

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Rediscovering Hawai'i's Soul (RHS)?

RHS is a values-based initiative rooted in Native Hawaiian principles and inclusive of all who call Hawai'i home. It is a way of thinking, being, and leading that helps individuals and organizations align around shared values to guide decisions, build trust, and take action to address Hawai'i's most pressing challenges. RHS is not a program with a single goal, but a foundation for systems change grounded in the soul of Hawai'i.

What is the RHS Network?

The RHS Network is a statewide community of cross-sector leaders who activate the shared values of Hawai'i's Soul. With the support of HEC, the network convenes to reflect, connect, and take meaningful action.

Why This Network?

The RHS Network is more than a platform – it is a living, breathing ecosystem of leaders who are building capacity, trust, and solutions together for a more resilient future. Participants often share that RHS:

- Offers a rare space for reflection, healing, and clarity of purpose.
- Creates unlikely but powerful relationships across sectors.
- Grounds their work in Indigenous wisdom, enabling courageous and culturally relevant leadership.

What is our network approach?

Our approach is guided by how shifts in relationships, mental models, and collaborative capacity can lead to structural change across sectors. When leaders are aligned in purpose, accountable to each other, and supported by trusted spaces, they begin to cocreate a different future – one rooted in the values of Hawai'i's Soul: aloha, pilina, kaiāulu, 'āina momona, and 'ōpūali'i.

Together, the initiative and network embody a living ecosystem of change – where ideas are shared, solutions are incubated, and people are reconnected to one another and to this place we call home.

What is HEC's role in the RHS Network?

HEC is the organization that convenes and supports the RHS Network by providing backbone coordination, facilitation, and strategic support. We create consistent opportunities for individuals to engage – facilitating knowledge sharing across the network, linking aligned efforts, and elevating stories of impact.

HEC is also a participating organization within the RHS network who is committed to collaborating with others in the network on shared actions in key focus areas.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I get involved?

New participants are welcomed throughout the year through convenings, workshops, and introductory briefings. Participation is the act of continuing to show up and engage in connection, conversation, and collaboration. Please email hannah@hec.org to get started.

How can I amplify the work that I am already doing that is aligned with Hawai'i's Soul?

If your work is aligned with Hawai'i's Soul, or you have made shifts as a result of engaging in the network, we can share these examples with the rest of the network through Hivebrite, Haku Calls, newsletters, and convenings. These stories serve as an invitation, motivation, and inspiration to others and bring our collective journey to life. The most immediate way to make your work visible is through posting on the network engagement platform, Hivebrite.

How can I organize and contribute toward the shared vision?

Participants are choosing to engage and self-organize in several ways, including:

- As Individuals: Where the work of RHS inspires reflection on their role as leaders and community members resulting in them taking individual actions that embrace the values of the Hawai'i's Soul framework.
- As Peers: Where trusted relationships are built through peer-to-peer learning exchange and result in shifts in actions and leaders help to advance each other's work.
- As Collaborators: Where groups of people from diverse backgrounds and varied contexts have identified an opportunity to advance on an issue together.

What is a "hui"?

In the context of RHS, a hui is an informal working group formed by network participants around a common area of interest, challenge, or opportunity. This concept has since been released to encourage more flexible ways to engage and organize within the network.

In the past, HEC offered convening and facilitation support when there were energy and interest from participants in forming one of these self-directed working groups. While HEC has released the hui concept, it will continue to address network needs where applicable. HEC will also continue supporting the existing RHS Military and Hawai'i hui and will amplify their insights and progress with the broader network.

If I have an idea for collaborative action, how can I ask for, or offer help?

The network activities are opportunities for participants to align, discuss needs, and share resources with one another in person. Participants should attempt to self-organize, and do not need to wait for an RHS convening to act.

Asynchronously, we encourage you to utilize the Hivebrite platform to seek out those willing to collaborate – you may use the network directory to quickly see who is in the network and what they are working on. There is a forum "Asks/Offers" designed to host these conversations. Please contact hannah@hec.org for access and HEC can provide guidance as needed.