INFORMATION ABOUT THE TULONG FOR LAHAINA® FUND

With the devastation of Lahaina and with forty percent of Lahaina’s population estimated to be of Filipino ancestry, Binhi at Ani has created the Tulong for Lahaina® Fund. Tulong means help in Tagalog and Ilokano.

The funds will be made available to those who qualify in any of the following three categories. (An applicant can qualify under only one category.)

1) As a homeowner, had their principal residence destroyed or damaged so it is uninhabitable or deemed by a government entity as unusable as a dwelling unit for health and safety reasons; or
2) Had their own business destroyed; or
3) Had an immediate family member pass away as a result of the Lahaina fire.

Note the following:

1) Tulong for Lahaina® is not designed for those who have multiple homes. The destroyed or damaged home must be the applicant’s principal residence, as determined by the County of Maui’s real property tax website indicating a homeowner’s exemption.
2) The business needs to be based in a structure–bricks and mortar–versus an internet based or gig business.
3) The grant for an immediate family member’s death will be limited to one award for each family. Multiple members of a family, e.g., son and daughter of deceased parent can NOT both individually claim under this category. In case of a number of surviving members of the family, the check will be made to all surviving members of the family. For purposes of this category, immediate family member shall mean a spouse, parent or child. In the event no spouse, parent or child survived, Binhi at Ani, funds allowing, may allow a grant to relatives who would be considered “next of kin” under Hawaii Revised Statutes Section 532-4.

The initial grant amount will be $750. The number of grants will depend on the amount of donations received.

The initial deadline will be September 30, 2023 and grants will be distributed beginning October 15. If more qualified applicants apply than there are funds available, then it will be based on a first come, first served basis. Depending on funds received, applications received after the due date may be considered.

All applicants will be reviewed by an independent review panel of three. No member of Binhi at Ani’s Board of Directors will sit on the independent review panel. Each application will be reviewed by two persons. No member of the independent review panel shall review any application from a family member or business associate. Any denial by the independent review panel will be reviewed by two of the following persons: President, Vice President or Committee Chair.

Dissemination of applications will be through News Releases, social media, the various Filipino organizations on Maui, churches and Filipino radio. Dissemination will also be made through the hotels, unions, schools and other relationships developed by Binhi at Ani, members of its Board of Directors and members of its Advisory Board.