



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**COLLEGE CONNECTIONS HAWAII AWARDED A \$20,000 GRANT
FROM THE ATHERTON FAMILY FOUNDATION**

HONOLULU – May 7, 2010 – College Connections Hawaii was awarded \$20,000 from the Atherton Family Foundation to support College Connections Hawaii’s student outreach and capacity building efforts.

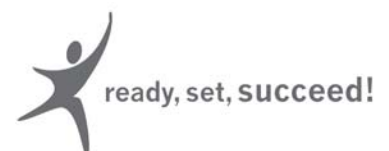
“We are proud to announce more than 80 College Connections students are graduations with college acceptance letters in their hands,” said Kilikina Mahi, executive director of College Connections Hawaii. “These investments will help us ensure even more first generation, low income, and underrepresented students get to college in the coming years. We thank the contributors for recognizing the importance of college access in Hawaii.”

With this grant, College Connections Hawaii plans to improve its College Advising program by creating materials that students and their families can use as reference guides for college preparation. Monetary support from the Atherton Family Foundation comes at a critical time because College Connections Hawaii is seeing positive impacts of its work and seeking ways to expand.

“Senior exit surveys tell us that nine in ten Hawaii public school students want to go to college. Yet only half of high school graduates are getting there. We know Atherton Family Foundation’s support is an important step in our effort to help our students achieve their college goals.”

About College Connections Hawaii:

The mission of College Connections Hawaii is to help Hawaii’s students gain access to college and achieve their potential. For more than 10 years, College Connections Hawaii, a local non-profit organization, has been dedicated to expanding educational opportunities statewide. Each year its team of professional educators works with more than a thousand students and their families, both after school and on weekends, to help them achieve their highest potential. It offers affordable and accessible services, including: Tutoring, Test Preparation Classes and College Advising. It also provides its services for free or at reduced cost for families that qualify for Title 1 and/or the No Child Left Behind Act.





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