



ADJUSTING TO A CHANGING WORLD

Our world has changed dramatically yet one thing that stays the same is the need for supportive services for vulnerable children and families. When the Governor issued his "Stay at Home" orders, Kukui Center programs, like all human services programs, were faced with the challenge of how to safely continue to help the families they served.

The Kukui Children's Foundation, which owns and operates the Kukui Center, was faced with a dilemma. How do we require the necessary and mandated restrictions from our tenants while simultaneously supporting them? It was essentially a leap of faith that if we kept the building open, everyone would follow the CDC Guidelines we provided for screening and ensuring safety for staff and visitors.

We began by restricting the building to only necessary services which could not be delivered remotely. All of the agencies in the Kukui Center had to adapt their programming. Family Promise Hawaii continued to see clients on site, one family at a time, while observing requirements to wear masks, take temperatures, observe social distancing and disinfecting regularly, and minimizing the number of persons

who came inside. The other programs elected to work remotely.

Things are gradually opening up. All of the programs now have some staff working in the center at staggered times. Every Executive

Director participated in a program prepared by one of our board members, Dr. Geri Marullo, reviewing Best Practices during these challenging times.

What is truly remarkable is that most have expanded their reach to serve more people with additional services and new collaborations, as described in these pages. Some are already visualizing what their new service delivery model will look like while the

pandemic is still with us.

We remain, now more than ever, a very caring community. We have always valued our Kukui Center community partners and want to thank our neighbors American Savings Bank and the Hawaii USA FCU for sharing sanitizing supplies when we couldn't find any. And thanks to Gayle Isono with G Wiz!Promotions for donating much needed re-usable bags and t-shirts.

While the numerous signs at the entrance are unfortunately off putting, we know that once inside our doors, the Kukui Center remains a warm and welcoming place.



Family Promise Hawaii is presently sheltering families in hotels as pictured above.

COVID-19 TREMENDOUS IMPACT ON HAWAII'S YOUTH



The pandemic has affected everyone, some more than others. For example, consider youth who are in or have been in the foster care system. Many have precarious housing, lower-paying jobs, are attending school and working part-time, and struggle on a daily basis to keep it all together. It does not take much to have that all fall apart. Due to the pandemic, our Independent Living Program (ILP) has had over 40 young adults furloughed from their jobs and 17 with significantly reduced hours, with many of them not eligible for unemployment. Thirty-five young parents report increased financial struggles, over 30 struggling to pay their rent or utilities, 21 needing additional assistance with food, 16 needing assistance to purchase electronics for communications or school, and 7 continued working but employers did not provide masks. In addition, over 120 students were displaced from their on campus classes and forced to switch to online only learning.

Each young person is facing these hardships and challenges with much support on the part of the ILP worker and much resilience on their part. ILP workers are providing youth with alternative virtual activities assisting them to sign up for online free courses, cultural activities, and independent living skills videos, and forums. They are providing information and support in utilizing new COVID-19 related resources, including applications for relief funds, enhancement grants, food pantries, drive up community resources and we have obtained funding for required technology, such as phones, or tablets. The community has responded recognizing this is a vulnerable population worth ensuring they have some stability so they will not fall through the cracks and there has been some money to assist with some of their needs. The young adults have expressed much appreciation and vow to be strong in their determination to succeed.



OUR JOURNEY THROUGH COVID-19

Kids Hurt Too Hawaii was able to streamline services through COVID-19 by offering regularly scheduled activities on our Kids Hurt Too Hawaii Facebook pages. Activities included coloring, KOA activities, Imagination Yoga, Story time, Jump Roping, and Inside Times which is educational information on grief and trauma.

We also offered therapeutic groups for Children in Care, Loss from Separation, Loss from Death, General Loss, General Death, on Google Hangout. There were numerous opportunities to deliver activities to families where they would come to the parking lot, keeping six feet apart, to receive their activity bag. Our staff would also deliver activities to our family's homes. A volunteer offered a swordfish for families and they picked up their fish in the parking lot at the Kukui Center.

Our staff worked remotely and were able to still effectively provide support and resources to the children and families served by Kids Hurt Too Hawaii. Our Facebook Live activities were tracked and we reached over 39,000 people!

