

PBS Hawaii wins \$5M grant for new TV studio and offices

The Clarence T.C. Ching Foundation is giving \$5 million to PBS Hawaii to help build a new television studio and offices, the public broadcasting station announced today.

PBS Hawaii is moving to the old KFVE studios on Nimitz Highway and has set a goal of raising \$30 million to renovate the existing one-story building and relocate to the new facility by 2014.

The donation by the Ching Foundation moves PBS Hawaii past the half-way mark of its fundraising effort, with \$17 million raised so far.

PBS Hawaii's future home will be called The Clarence T.C. Ching Campus.

The public television station is moving from its current location on Dole Street, across from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, because the university needs the site to expand its academic programs.

PBS Hawaii says the organization is evolving from educational statewide broadcaster to a multi-media educational organization.

"The Clarence T.C. Ching Foundation wants to see public television survive and thrive for the sake of future generations of islanders," said foundation trustee Kenneth Okamoto.