



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO**  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

December 18, 2023

To whom it may concern,

Our experience with Educational Impact has been excellent. We would highly recommend anyone looking at a state or district wide trauma training program to consider the Trauma-Informed Online Academy. The video content in Educational Impact's self-paced online courses is highly engaging and very targeted. We believe the unique classroom videos are particularly useful in showing our teachers the right and the wrong way to deal with specific situations. In addition, the online training aligns with the content in Heather Forbes's popular books: *Classroom180* and *Help for Billy*. Through this process, Hawaii teachers and administrators have increased their knowledge, skill, and ability to support students who have experienced trauma.

The Hawaii State Department of Education has also been very pleased with the implementation support we have received from Educational Impact. We began working with them in 2022 to develop a plan to implement online trauma training for all full-time educators and support staff across the state. Through a well coordinated effort and regularly scheduled implementation meetings and training calls, EI has supported our successful statewide rollout of professional development on this critical topic...especially in lieu of the devastating trauma suffered by many of our students in the aftermath of the Maui fires.

Educational Impact's ability to customize their online content and create new modules on the specific needs of our state (Student and Adult trauma related to the Maui fires) was extremely well-received and appreciated by our teachers. The training was extremely applicable to what Hawaii professionals were experiencing every day.

Sincerely,  
[Molly Takagi](#)  
Educational Specialist for SEL and TIC