



ORGANIZATION

[O'ahu Economic Development Board](#) (OEDB) supports a healthy economy on O'ahu as a leading agent in the growth, retention and recruitment of businesses that support appropriate jobs for the people of Hawai'i. OEDB is a non-profit organization funded primarily by the private sector donations, contracts and the asset management of New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC). Through the NMTC program, OEDB has leveraged over \$135 million in funding to bring jobs, renewable energy, health care services, and the arts to the communities it serves.

OEDB seeks to balance economic development with community building by bringing resources to help under-resourced communities. Actively involved in infrastructure, planning and human development platformed with the disciplines of [ALOHA](#), OEDB's leadership recognizes that the strength of a community's true economy is anchored in the strength of its people and relationships.

In partnership with the state's other economic development boards and the Economic Development Alliance of Hawai'i, OEDB stood up Aloha Connects Innovation, which helped workers displaced by the economic impacts of COVID-19 with financial support, paid training to up-skill and re-skill, and access to employment opportunities.

OPPORTUNITIES

Looking forward, OEDB is currently completing the update to O'ahu's [Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy](#) (CEDS) in partnership with the Federal Economic Development Agency, Hawai'i State Office of Planning and neighbor island EDB organizations. The 2022 CEDS for O'ahu will be a community-driven guide to future economic development and investment.

An important part of OEDB's challenge is to achieve economic diversification so that Hawai'i's children will continue to be the residents and influencers who perpetuate what makes this place unique and special. Ultimately, OEDB's success will be measured by indicators such as higher incomes, more job opportunities, expand tax base, increased support for charitable organizations, higher quality of life, increased economic diversification, and environmentally and culturally sustainable economic growth.

CHALLENGES

With a staff of five and budget of around \$2 million, the organization punches above its weight in terms of impact on the local economy despite its relatively small size. Although OEDB is on strong financial footing, it must compete with other organizations for NMTC allocations. Maintaining and growing a diversified base of funding is essential to the organization's ongoing success.

The initiatives and projects that OEDB leads are large and complex, with long timeframes. They require sustained investments of time, emotional, and relational capital to motivate parties with

divergent goals (investors, developers, banks, attorneys, accountants, government representatives, community members) to work together.

POSITION

OEDB seeks a compassionate, entrepreneurial, and strategic President & Chief Executive Officer (CEO), who lives aloha and has a deep understanding of Hawai'i and its diversity. Working with a committed board and staff, the CEO must cultivate relationships and partnerships with diverse groups, including private, public, corporate and non-profit partners, to create economic development opportunities that address the needs of the community. With bold, new approaches to investing in community-building projects, the CEO must embrace the divergent views of stakeholders and forge relationships of trust.

Qualified candidates for CEO will have unquestioned integrity, a proven record of collaborative leadership, and established cross-sector community relationships. Board governance and for-profit and non-profit sector experience are required.

OEDB's last President & CEO, Pono Shim, passed away in April of 2022. He was beloved by OEDB's team, partners, and community stakeholders. Nelson Lau, a board member, has stepped in as acting CEO until this search is completed and a successor CEO takes the helm.

TO APPLY

Applications should be submitted by **September 26, 2022** to executives@inkinen.com. Please provide the following, addressed to OEDB Selection Committee, c/o Inkinen Executive Search:

- Cover letter - express your interest in the opportunity and how, as CEO, you would balance economic development with community and cultural sensitivity
- Resume

For detailed information, please visit www.inkinen.com/OEDB-CEO.