



BINHI AT ANI

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www.binhiatani.org

2023-2024

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NEWS RELEASE

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BINHI AT ANI LAUNCHES TULONG FOR LAHAINA® FUND

(Kahului, Hawaii) Binhi at Ani President Melen Agcolicol announced the creation of a Tulong for Lahaina® Fund to assist Lahaina residents in one of three categories: 1) a homeowner whose principal residence was destroyed or damaged so it is uninhabitable or deemed by a government entity as unusable as a dwelling unit for health and safety reasons; 2) had their own business (based in a structure—bricks and mortar versus an internet based or gig business) destroyed; or 3) had an immediate family member die as a result of the Lahaina fire.

“*Tulong* means help in the Tagalog and Ilokano languages,” said Agcolicol, who will lead the coordination. “And Binhi at Ani wanted to create a fund to help our *kababayans*, our fellow Filipinos, which comprise at least forty percent of Lahaina town.”

Binhi at Ani will award \$750.00 to those who qualify in any of the three categories. The deadline to apply is September 30, 2023. An applicant can qualify for only one category. The amount of awards will be based on the number of donations received. If more qualified applicants apply than there are funds available, 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 applications will be reviewed by a review panel independent of Binhi at Ani’s Board of Directors. Applications may be accessed at <https://binhiatani.org>.

Tax deductible donations can be made in a number of ways. Checks payable to Binhi at Ani and mailed to 780 Onehee Avenue, Kahului, Hawaii 96732. Through Paypal via Binhi at Ani’s website: <https://binhiatani.org/donate/>. Or by scanning the QR code.



(more)

For more information, contact Melen Agcolicol at 808-205-7981 or melencopy@gmail.com.

Binhi at Ani, which means “Seed and Harvest” is a Hawaii non-profit corporation incorporated in 1985 with a 501(c)(3) tax exempt status. Binhi at Ani operates the Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center located at 780 Onehee Avenue in Kahului, which opened in 2005 and is the current site of the annual Barrio Fiesta, celebrated on Maui for the past fifty-four years. Binhi at Ani also awards scholarships to outstanding high school graduates and awarded a total of twenty-five scholarships (four at \$2,000 and twenty-one at \$1,000) in 2023.

During the pandemic, Binhi at Ani established the Bayanihan Food Distribution Program which distributed 7,834 food boxes including 8,460 plate lunches; the Bayanihan Feeding Program which has delivered 16,902 meals to *kupuna*; and Bakuna at Binhi at Ani Filipino Community Center through which eleven vaccination clinics were held.