



Together We Stand Strong!



In times of crisis, the agencies of the Kukui Center stand ready to respond. They bring compassion, coordination, and critical support to families when it is needed most.

Most recently, during the severe flooding across the state, our partner agencies mobilized immediately. They helped families who lost homes, belongings, and stability. Agencies provided emergency supplies and housing support. They also offered medical services and trauma-informed care. Their goal was to make sure no family faced the crisis alone.

This kind of response is not new. After the devastating Maui fires in 2023, Kukui Center agencies expanded their reach beyond O’ahu. They supported displaced families and helped them begin the long recovery process.

Every day, these agencies help families in crisis. Some are facing natural disasters, while others are dealing with housing instability or personal hardship. The agencies respond quickly and with care. They provide legal services and educational support. They meet urgent needs and also help families heal over time.

The Kukui Center’s strength comes from collaboration. The agencies work together and share resources. This allows them to respond more quickly and effectively. During the recent floods, they also used mobile units. This helped bring services directly to affected communities.

In difficult times, the Kukui Center is a place of resilience. It is where families can find help, hope, and a path forward.

KUKUI CENTER - WHERE COLLABORATION CREATES HOPE



By Lorraine Gershun
Executive Director

The Plumeria or Puamelia represents Spring introducing new beginnings with aloha (love and kindness) and positivity.

2ND ANNUAL ALOHA 'IA 'IO WAI'ANAE

A Celebration of Resilience, Culture and Community



The Wai'anae community came together in a powerful way for this year's Aloha 'Ia 'Io Wai'anae, a vibrant celebration rooted in connection, support, and aloha. Kids Hurt Too Hawaii, in partnership with the Nanakuli-Wai'anae Complex Area, helped organize the event, which became an even stronger reflection of the resilience that defines the Wai'anae Coast.

More than 900 community members gathered at Wai'anae Elementary for a day of connection, culture, and support. Families enjoyed meals, resources, and meaningful outreach from organizations serving the Wai'anae Coast.

Kukui Center partners, including Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies, helped connect families to vital services, while Hawai'i Literacy brought storytelling to life. Keiki shared their talents through hula, music, and dance, filling the day with joy and pride.

Aloha 'ia 'io Wai'anae was more than an event; it was a reminder that Wai'anae is resilient, connected, and full of hope

into **SPRINGING** *Homes*

FamilyPromise
of Hawaii

Thanks to our community of supporters, Family Promise of Hawai'i has already served over 1,700 children, parents, and family members so far this year — 33% more than at this time last year.

We believe that every child deserves a home, and we jumped into serve families who were displaced by the Kona low storms and flooding this spring. We created a new shelter program in partnership with a Waikiki hotel and provided immediate assistance at Community Assistance Centers in Wai'anae and La'ie.

Through compassionate care and case management, families like Jasmine's, who came from an abusive relationship, have been able to rebuild their lives. Today, her family is thriving, and she looks forward to a future filled with hope, stability, and new opportunities.



Family Promise staff at the organization's third annual Brighter Futures Gala in February.

"Moving into our new home made me appreciate life again and all the things I had taken for granted," Jasmine said. I felt so grateful, and for the first time in a long time, I truly felt safe."

VOLUNTEERS are at the heart of



Volunteer with Michael, who attended digital literacy classes until he was able to get a job. Ho'omaika'i!



Aya, Estherine and Magdalena find friendship and community while attending ELL classes.

In a world where low literacy is often invisible, hidden behind silence, uncertainty, or unfilled forms, volunteers show up with patience, compassion, and a belief in each person's potential.

We are deeply grateful for the many volunteers who continue to show up. Whether serving as a tutor, helping at Bookmobile or Family Literacy Library sites, nurturing the joy of reading through read-alouds, helping with basic computer classes, giving their time in the office, or serving as a board member, volunteers remind us that literacy grows through relationships. It grows through the simple act of showing up and walking alongside someone on their learning journey.

Their service matters because literacy is about much more than reading. It's about helping people navigate school, work, healthcare, technology, and everyday life with greater confidence.

Since 1971, Hawai'i Literacy has served more than 62,000 children and adults, but the most meaningful impact is often found in the courage to take the first step and in the many steps and small victories that follow. Because of our volunteers, learners gain more than reading and writing skills; they gain confidence, connection, and a renewed sense of possibility.

