

## **Important Announcement December 2023**

### **Creation of the Dr. Reverend Mitsuo Aoki Scholarship Fund**

We are seeking your support with the creation of the Dr. Reverend Mitsuo Aoki Scholarship Fund to perpetuate his legacy of teaching people how to assist others with serious illness, dying and death.

Dr. Aoki dedicated his life to teaching others and facilitating each individual's ability to find deeper meaning and purpose in life, sometimes even while dying. He once said that one of the reasons he pursued becoming a United Church of Christ minister was in order to teach university level students through courses in religion which he did from the mid 1950s when he began the University of Hawaii, Department of Religion. See the Archive video presentation at <https://mitsaokilegacyfoundation.org/>

Dr. Aoki found joy in seeing students bloom over the course of a semester through the experiences they encountered and the concepts they learned about religions and philosophies of life that were new to them. His own knowledge, research and life experiences with some of the great Christian and religious teachers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century gave him a depth of understanding which tens of thousands of students were so ready to receive during his very entertaining lectures. He taught countless people about death and dying and how to "be a presence" with others who were seriously and/or terminally ill and to assist them with "Living their dying".

He supported family care givers and professionals with gaining a comprehensive understanding of what was needed to assist and reduce suffering of others. He often taught people to develop greater self-awareness and self-understanding supporting their desire to assist others on Life's path. He was one of the most knowledgeable and wise individuals in the State of Hawaii on spiritual and religious matters and often was sought out to be a consultant by countless individuals and organizations.

It is for this reason that we are initiating the **Dr. Reverend Mitsuo Aoki Scholarship Fund**. It will be used for supporting the learning of college students with a major in the helping professions, and professionals in the community working in the palliative care or end of life field. It will be used for studying about reducing the suffering of others during serious illness and during the end-of-life journey. We want to develop sufficient funds to have this administered through the Hawaii Community Foundation which will require initially \$15,000 for a "non-endowed scholarship" fund and \$50,000 for an "endowed scholarship" fund. Mits Aoki Legacy Foundation "designated scholarship donations" will be transferred to the Hawaii Community Foundation to administer once the initial \$15,000 amount is received and allowing us to set up the specific details of the scholarship fund.

Please donate to this scholarship fund through the Mits Aoki Legacy Foundation PayPal link at [www.mitsaokilegacyfoundation.com/donate](http://www.mitsaokilegacyfoundation.com/donate) and let us know that this donation is for the scholarship fund by emailing [info@mitsaokilegacyfoundation.org](mailto:info@mitsaokilegacyfoundation.org)

You can also write a check to: Mits Aoki Legacy Foundation with a note that it is for the Scholarship Fund. Please Mail your check to: Mits Aoki Legacy Foundation, 111 Hekili St. Suite #496A, Kailua, HI 96734. Thank you for your support in making this a reality.

The Mits Aoki Legacy Foundation is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) charitable organization with FEIN 45-3010655 and therefore donations qualify under the IRS for applicable tax deduction status. Please check with your tax accountant for details