



Many Hands. One Purpose

Together, our seven nonprofit agencies and Community Partners continue building stronger futures for Hawai'i's children and families.

Community is at the heart of everything we do at the Kukui Center, and our Community Partners Program is a powerful example of what can be accomplished when people come together with a shared purpose. The seven nonprofit agencies at the Kukui Center provide critical services to vulnerable children and families, and their impact is strengthened by the generosity and commitment of community partners who support their work in countless ways.

Businesses, foundations, organizations, and individuals contribute according to their own capacity. Some make financial or in-kind donations, while others volunteer their time, share professional expertise, sponsor special projects, or respond to emerging needs. Every contribution helps expand the resources available to the agencies and allows them to focus on serving those who need them most.

The Community Partners Program is more than a network of supporters—it is a collaborative effort built on shared responsibility and a collective commitment to strengthening our community. By bringing together people who care about the well-being of children and families, the program helps strengthen services, foster meaningful connections, and create lasting impact across our community. Together, these partnerships make the Kukui Center a place where collaboration leads to greater opportunities and brighter futures for thousands of children and families each year.



2011 Community Partners

The Community Partners Program began in 2011 with just 10 community partners who shared a commitment to supporting the children and families served at the Kukui Center. Today, the program has grown to more than 70 partners. We are especially grateful to our legacy partners, including: The Bead Gallery, HawaiiUSA Federal Credit Union, Habitat, Arcadia, and After-School Art, whose continued support since the program's early years helped build the strong foundation of collaboration that continues to thrive today.



By Lorraine Gershun
Executive Director



ALA Hawai'i Members & Business Partners

Mahalo Palena 'Ole GRATITUDE WITHOUT MEASURE

Behind every donation is a community of people who choose to care.

The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Kukui Center and our seven nonprofit partner agencies extend our heartfelt mahalo to the Association of Legal Administrators (ALA) Hawai'i Chapter and its members for their extraordinary generosity and compassion.

Throughout the year, ALA members have quietly responded to the unique needs of our agencies and the families they serve. Their thoughtful donations -including musical instruments, beds, car seats, baby essentials, educational supplies, office equipment, and household appliances - help provide comfort, opportunity, and hope to Hawai'i's keiki and 'ohana.

What makes ALA's support especially meaningful is that their gifts are not "one-size-fits-all." They listen. They ask what is needed. Then they respond with generosity that strengthens each agency's ability to serve our community.

As photographs on this page show, every donated item represents something much greater than its monetary value. A child discovers music. A baby sleeps safely. A family receives essential household items. A nonprofit has the tools to better serve those who turn to them during life's most difficult moments.

The Association of Legal Administrators reminds us that community is built when people use their talents, resources, and compassion to lift one another.

To every ALA Hawai'i member and business partner, Mahalo Palena 'Ole. Your kindness reaches far beyond the gifts themselves - it brings dignity, encouragement, and hope to the thousands of lives touched by the Kukui Center each year.



Bus Excursion Fee
for Summer Reading
Challenge
Hawaii Literacy



Desk Risers
Leadership in Disabilities
& Achievement of Hawai'i



Crib Bassinets, Car Seats,
Baby Wipes
Healthy Mothers
Healthy Babies



Refrigerator/Freezer
Family Promise 'Ohana
Navigation Center



Luggage and Beds
Hale Kipa



Musical Instruments
Kids Hurt Too Hawai'i



Kids Hurt Too Hawai'i
Healing Young Hearts

790 Keiki, One Hot Day, and *a whole lot of sneakers*



Makaha Community Center turned into a squeaky, sweaty celebration this July as Kids Hurt Too placed 790 pairs of brand-new sneakers onto the feet of housing-insecure keiki along the Wai'anae Coast. Foot Locker came through in a big way, and those boxes of fresh kicks didn't sit still for long—kids were ripping them open, lacing up, and testing their speed before the event even officially started.

But this wasn't just about shoes. It was about showing up for each other. Families gathered around Konane boards, with tutus and keiki passing down the old moves.

'Ulu maika stones rolled across the grass—sometimes straight, sometimes not, always good for a laugh. Plates of food, cold water, and a whole lot of shade made sure nobody went hungry or thirsty while the fun unfolded. None of this happened in a vacuum. The Department of Education helped pinpoint the families who needed these shoes most, and the Makaha Community Center threw open its doors and let the chaos roll. The partnership made all the difference.

July was hot, loud, and full of heart. For a few hours, housing status didn't matter—only smiles, new soles, and community holding it down for the keiki.

With Aloha, The Kids Hurt Too 'Ohana

MEETING THE MOMENT WITH CHILD HOMELESSNESS *ON THE RISE*

 **FamilyPromise**
of Hawaii

A family of three experiencing homelessness recently came to Family Promise of Hawai'i. While staying in our interim housing, the mom was determined to secure long-term stability for her keiki. With our support, she secured a better-paying job, her adult son found work, and together they built their savings. This spring, the family found an apartment close to loved ones and moved into their own permanent housing.