HAWAII IMMIGRANT JUSTICE CENTER AT THE



LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF HAWAII

NEW MEDICARE ENROLLMENT Outreach Sites Open Up

NEED HEALTH INSURANCE ?



LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF HAWAII OFFERS FREE HELP TO ENROLL IN
MEDICAID OR MARKETPLACE HEALTH INSURANCE

VISIT ONE OF OUR OUTREACH SITES OR

CALL 808-536-4302, CHOOSE OPTION 2 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE

WEST OAHU CHRISTIAN CHURCH SAFE HAVEN

94-420 FARRINGTON HWY
WAIPAHU, HI 96797

MONDAYS, THURSDAYS
9 AM - 1 PM

IN HOUSE IN PARKING LOT

LANAKILA HEALTH CENTER

1700 LANAKILA AVE
HONOLULU, HI 96817

MONDAYS, TUESDAYS,
WEDNESDAYS
9 AM - 2 PM

IN ROOMS 104, 105

PARENTS AND CHILDREN TOGETHER AT

KUHIO PARK TERRACE

1485 LINAPUNI ST
HONOLULU, HI 96819

WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS
9 AM - 2 PM

IN COMMUNITY CENTER

CONSULATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

1888 LUSITANA ST
HONOLULU, HI 96813

TUESDAYS
9 AM - 1 PM

IN CANTINA

FAMILY PROMISE CENTER

360 CALIFORNIA AVE
WAHIAWA, HI 96786

MONDAYS
9 AM - 1 PM

IN ROOM 1

LILIHA PUBLIC LIBRARY

1515 LILIHA ST
HONOLULU, HI 96817

WEDNESDAYS
9 AM - 2 PM

IN MEETING ROOM

The Legal Aid Society of Hawaii assists people across Hawai'i with numerous civil legal issues, including helping people navigate health insurance enrollment. On Oahu, the LASH health care team serves families within the community out various outreach sites.

Recently, with the help of community partners, including the Kukui Center partner, Family Promise, the team opened up two new sites. On Mondays from 9 am - 2 pm, they will be assisting families who need help with Medicaid enrollment at the Family Promise Center in Wahiawa. Additionally, they are partnering with Waipahu High School and Safe Haven to provide services monthly at Waipahu High School.



Season of Gratefulness

Hale Kipa is deeply grateful for the support received through the **Light the World Giving Machine**. These donations provide immediate and meaningful help to youth transitioning out of foster care as they work toward independence and stability.

Thanks to this initiative, we received resources that directly address our participants' everyday needs. From hygiene kits to starter move-in items, transportation support, and educational assistance, each contribution helps remove barriers and create opportunities. These resources are more than support; they are investments in dignity, confidence, and brighter futures. For many of our participants, these resources remove barriers that might otherwise feel insurmountable.

We extend our deepest appreciation to everyone who contributed through the **Light the World Giving Machine**. Your generosity is empowering young people in our community to move forward with confidence and hope.



**Leadership
in Disabilities &
Achievement of
Hawai'i**

Supporting School Readiness: *a positive screening experience on Molokai*

by Amanda Adams, Pre-K Teacher- Kaunakakai Elementary School



Amanda Adams

My experience with the vision and hearing screening services provided to my class through the Leadership in Disabilities & Achievement of Hawaii School Readiness Project has been very positive. The team consistently arrives well-prepared, organized, and ready to serve my students efficiently. They use top-of-the-line, noninvasive instruments, which help ensure the screenings are both accurate and comfortable for the children. This program has been especially beneficial for many of my students who might not otherwise have access to these important services within our community. By bringing these screenings directly to Moloka'i, the team helps identify potential concerns early and supports student success. Many students were able to discover previously unknown vision or hearing issues, allowing them to receive early intervention and appropriate support much sooner than they otherwise would have. Identifying these challenges early has helped students become more successful in school by improving their ability to see, hear, and fully engage in learning.

I truly appreciate the team's commitment to traveling to Moloka'i and serving our community. Their dedication, professionalism, and care make a meaningful difference, and they are always welcome in my classroom.