On April 20th, we launched our 2020 Healing Young Hearts Kids Hurt Too Hawaii Campaign with a goal of \$500,000.



Fresh Swordfish for KHTH Families



Housing is Healthcare

Adapting to Meet the Urgent Needs of Vulnerable Children and Families



Family Promise of Hawaii is currently partnering with Camp Mokuleia to shelter families throughout the pandemic.

The impact of the current pandemic is all around us. We feel it in our gut, we hear it on the news, we see it in our community. The overarching theme of this moment seems to be an apprehension about what is yet to come in these unprecedented times. There is seldom respite from the desire for things to return to normal. But, through it all we can find solace in knowing that we are all in this together.

Over the past few months, we at FPH have been so fortunate to witness the widespread kindness, generosity and commitment being extended from one person to another. The call for each of us to step up to support the most vulnerable in our community has been presented, and time and time again the community has shown up, fully committed, meeting this moment head on.

In early March we had to make the tough decision to suspend our traditional rotational shelter program. From that moment until now, we have creatively developed new approaches to shelter and have increased our capacity to support families in our community who are experiencing a housing crisis by sheltering families in hotels, campsites, and other underutilized facilities.

In addition to shelter, we have also developed a COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Fund to provide short-term financial assistance and case management to help families remain housed. We are also providing showers, laundry, internet, meals, masks, diapers and hygiene products for families in need. We recognize that a surge in evictions and increase in homelessness in the coming months is highly likely. We are quickly adjusting and increasing our availability of services to provide a safety net for vulnerable families.

Unfortunately the need for FPH's services are increasing. We are experiencing a 400% spike in requests for help. FPH is partnering with OLS Hotels and Resorts and Camp Mokuleia to shelter families during this pandemic. We will continue to need the support of our collective community in the days, weeks, and months ahead.



Leadership in Disabilities & Achievement of Hawaii

Doing Business As

Leading Parents of Children and Youth with Disabilities into the Future

Our work with parents, family members, children and youth with disabilities DID NOT come to an end, although it felt like COVID-19 swallowed us up. It started on March 23rd with a jolt or shock to the system, but after waking up and realizing we have approximately 19,000 children and youth with disabilities and their families in Hawai'i looking to us for leadership, guidance and direction, we quickly re-grouped, and re-designed our priorities.

Our leadership team spent the next week, re-purposing our one-to-one programs and training by launching a virtual online platform for parents and family members helping them to quickly shift from being parents of children with disabilities, to being Parents as Teachers of children with disabilities. This transformation for them was intimidating for some, discouraging for others and overwhelming for most parents. Never had they ever imagined their role at home would change addressing the learning style of their already complex child or youth with a disability. Within a week, LDAH launched a weekly Parents Only "Parent Talk Café" on Facebook LIVE reaching parents who needed immediate help. We introduced a new website with training modules, Tips & Tools for parents to access, and improved our one-to-one assistance by attending virtual school meetings with parents helping them to advocate for their child's distance learning concerns.

As parents head into summer, they look forward to a much-needed break from their teaching role. Find us on Facebook at LDA Hawaii & Pacific Island PTI.



Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Hawaii has partnered with a multitude of partners, including Family Promise of Hawaii, to fill the gaps in the perinatal community amidst the COVID-19 crisis. Demand for services has greatly increased as we have continued to provide cribs, mental health support and weekly food deliveries to new and existing moms.



Lanakila Pacific was granted funds from the Hawaii Community Foundation so we may collaborate and provide meals for 200 women over the course of 8 weeks. Ham Produce and Seafood also received a grant and is currently providing us with produce boxes to distribute to our pregnant and existing mothers as well for the next 4 weeks. HMHB continues to form these unique partnerships along with CoronaCare Hawaii and La Tour Bakery and Café to ensure this population of women get the support and assistance they need during this time.