It's a bright spot at a critical time. New data confirms what we see every day: family homelessness on O'ahu is rising at an alarming rate. The number of children and families experiencing homelessness jumped 19% between 2024 and 2026 — even as overall homelessness stayed nearly flat. Since 2022, family homelessness has increased 43%.

Thanks to our community of supporters, Family Promise of Hawai'i is meeting this moment. In the first half of 2026, we served a record number — more than 2,000 children, parents, and family members across O'ahu and Maui. Every child deserves a home, and this summer, you can transform the lives of even more families.



Family Promise of Hawai'i has already served over 2,000 individuals so far this year.

Visit familypromisehawaii.org to donate, volunteer, or view our current supply wish list.



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WWW.PARENTLINEHAWAII.ORG

Parenting Support Is Just a Call or Text Away

Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Hawai'i (HMHB), proudly operates Parent Line Hawai'i: A free, confidential statewide resource helping parents and caregivers find answers, encouragement, and trusted community support.

Families can call the Parent Line at (808) 452-1832 for help with parenting challenges, child development and behavior, pregnancy and postpartum questions, caregiver concerns, and connections to local services. Parent Line also offers an extensive online directory of resources, including parenting programs, food and housing assistance, healthcare, mental health services, developmental support, and activities for keiki.

Families can now access support anytime through Parent Line's new texting service (powered by Avocado Health). The platform combines trusted, clinically reviewed artificial intelligence with human parenting expertise to provide personalized, evidence-based guidance by text. It's available for advice 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Built by pediatricians, therapists, and parents, now our families have access to a technology that makes it easier to get support for everyday questions about sleep, feeding, tantrums, milestones, school stress, and more, directly from any phone.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR OUR *community*



Student Volunteers Andrew and Liana with Law Chavez

High school student volunteers Andrew and Liana recently assisted Law Chavez, Hawaii Literacy's ELL Coordinator and Digital Literacy Instructor, during an adult digital literacy training session. By sharing their time and compassion, Andrew and Liana demonstrated how young people can make a lasting impact in the lives of others.

Every act of generosity makes a meaningful difference.

The Kukui Center was pleased to host the Hawai'i State Department of Education's **YES** (Youth Educational Stability) Project Traveling Open House in July.

The **YES** Project supports children and youth experiencing homelessness by connecting students and their families with educational services, school stability supports, and community resources that promote success and well-being.

Mahalo nui loa to April Lum, LSW, Institutional Analyst, and the dedicated staff of the Hawai'i State Department of Education for bringing the **YES** Traveling Open House to the Kukui Center. Their commitment helps connect children, youth, and families with valuable educational resources and support.

To schedule a visit from the **YES** Traveling Open House, please contact April Lum at april.lum@k12.hi.us.



YES and the
Kukui Center Staff



P.I.K.O.: FINDING OUR CENTER, BUILDING OUR FUTURE

For more than 35 years, Hale Kipa has supported youth experiencing homelessness through its youth outreach program, formerly known as YO! (Youth Outreach). Established in 1989, the program became a trusted resource by meeting young people where they were—on the streets of Waikiki—with compassionate outreach, basic necessities, crisis intervention, and connections to housing and supportive services.

Today, Hale Kipa proudly introduces P.I.K.O. (People Imparting Kindness Outreach), a renewed vision that honors this legacy while responding to the changing realities of youth homelessness across O'ahu. Street outreach resumed in May 2026, and on August 3, 2026, P.I.K.O. will open its new Hub at 1828 Makuahine Street in Kalihi.

#FindYourPiko An invitation for youth to discover their center—a place of belonging, hope, and connection.

Program Manager: Phil Humphrey
phumphrey@halekipa.org 808-501-4025

In Hawaiian, piko means center, connection, and the place from which life begins. It reflects our belief that every young person deserves a place of belonging where they can reconnect with hope, build relationships, and move toward a brighter future. #FindYourPiko is an invitation for youth to discover that center. P.I.K.O. operates through two connected services: The Hub and The Bridge. The Hub provides meals, showers, laundry, hygiene supplies, case management, workforce development, educational support, life skills training, and connections to housing, healthcare, and behavioral health services. The Bridge is our street outreach team, engaging youth wherever they are and building trusting relationships that connect them to resources when they are ready.

Youth homelessness has changed. While it was once highly visible in Waikiki, many young people today are hidden; couch surfing, living in unstable housing, staying in vehicles, or avoiding public spaces for safety. P.I.K.O. is evolving to meet youth where they are today, ensuring every young person has access to safety, support, and the opportunity to thrive.