MESSAGE OF

gratitude



healthymothers
healthybabies
COALITION OF HAWAII



In the days after the floods, we met families who had lost so much. Homes damaged, routines disrupted, and for some, even the most basic items for their children gone overnight. We were reminded quickly that disasters impact our keiki, too.

Because of our collective community, we were able to respond immediately to bring care directly into impacted neighborhoods, replacing cribs and strollers so babies had a safe place to sleep, and ensuring families could access the medications they depend on without interruption. These moments, when a parent can safely put their baby down to sleep or access critical care, are everything in the midst of a crisis. *This work is never done alone.*

It is made possible through partnership, trust, and a shared commitment to showing up for families when they need it most. Time and again, through lessons learned from COVID-19, the Maui wildfires, and now these floods; we have seen that when systems are strained, it is our community that carries families through. Disasters do not pause pregnancy, postpartum recovery, or the need for care. And together, we ensure that no family has to navigate those moments alone.

We are filled with gratitude for all of you who stand with Hawai'i's mothers, babies, and families, especially in times like these.

FROM OUR TEAM AT HEALTHY MOTHERS HEALTHY BABIES COALITION OF HAWAII

SUPPORT OUR KEIKI

Many of our 'ohana continue to face challenges in providing basic needs for their keiki. A simple gift, whether sports equipment, school supplies, or a meal, can bring joy, encouragement, and hope to a child. With your kōkua, we can continue to uplift our keiki and support 'ohana in need. Every act of generosity makes a meaningful difference.

BACKPACKS WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES

GIFT CARDS FOR LUNCH

Help a Keiki with a warm meal

CONTACT: mamong@kukuicenter.org

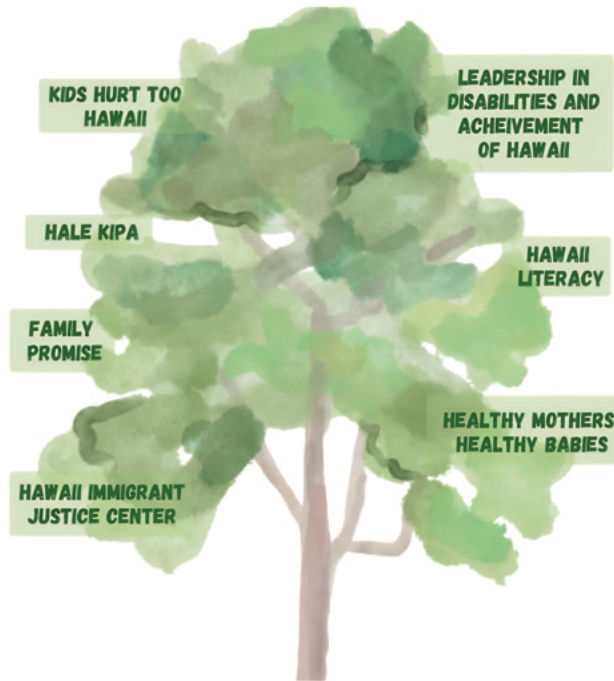
SPORTS EQUIPMENT

- soccer ball
- volleyball
- baseball with a bat/glove
- tennis ball and racket
- boogie board



Mahalo Palena 'Ole
GRATITUDE WITHOUT MEASURE

Kukui Center 'Ohana



The Kukui Tree

The Kukui Children's Foundation is a gathering place where abused, vulnerable, and disadvantaged children and families can find help, hope, and healing. Like the kukui tree, symbolizing light, guidance, protection, and peace, we strive to be a source of strength and illumination for those we serve.

Through conversations with our agencies, the Community Partners Program (CPP) was created in 2010 to meet real needs through donations, services, and volunteer support. Today, with over 80 partners, this network continues to strengthen our community and bring hope to those who need it most.

Through the CPP, individuals, businesses, and service organizations are invited to join us in supporting the children and families of the Kukui Center. Whether through pro bono services, in-kind donations, volunteer time, mentorship, or financial contributions, every act of generosity strengthens our community and uplifts those most in need.

We invite you to join our growing network of Community Partners and help meet the greatest needs of our community. For more information, contact Marlene at 808-343-2700 or email mamong@kukuicenter.org.

