serving the rural community of Waimea, also known as Kamuela. The community is also a diverse mix including farming, ranching, professional retail, service industry and tourism. Other educational options in the area include three independent schools, another public charter school, and home schooling options.

### **Service Activities Description**

Service Site is Waimea Elementary School

### **Skills, Interest, Knowledge Preferences**

Member must be able to build relationships with all school stakeholders. It will be vitally important to be able to collaborate with teachers on building a program that will last beyond the grant period.

**Service Members Need Car?** Helpful