LIFE IN THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS *for Families*

The Hawaiian Islands are the most beautiful yet remote places for families to reside. Living on an island definitely has its perks, yet resources here can be scarce. Having a child with a disability means access to care may be daunting. *What are some of the ways families can overcome the challenges of living on an island, and how can they find access to resources?*

Parents of children with disabilities have discovered a recipe to help you! First and foremost, do your research. Mothers can do better research than the CIA; however, This requires a specialized network of support that goes beyond Google. Find a support group with other parents who have knowledge of vetted resources. For example, children with autism benefit from medical care from physicians who are experienced in, and knowledgeable about, autism spectrum disorders (ASD). In Hawai'i, we have a few. Talk to your network of friends or that parent support group you found to know the right physician for you. With the prevalence of ASD increasing, the need for effective intervention, educational, and therapeutic services is paramount.

Educate yourself to be your child's best advocate by accessing reliable sources of information. The National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorder, an evidence-based practice report, offers empirical support for effective autism-specific interventions. Additionally, under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), every state, including Hawai'i, is required to have a Parent Training & Information (PTI) center; LDAH is the designated PTI for the State. Gaining valuable knowledge is often an ingredient that empowers parents to create a recipe of resources that fit the unique needs of their child. Other helpful hints include a sense of humor, surrounding yourself with people who know and love your child, and building relationships that foster a community of continuing support. Together, all of these protective factors can build resilient families who can learn to successfully navigate the nature of life in the Hawaiian Islands



Leadership
in Disabilities &
Achievement of
Hawai'i



GROWING LITERACY: ROOTED IN COMMUNITY

Hawai'i Literacy's Adult Literacy Program is growing in exciting ways to help address the needs of the 1 in 6 adults across the state with low levels of literacy by strengthening reading, writing, and life skills.

One especially inspiring area of growth has been on Moloka'i. In partnership with the library and community health center, a dedicated team of tutors and volunteers has been building a strong foundation for a community-based Adult Literacy presence. Thanks to the leadership of a tutor who has championed expanded services, doors are opening to more learning opportunities for adults on the island. Her dedication has already created a ripple effect: the mother of the man she tutors was inspired to volunteer and recently completed tutor training. In that same training group was a young woman who, as a child, watched her mother serve as a tutor. Inspired by that example, she shared that she had always hoped that one day she, too, could become a tutor.

Under the leadership of new program manager Celeste Oshiro Wong, the program has focused not only on direct service, but also on building a stronger foundation for greater impact. Redesigned tutor onboarding and training, along with new curriculum and goal-setting, are creating brighter opportunities for adult learners across Hawai'i.



HAWAII
IMMIGRANT
JUSTICE
CENTER

Birthright Citizenship and COFA Migrants

Four days before the United States' 250th birthday, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a ruling upholding birthright citizenship in *Trump v. Barbara*. The Court held that children born in the United States, regardless of their parents' immigration status, are "subject to the jurisdiction" of the United States and therefore are United States citizens at birth under the Fourteenth Amendment's Citizenship Clause. Under the Citizenship Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, "[a]ll persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."

The Supreme Court's decision in *Trump v. Barbara*, is unsurprising as it confirms what the law has been in the United States since 1868. It does bring welcome relief and clarity for many in Hawai'i who may have worried about the citizenship of their children. If the government's attempt to restrict citizenship had been successful, many children, including those with parents who are in the United States under the Compacts of Free Association (COFA), may have been left with unclear citizenship status. After the Supreme Court's decision, it is decisively clear that all children born in the U.S.--no matter their parentage--are U.S. citizens with full and equal rights.





Mahalo Palena 'Ole **GRATITUDE WITHOUT MEASURE**

Investing in the Future of Hawai'i's Keiki through Education and Opportunity

The Agencies at the Kukui Center extend their deepest mahalo to the Rotary Club of Honolulu for their continued generosity and unwavering commitment to Hawai'i's keiki and 'ohana. Their recent gifts - backpacks filled with school supplies, Lenovo Chromebooks, HP Chromebooks, Fire Kids Pro, and Fire 10 tablets have already begun making a meaningful difference throughout the Kukui Center. These gifts are much more than backpacks with school supplies and technology. They are opportunities. They are encouragement. They send a powerful message to every child and 'ohana who receives them: *your community believes in you and is investing in your future.*

One of the greatest blessings of the Kukui Center is the opportunity to bring together community partners like the Rotary Club of Honolulu with nonprofit organizations at the Kukui Center dedicated to serving Hawai'i's most vulnerable keiki and 'ohana. The Rotary Club of Honolulu's generosity strengthens not only the individual agencies but our entire collaborative mission.

Mahalo to the Rotary Club of Honolulu for your aloha, your compassion, and your commitment to making our community a better place. Your service truly embodies the *Rotary motto, "Service Above Self,"* and inspires all of us who have the privilege of working alongside you.

The Kukui Center and the thousands of keiki and 'ohana whose lives are touched by your generosity extend our heartfelt mahalo nui loa. Your kindness is creating opportunities, inspiring hope, and helping build brighter futures for children and families throughout our community.



HAWAII LITERACY



KIDS HURT TOO HAWAII



HALE KIPA



SUMMER 2026
Harry and Jeanette Weinberg
Kukui Center

A gathering place for those who serve vulnerable children and families

245 North Kukui Street - #103
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