Mahalo Palena 'Ole to the following Community Partners for their generous donations of goods and services this Spring:

ROTARY CLUB OF HONOLULU
 ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL ADMINISTRATORS
 Terry Chin and Lauren Sharkey - Case Lombardi A Law Corporation
 ALTRES
 ALOHA DIAPER BANK

Mahalo Nui Loa for your support

PARTNERSHIPS FOR DONATIONS OF SERVICES

Ace Security & Locksmith
 Advanced Fencing Solutions
 AESolutions LLC
 Afterschool Art
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 Anthology Marketing Group
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 Professional Image Hawaii
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 RSI Roofing & Building Supply
 Simplicity HR by ALTRES
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 The CPA Collective
 The Lightman
 Tradewinds Mechanical Contractor
 YMCA of Honolulu

PARTNERSHIPS FOR DONATIONS OF FUNDS

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 Alapaka Charitable Fund
 Altres Foundation
 American Savings Bank
 Clarence T.C. Ching Foundation
 Davis Levin Livingston Charitable Foundation
 Ekkebus Charitable Foundation

PARTNERSHIPS FOR DONATIONS OF FUNDS (CONT'D)

Evans Fund
 First Insurance Charitable Foundation
 Friends of Hawaii Charities
 Ili'ili Fund
 Izumo Taishakyo Mission of Hawaii
 Jhamandas Watumull Fund
 Na Lei Aloha Foundation
 Women's League of Central Union Church

PARTNERSHIPS FOR DONATIONS OF GOODS

Aloha Diaper Bank
 American T-Shirt Company
 Association of Legal Administrators
 Beautiful Gifts Hawai'i
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 CS Wo & Sons
 GWIZ Promotions
 Honolulu Sign Company
 Kirk Hovious
 Islander Group
 Market City Shopping Center
 Jordan and Cara Odo Scholarship Foundation
 Pacific Home and Appliance Distribution
 Soderholm Bus and Mobility
 Soldat Construction
 Vim and Vigor
 W. Lau Enterprises

PARTNERSHIPS WITH VOLUNTEERS, SERVICE CLUBS & NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Arcadia Retirement Residence
 Habilitat, Inc.
 Hands in Helping Out
 Harris United Methodist Church
 Hawaii Lodging and Tourism Assn.
 Hawaii Youth Services Network
 Ikaika Hawai'i
 Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority
 Deborah Leimomi Kondo
 Luke Center for Public Service
 Bruce McEwan
 Nanakuli Housing Corporation
 Rotary Club of Honolulu
 Mary Shimizu, MBA, RA
 Seymour Kazimirski-Global Consulting Co.
 Waikiki Community Center Seniors
 Winners Camp Foundation



SPRING 2026
 Harry and Jeanette Weinberg
Kukui Center

A gathering place for those who serve vulnerable children and families

245 North Kukui Street - #103
 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817

OUR FAMILY OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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FAMILY PROMISE OF HAWAII

Preventing and ending homelessness for families with children
 808-300-0560
familypromisehawaii.org

HALE KIPA

Outreach, residential and therapeutic services for youth and young adults in crisis and those transitioning from the foster care system into adulthood
 808-589-1829 - info@halekipa.org

HAWAII LITERACY

Literacy & lifelong learning services
 808-537-6706
www.hawaiiliteracy.org

HAWAII IMMIGRANT JUSTICE CENTER AT LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF HAWAII

Civil legal services for low income families and immigrant victims of crime, including domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking
 808-536-4302 www.legalaidhawaii.org

HEALTHY MOTHERS HEALTHY BABIES COALITION OF HAWAII

Advocacy & direct services for pregnant & birthing people so that babies can be born healthy & raised in a safe & nurturing environment
 808-737-5805
info@hmhb-hawaii.org

KIDS HURT TOO HAWAII

Support for grieving & traumatized children
 808-545-5683
www.kidshurttoo.org

LEADERSHIP IN DISABILITIES & ACHIEVEMENT OF HAWAII

Training and screening center for parents of children with or at risk of disabilities and the professionals that serve them.
 808-536-9684
www.lidahawaii.org



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www.kukuicenter.org
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mamong@kukuicenter.org