HMHB is very mindful of our interactions with moms and babies and community partners on a daily basis. In community efforts to assist in the unknowingly spread of any virus, but especially COVID-19, HMHB has stopped non-essential gatherings of large groups. Instead, HMHB relies heavily on digital media mechanisms to continue to provide access to our programs. Cribs for Kids has adapted and referrals and its one-hour class have become digital and Piko Pals groups have continued to operate via Zoom. All mental health and lactation visits are via telehealth as well. Adaptability and collaboration are the themes in mind for HMHB.



New Books Distributed Thanks to the Generosity of the Stamps 'Ohana



Summer has begun, and because of COVID-19, it has been a very unusual year for students. Schools and libraries closed months ago and while remote teaching started relatively recently, low-

income families that do not have access to computers/tablets and internet access have not been able to participate in the same way. The divide between those without regular access to technology, books, and learning opportunities has grown wider than ever!

While our programs have also had to reduce the amount of services we can offer due to this pandemic, we have been so grateful to be able to distribute brand-new books and a selection of Kindle tablets thanks to the generosity of Annie Stamps and her 'ohana. Because of this kind gift, our Bookmobile and



Family Literacy Library programs were able to procure thousands of books to give out to our regular partner sites as well as some new locations. Increasing access to excellent books is essential to ensuring that youth will continue to develop strong literacy skills and a love of reading!

Hawaii Literacy's Bookmobile Manager, Marie, and Family Literacy Libraries Manager, Rina, have hand-picked each title, and prioritized high-interest books and culturally-relevant and diverse characters. These are some of their top book picks that are being

distributed: *Drawn Together* - Minh Lê, *Weird Sea Creatures* - National Geographic Readers, *Tia Isa Wants a Car* - Meg Medina, *Beautiful Blackbird* - Ashley Bryan, *Spirit Hunters series* - Ellen Oh, *Disney Moana: Quest for the Heart*.



HAWAII IMMIGRANT JUSTICE CENTER AT LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF HAWAII

Helping Families Obtain Unemployment Insurance

The State of Hawaii has experienced one of the highest unemployment rates in the nation - 34%. Since our families live paycheck-to-paycheck, the loss of a job is devastating. Unemployment insurance provides temporary income to employees that lose their job at no fault of their own. Due to an antiquated system, the Unemployment Insurance Division, which is under the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii, has failed to process thousands of claims in a timely manner. Families have been without a paycheck for weeks despite the federal government passing the CARES Act in March 27, 2020, which provided additional financial relief. Moreover, the Division only accepts claims via an online system in English. The online system has had a discriminatory impact on persons with limited English proficiency, persons with disabilities, seniors, and those without access to the Internet.

Since March, the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii has received frantic calls from families being left out because they can't speak or understand English well enough. In response, we created short videos in different languages that provide an overview of the application process as well as how to file a weekly claim. We have hosted Facebook Live events in Chuukese and Marshallese with over two thousand views. We have brochures in English, Chuukese, Marshallese, Japanese, Vietnamese, and Tagalog. Our materials are posted on our website: legalaidthawaii.org.

In addition to our public education campaign that is language accessible, we have helped individual clients with the application process. Our direct legal assistance has resulted in families receiving thousands of dollars. For example, we helped a single mother who fled an abusive relationship get \$5286 in a back payment and on track for receiving weekly benefits. The single-mother was unable to apply on her own because she didn't speak English and didn't understand all the requirements to complete a claim for unemployment insurance. We helped her file a claim online, register for work, and submit weekly claims through her online account. **No one should be denied unemployment insurance because they can't speak English.**



Jacklyne Moses, a Legal Aid outreach specialist, gives a training in Chuukese on Facebook Live, providing an overview of applying for unemployment insurance.



Aloha Community Partners,

Who would have thought that only six months after our celebratory annual event honoring your generosity in donations and hands-on resources that we would be facing today's challenges?

During these unprecedented times we hold our relationships close to our hearts, especially our Kukui Center partners. We know many of you are facing and working through your own hardships as business owners and as individuals who have generously contributed to the non-profit community over the years.

Currently, our programs are providing an array of services to clients and are delivering these services in creative ways. Our Board of Directors is committed to assuring that our services remain viable and responsive no matter the challenge.

