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**HAWAII FOODBANK KAUAI BRANCH AND HAWAII STATE AFL-CIO RESPOND  
TO INFLUX IN FOOD NEEDS BECAUSE OF GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN**

*Nonprofit Urges Community to Give Food & Monetary Donations*

LIHUE (January 22, 2019) – As the longest government shutdown in U.S. history enters its second month, Hawaii Foodbank Kauai Branch and Hawaii State AFL-CIO are reminding the Garden Island community food resources are available for families impacted by the event. In partnership with Hawaii Foodbank Kauai Branch, the Hawaii State AFL-CIO, will be distributing food once a week on Thursdays for an entire month, beginning on January 24 through February 21.

“We know many government workers are struggling to make ends meet as they brace for their second missed paycheck,” said Wes Perreira, Director of Operations of Hawaii Foodbank Kauai Branch. “With every passing day more families are being impacted by the government shutdown. If families are feeling the impacts of the partial government shutdown, please know that emergency food assistance is available. You’re not alone.”

The food distribution site will be at Hawaii Government Employees Association (HGEA) Kauai Union Hall, located at 3213 Akahi Street in Lihue, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. every Thursday from January 24 through February 21. Food will be distributed to federal workers upon presentation of their federal I.D. and while supplies last.

“Federal employees on Kauai are entering into their second month without pay. We are very grateful and humbled for the support we are receiving from the Hawaii State AFL-CIO and Hawaii’s Foodbanks during these uncertain times,” said Lisa Marie Akau of the American Federation of Government Employees.

“Federal workers are proving that they never quit despite not getting paid,” said Hawaii AFL-CIO President Randy Perreira. “The Union community and Hawaii Foodbank are working to help get the workers through this financial crisis. We urgently call on our elected leaders in Washington, D.C. to stop the government shutdown.”

To learn more about the food distribution taking place at the HGEA Kauai Union Hall or to make a donation, please visit [www.hawafclcio.org](http://www.hawafclcio.org) or contact the Hawaii State AFL-CIO at (808) 597-1441. For more information on how to receive food assistance on Kauai or to make a donation to Hawaii Foodbank Kauai Branch, please call (808) 482-2224.

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