



Kāko‘o manawale‘ai kinai ahi (Support our Volunteer Firefighters!)



Kohala Ranch in collaboration with The Daniel Sayre Memorial Foundation will host its first ever fundraiser on Saturday January 6, 2024 from 11:30-3:30pm at Kohala Ranch’s Polo Field. We will honor the Alpha 14 Volunteer Fire Department (A14VFD) and Laura & Dr. Frank Sayre of the Sayre Foundation. You will have the opportunity to meet and socialize with our volunteer firefighters, become familiar with their equipment, and see firsthand their commitment to protecting our communities. We will also feature live music, food and silent auction items.

We are hoping to raise \$500,000 to help A14VFD purchase a new and much needed heavy-duty 4-wheel drive truck that will access more areas of the ranch, and we need your support. A14VFD has 1 engine and 1 tanker. The fire engine is over 45 years old, and the current 1984 tanker is on its last legs. Both are in constant need of repairs due to wear and tear accumulated over the years.

The recent fires that raged the Kohala Region are forever seared in our minds. We are grateful to the A14VFD team of 11 first responders and their collaboration with other VFDs throughout the island including Mauna Kea, Waiki‘i, Puakō, Waikoloa, Kapa‘a to name a few. Our A14VFD first responders are a dedicated crew, and we honor their service and commitment; however, their equipment is falling apart from years of wear and tear from serving the Ranch and neighboring communities. Though A14VFD’s station is located at Kohala Ranch, none of our 11 first responders live on the ranch. Most travel 25-45 minutes to get to our Ranch to respond to calls, attend training sessions, and work on equipment repair.

The VFDs on Hawaii Island receive limited financial support from the state and rely heavily on donations to keep their departments and equipment functioning. Donations to VFDs are made via the Daniel Sayre Memorial Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded by Laura and Dr. Frank Sayre in 1997 after their son Daniel’s tragic fall near Kapoloa Falls. The Sayres have made it their life’s mission to procure rescue equipment to enable first responders throughout the Big Island to do their jobs. To date, the Sayre Foundation has raised over \$10 million for VFDs throughout Hawaii County. In recent months, the Sayres secured a rescue boat for Kona with the help of a major benefactor and two foundations and got an Airbus H125 helicopter donated to the Hawaii Fire Department. The Waiki‘i community, in collaboration with the Sayre Foundation, raised significant funds to purchase a new brush truck for their VFD.

To contribute, please make your check payable to:

Daniel R. Sayre Memorial Foundation (**specify Alpha 14 VFD in the memo section**)

And mail to:

The Daniel R. Sayre Memorial Foundation

P.O. Box 1285

Kailua-Kona, HI 96745

If you have any questions, or would like to join our efforts, please contact: Thad Andrews, Jennifer Woods, or Mariko Sakita at A14VFDfundraiser@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you, and your involvement is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your generosity and time. We look forward to seeing you at our fundraiser.

With Aloha!