



HCAP Weekly

A weekly e-newsletter of the Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc.
For the week of October 4, 2010

“Providing Opportunities and Inspiration since 1965”

HCAP Leeward District Center Building Pre-Construction Blessing



Work on the long-awaited new **Leeward District Center** building started this week with a blessing of the Waianae construction site. Pastors Jay & Geri Amina and former HCAP Board Member, Reverend Bob Nakata, led a group, including HCAP Executive Director Robert Piper and HCAP Leeward District Center Manager Val Tavai, in asking for a safe and successful construction project. Also present were Robert Naniole-Director of Community Services, Karl Espaldon-Director of Planning, Program Development and Communications, Robert Irvine-Construction Project Manager, Miguel Biaz, and Marie Witney, SCSEP Trainees.

On Wednesday, HCAP held its annual **Board of Directors Installation Dinner** at Kapiolani Community College’s Ka’Ikena Restaurant. Acting Office of Community Services Executive Director, Dr. Keith Yabusaki, swore in HCAP Board Members for the 2010-2011, including Chair Kevin Souza, Vice-Chair Ella Abe, and Secretary-Treasurer, Rep. Isaac Choy. Also sworn in were new District and Policy Council members. Kauai Economic Opportunity CEO, Mabel Fujiuchi, gave the keynote address. Ms. Fujiuchi, the “dean” of Hawaii Community Action Agency directors, spoke about the history, mission, and success of community action in alleviating poverty in the state.



HCAP is pleased to announce that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Family & Youth Services Bureau has awarded HCAP a new 2010 Mentoring Children of Prisoners discretionary grant! The three-year grant award will allow the **Malama Pono Youth Mentoring Program** not only to continue its work, but also to expand its services island-wide and provide greater support to mentors, mentees, and caregivers.

HCAP Head Start staff attended the Third Annual P-3 Wai’anae Coast Conference – An Elementary & Early Childhood Cross Collaborative Conference at Ihi-lani Marriot Resort at Ko Olina. Pre-



presented by INPEACE, the conference presented early childhood education providers, and elementary school teachers and administrators, with ideas and practices to improve a child’s transition from pre-school to kindergarten, and from kindergarten to first grade. Staff attended workshops on Curriculum Development, Culture Based Education, Native Hawaiian Culture, Comprehensive Services, Parent Engagement, and Teacher Collaboration. Head Start parent and outgoing Policy Council Chair, Chris Hernandez, was featured on a Parent Engagement panel that discussed the importance of parent participation.

Head Start also participated in the 17th Annual Children & Youth Day held last Sunday on the grounds of the State Capitol. Over 200 free, fun, and educational activities for children and teens were provided by community agencies and businesses in support of this event. Head Start staff provided program literature and information to interested parents and caregivers and led fun activities for the children.



Kalihi-Palama (KP) District Center staff attended the 2010 Annual Hawaii Food Bank Agency Conference. At the Conference, KP staff learned about food safety, working with food assistance clients, cultural competency, resource identification and asset leveraging. KP oversees close to 60 food distributions a year in the Kalihi-Palama area, with the assistance of over 50 dedicated and hardworking community volunteers.

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