

Aloha Dwayne Johnson,

As Pele brings down her unmerciful wrath unto my village, I turn to you, Mr. Johnson, for help mitigating this horrible disaster that has befallen the children of Hawaii, whom I serve. As you may know, the volcano Kilauea has erupted, destroying many dreams, including mine, with its endless flow of lava and fire.

My name is Kanoa Pauahi, I was born and raised in Pahoa, Hawaii. At a young age, both my mother and father died in a fatal car accident. My auntie took me in and raised me to become the strong woman I am today. She was my role model in life: independant, confident, and dedicated to preserving her rich Polynesian culture. As I grew up, I realized how lucky I was to be raised by such a great role model as I saw all the lost, renegade children on the streets. I could have ended up like them if my auntie hadn't taken me under her wing. I left my home to search for a new life, but I missed Āina, and so I returned back home to build a center that takes in the street children of Hawaii and gives them the care and support they deserve, while also teaching them about their culture.

I have spent the last 10 years building the center with the local villagers. The center was still only in its beginning stages: no AC, no internet connection, and no indoor plumbing, but this building was still home to the children and me. Even with these setbacks, I still provided services to at-risk youth, but now my dreams, and the children's futures, are in jeopardy. My youth center has been completely destroyed by Pele's hand and the children and I have been forced to evacuate the area and leave everything we have known behind.

I know your history as a troubled child in Hawaii and am familiar with your deep commitment both to children in need and Polynesian mo'omeheu - and this is why I reach out to you in my most desperate time of need. I need to find temporary housing and food for the children, as well as myself and my beloved auntie. Keeping these children in my care is my main priority, but is extremely expensive as I have to start from the ground up again. I hate sounding so forward, but I know how willing you have been to help fund organizations in the past and these children deserve the safety and stability of a home. I need \$100,000 to immediately start rebuilding my center. These children deserve the world and, sadly, I cannot give it to them without this money. In a few short months, I hope to have received an insurance payment in the amount of \$450,500, of which you will receive 50% for your passion and dedication to my children.

This letter to you is my last hope for these children's futures. I hope you will consider my offer.

Aloha nui loa,

Kanoa Pauahi

P.S. I have enclosed a photo of our center burning in the lava and my last scrap of paper, on which our village elder, Koi, has vouched for my cause.



My name is Koi, Village  
Elder of Pahoa. Kanoa  
Pavahi is maikai kanaka -  
a good person. Please  
Help us. - E. Koi