We are not asking that our partners engage with us at the level of 2019. However, if there are any products or services needing a home, we would appreciate if you would contact us whenever you are able. Marlene can be reached at mamong@kukuicenter.org.

We appreciate you very much and look forward to working with you as the Kukui Center 'ohana meets the challenges of adjusting, healing and dealing with our new normal.

Me ke aloha pumehana,

Judy Lind

Executive Director

Featuring Community Partner... Gayle Isono of G Wiz! Promotions LLC, a promotional products distributor affiliated with IPROMOTEU, one of the largest promotional products companies in the industry. Their mission is to provide quality, innovative promotional merchandise to assist you in successfully branding your company.



Mahalo nui Gayle for your support to the 'ohana and keiki at the Kukui Center.

Partnerships for Donations of Services

Ace Security and Locksmiths
Advanced Fencing Solutions
AESolutionsLLC
Afterschool Art
Aloha Diaper Bank
Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing
ALTRES Global Business Services
American Savings Bank
Anthology Marketing Group
Bodhi Massage Therapy
Cushman & Wakefield ChaneyBrooks
College Directions Hawaii
Denton US LLP
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Wendell Elento
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HACBED
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Hawaii Self Storage
HawaiiUSA Federal Credit Union
HONBLUE
IPR Hawaii
King's Kustom Tinting
KFVE Hawaii News Now
Law Offices of Neal K.Aoki
Learn to Love Yoga
Leonui Communications
Michael J. O'Malley
'Ohana Komputer
Pacific Data Services
Professional Image Hawaii
Take2 Productions
The Bead Gallery
The CPA Collective
YMCA of Honolulu

Partnerships for Donations of Goods

Assn. of Legal Administrators
Aloha Diaper Bank
Big City Diner
CS Wo & Sons
G Wiz! Promotions
Honolulu Sign Company
Kirk Hovious
Islander Group
Junior League Sustainers
Pepsi Beverages Company
Servco Pacific
Soderholm Bus Sales and
Leasing
Soldat Construction
Trade West
Vim and Vigor

Partnerships with Volunteers, Service Clubs, Non-Profit Organizations

Arcadia Retirement Residence
Bruce McEwan
Habilitat, Inc.
Hands in Helping Out
Hawaii Lodging and Tourism Assn.
Hawaii Youth Services Network
Harris United Methodist Church
Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority
Luke Center for Public Services at
Punahou School
Seymour Kazimirski
Waikiki Community Center Seniors
Winners Camp Foundation

Partnerships for Donations of Funds

Aloha United Way
Evans Fund
Ili'i Fund
Jhamandas Watumull Fund
Friends of Hawaii Charities
Izumo Taishakyo Mission of Hawaii
Na Lei Aloha Foundation
Women's League of Central Union Church

If you know of an individual, non-profit or organization that can offer their support and interested in joining our Community Partners Program, please email mamong@kukuicenter.org.



Harry and Jeanette Weinberg
Kukui Center

A gathering place for those who serve vulnerable children and families

245 North Kukui Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

Summer 2020

OUR FAMILY OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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*Community Partners
Program*

kukuchildrensfoun@hawaii.rr.com

www.kukuicenter.org

Family Promise of Hawaii

Resources for homeless
families with children
(808) 548-7478

www.familypromisehawaii.org

Hawaii Immigrant Justice Center at LASH

Legal services for immigrant victims
of abuse and domestic violence
(808) 536-4302
www.hijcenter.org

Hale Kipa

Outreach services for child abuse
victims in, or transitioning out of,
foster care to become independent
(808) 853-4660
info@halekipa.org

Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies

Advocacy for a child's right to be born
healthy and raised in a safe
and nurturing environment
(808) 737-5805
MothersCare Line
(808) 951-6660
info@hmhb-hawaii.org

Leadership in Disabilities & Achievement of Hawaii

Training center for parents
of children with disabilities
(808) 536-9684
www.idahawaii.org

Hawaii Literacy

Literacy and lifelong
learning services
(808) 537-6706
www.hawaiiliteracy.org

Kids Hurt Too

Support for grieving children
who have lost a parent
(808) 545-5683 or (808) 256-3176
www.kidshurttoo.org

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