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# Hawaii Community Foundation awards four Hawaii nonprofit leaders with some me-time

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The Hawaii Community Foundation knows running a nonprofit can be grueling.

That's why it gives stellar nonprofit leaders the chance to treat themselves through its annual Hookele Awards.

The foundation honored four Hawaii nonprofit leaders at its 14th annual Hookele Awards on Friday.

The winners received \$10,000 each to spend on professional development or personal renewal.

The awards were created to address turnover in the nonprofit sector and celebrate those who work hard and deserve some time to refresh.

Former Hookele award winner Howard Garval, president and CEO of Child and



From left to right: Richard Taaffe, president and CEO West Hawaii Community Health...  
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Family Service, told PBN it was a valuable experience to step back and rejuvenate. He chose to visit his daughter and family on the East Coast to prepare for and welcome his first grandchild.

“It’s a great award because it really does recognize that those of us leading nonprofit organizations really need the opportunity to reflect, and specifically look at ways to relieve stress that running an nonprofit organization can create for leaders,” he said. “It’s a great idea.”

The time with his new grandson has spurred his interest in the concept of generativity, part of Erik Erikson's Stages of Psychosocial Development, he says.

“People in middle age begin to look at next generation and how they can contribute,” he said. “I’ve been mentoring leaders within my own organization but hope to continue that with other future leaders in our nonprofit sector as I move into a later stage of life and through my 40-year career.”

Community members nominated the following Hookele awardees for their strategic thinking, collaboration and organization, and impact.

- Kepa Maly, co-founder and executive director, Lanai Culture and Heritage Center, Lanai City
- Richard Taaffe, executive director, West Hawaii Community Health Center, Kailua-Kona
- Marian Tsuji, president and CEO, Lanakila Pacific, Honolulu
- Harry Wong III, artistic director, Kumu Kahua Theatre, Honolulu

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