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PICHTR Launches Hawaii's First Climate Grants Accelerator

One stop shop supports NGOs, government entities and businesses pursuing federal funding for climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience initiatives

HONOLULU — April 12, 2022 — PICHTR announced today that it has launched the Climate Grants Accelerator, a “one stop shop” support service for NGOs, government entities and businesses pursuing federal funding for their climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience initiatives. This is the first accelerator of its kind in Hawaii.

“COVID-19 and the climate crisis has prompted our federal government to invest heavily in clean energy, climate adaptation and resilience across all aspects of society,” said Dennis Teranishi, President and CEO of PICHTR. “Hawaii alone is expected to receive at least \$2.8 billion from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. To compete effectively for this funding, our local entities need assistance from an organization with a track record in grant applications and funding administration. That’s where PICHTR comes in – guiding them through complex Federal grant application requirements and helping them collaborate across disciplines, sectors, and geographies.”

The PICHTR Climate Grants Accelerator began working with several Hawaii entities in 2021 and is prepared to expand its roster of clients as federal funding makes its way to Hawaii. Today the Climate Grants Accelerator produces and distributes a listing of climate change related funding opportunities (there is currently over \$38 billion in available Federal funding) and a periodic email newsletter with relevant information for grant seekers. It also provides the following services:

- Stakeholder coordination across disciplines and sectors
- Matching entities with collaborators or community partners
- Federal grant application support and submission, including drafting
- Federal grant implementation and administration (e.g., accounting, reporting and auditing)
- Rapid and efficient hiring for federally funded projects

Fees for these services vary, and some projects are undertaken on a *pro bono* basis.

“This accelerator will help to spur economic development and innovation in Hawaii, where there is so much potential to establish best practices for climate change mitigation and adaptation,” said Colbert Matsumoto, PICHTR Board Chair.

PICHTR has a long-standing record of obtaining, implementing and administering a total of \$248 million in Federal funding from 1996 through 2022. Among these were the Asia-Pacific Technology Commercialization Center (APTEP), STEM and

Hawaii Technology Development Venture Programs funded by the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD), Office of Naval Research; and the Hawaii Renewable Energy Development Venture funded by the U.S. Department of Energy – later spun off as Elemental Excelerator.

“Most non-profit organizations lack the personnel and expertise needed to compete nationally for the federal funds that are available to help carry out the important work they do for our community”, said Kevin Kelly, President & CEO of North Shore Economic Vitality Partnership (NSEVP). “PICHTR’s wide-ranging grant experience was especially helpful in organizing and guiding a large group of stakeholders around a particularly complex federal opportunity. With their leadership and expertise we were able to strengthen our partnerships and submit an excellent proposal.”

About PICHTR

The Pacific International Center for High Technology Research (PICHTR) is a leader in planning, development, evaluation and deployment of place-based sustainable practices, with a mission to facilitate the adoption and implementation of these practices throughout Hawaii and Asia Pacific. PICHTR was established by the 1983 Legislature and originally managed within the University of Hawaii before being incorporated in 1985 as an independent, Hawaii-based not-for-profit.

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