

## 2.2 Goal | Safe, healthy, livable communities for all

### *Why is it important?*

Home is where people feel most comfortable; they have what they need, are surrounded by friends and family, and feel a sense of security. South Maui's small-town, family-oriented atmosphere, and wahi kūpuna interweave to create a distinct sense of place. Making safe, healthy and livable places leads to stronger communities where people are free to work and play in an enjoyable environment. It might be tutu and keiki playing in the neighborhood park while Mom takes the bus to work or Dad buying fresh vegetables at the corner store on his walk home from work. In these communities, families have more time to spend together and engage in healthy activities because the community they live in is designed to be safe, healthy and livable.

While South Maui's tourism industry has developed through much of the region, amenities made available to locals have remained stagnant. Resorts, hotels, and private residences occupy portions of the southern shoreline, limiting access to public areas and beaches. A significant portion of the housing supply consists of short-term rentals and vacation homes, leaving a shortage of residential housing options for South Maui residents. This goal focuses on creating a community for residents by making existing neighborhoods more complete and cohesive with jobs, housing, parks, emergency response, and other services nearby, while also holding future development to a higher standard. Communities will be built in areas that limit hazard risk and be designed to maximize resilience.

### *How will setting this goal affect our future?*

With this goal, South Maui is committed to creating and supporting places that are resilient to hazards, meet the daily needs of residents, provide opportunities to live a healthy lifestyle with easy access to fresh food and fresh air, include a variety of affordable housing options near jobs, and provide safe routes to and from home.