



NEWS

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HAWAII PIZZA HUT GRANTS \$105,000 TO FUND LITERACY PROGRAMS

HONOLULU (July 21, 2004) – Hawaii Pizza Hut has awarded \$105,000 in grants to four Hawaii organizations that provide literacy programs:

Read Aloud America, Inc. will receive a \$50,000 grant from Hawaii Pizza Hut to implement its family literacy program at five public school sites during the 2004-05 school year. The Read Aloud Program is a semester-long program that brings children and parents together to listen to and talk about good books. Founded in 1995, Read Aloud America is a nonprofit organization that promotes literacy and provides resources to help families engage in reading and learning.

Hawaii Public Television will use a \$25,000 grant from Hawaii Pizza Hut to support its "Between the Lions" literacy program. Geared to beginning readers aged four to seven years old, "Between the Lions" is a 30-minute children's television series featuring a family of puppet lions and their cubs who live in and run a magical library. The program's backbone is a comprehensive literacy curriculum that incorporates the most recent advances in literacy skills instruction with an engaging format of innovative animation, puppetry, graphics, live action, music videos, and interactive segments along with a Web site that is integrally connected to daily story lines.

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Hawaii Technology Institute (HTI) will expand and enhance the literacy component of its Career Transition Program (CTP) through a \$15,000 grant from Hawaii Pizza Hut. The CTP gives students an opportunity to improve their verbal skills by at least two grade levels in order to receive training for careers in technology through HTI accredited programs.

Mutual Assistance Associations Center (MACC) operates a free computer-based after school learning center on Palolo District Park premises, and will use a \$15,000 grant from Hawaii Pizza Hut to purchase a network computer server and educational software to improve users' literacy skills.

Hawaii Pizza Hut, a kama'aina company since 1971, has 46 locations in Hawaii, 5 in Guam and 1 in Saipan. Hawaii Pizza Hut is a strong advocate for literacy, and since 1992, the company has successfully raised more than \$3,000,000 for Hawaii literacy programs through its popular "Carryout for Literacy" campaign.

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