Hā Initiative: Creative STEM After-School Program Students Gather for Friendly Pinewood Derby Competition

In September, students, parents and staff from the Hā Initiative: Creative STEM After-School Program’s five STEM Exploration Centers gathered at the Leeward STEM Exploration Center for their first ever Pinewood Derby Competition. A total of 53 students and 17 parents engaged in team building, collaboration, and good sportsmanship. The students were excited to test out their aerodynamic, (mostly) friction-free designs and make friends with other students from across the island.

To prepare for this exciting event, students embarked on journey that embraced and enlightened their engineering skills. Over the course of a several weeks, they learned about force and motion, the process of choosing an aerodynamic shape, drafting a template for the car, cutting, and assembling the car. The students worked in small teams to design, build, and decorate their dream car.

From the racetrack, which is approximately 30 feet long, 4 cars at a time were released simultaneously, from the highest point of the track (approximately 4 feet high) and powered by gravity alone! The students discovered the incline of the track, height, mass, and velocity directly related to the speed of the car. Everyone had a blast watching the cars and it was almost like being at a real NASCAR race. Cheers were even heard from outside the building. The students raced their cars in several heats, until the fastest car was determined. Jinghao, a 4th grade student from the Kalihi STEM Exploration Center designed the winning car, besting 25 other vehicles. He commented, “That was the most fun day ever! It’s neat that I won, but we were all winners that day because we all learned and we had fun!”
HCAP Expands Services to Include the ‘Hale Kākou’ Rent, Deposit, and Utility Assistance Program

In September, HCAP began partnering with Aloha United Way and the State of Hawaii to implement the ‘Hale Kākou’ Rent, Deposit, and Utility Assistance Program. The purposes of the program are eviction prevention and rapid re-housing.

Through Governor David Ige’s three-tier approach for addressing homelessness—affordable housing, health and human services, and public safety—and supported by recently-allocated state funding for homeless issues, HCAP is participating in the Coordinated Statewide Homeless Initiative to assist homeless individuals and families who are “house-ready,” and those who are at-risk of homelessness.

Hale Kākou provides three types of assistance to those who are eligible: rent assistance, security deposits, and “companion” utility payments. Eligibility guidelines fall under two categories: homeless and at-risk of homelessness. Those who are currently homeless must be “house-ready,” meaning they must have a source of income, but lack a regular, fixed, and adequate nighttime residence. At-risk of homelessness are those facing impending eviction due to non-payment of rent or utilities. All households receiving assistance must demonstrate the potential to sustain future rent payments.

Leeward District Service Center Assists Hawaii Section 8 Program Applicants

The Leeward District Service Center received a flurry of phone calls when the State of Hawaii announced that it would temporarily open its wait list for the Section 8 program.

According to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA), Section 8 is a program that provides rental assistance to eligible low-income families, and guarantees monthly payments to owners. The family’s portion of the rent is based on household income and ranges from 30% to 40% of the family’s adjusted monthly income. The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) pays the rest of the rent directly to the landlord. HPHA serves all of the City and County of Honolulu. With some restrictions, Section 8 housing assistance allows families to live in a qualified unit and area of their choice.

Vying for 50 spots, over 1,200 Hawaii residents were expected to apply for Section 8 housing. Leeward District Service Center’s Community Workers, Georgette and Leilani tirelessly assisted the interested applicants with the application process.

Applicant preferences included: individuals/families who are homeless, victims of domestic violence or individuals who have been involuntarily displaced.

More than half of the applicants who applied at the Leeward District Service Center were homeless.
Central District Service Center Staff Go the Extra Mile to Help LIHEAP Applicants

During the month of June, the Central District Service Center staff Taumafai and Lahela assisted many applicants applying for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

One of the applicants they assisted was Kim. Kim, a hearing impaired LIHEAP applicant, contacted the Leahi District Service Center requesting an American Sign Language Interpreter. The Leahi District Service Center immediately contacted Taumafai, who performs sign language interpreting. Taumafai made arrangements to meet Kim at the Leahi District Service Center. This was Kim's first time applying for the LIHEAP program and she was worried about her ability to communicate with the staff. Taumafai greeted Kim through sign language, which allowed Kim to feel more comfortable with the application process. Taumafai was able to assist Kim with applying for the program and Kim was very grateful for HCAP's assistance.

The Central District Service Center also received a call from Corine and John, a young couple with two young children, whose electricity was disconnected the day before. Corine and John, despite both working full time, find it difficult to make ends meet. Corine was very concerned about getting her electricity turned back on because their children had already spent the night with no electricity. Lahela was able to contact HECO and make arrangements to restore Corine and John's electric service. Corine and John were very happy to have their electricity restored and thanked the HCAP staff for helping them so quickly.

In total, 4834 applications were completed and submitted for the 2016 LIHEAP Energy Credit program.

Employee Anniversaries
Mahalo to our staff who reached these milestones of service this quarter!

15 Years
Joy Dela Cruz - Head Start Teacher II

10 Years
Jennifer Tanele - Head Start Education Program Manager
Board of Directors

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Garrick L.H. Goo
Chair
Pauni Nagaseu-Escue
Vice Chair
Representative Isaac W. Choy
Secretary/Treasurer

2015-2016 BOARD MEMBERS

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Tricia Kirn
Head Start Policy Council
Kiani Cockett
Central District Council
Julianna Moefu-Kaleopa
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Pauni Nagaseu-Escue
Kalani-Palama District Council
Rebecca Allen
Leahi District Advisory Council
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Rep. Isaac W. Choy
Mayor’s Representative
Mark L. Forman
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Governor’s Representative
Colleen Minami
Office of Representative Marcus Oshiro
Blake Oshiro
Office of Representative Calvin Say
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Hawaii State Judiciary

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Garrick L.H. Goo
Attorney at Law
Phyllis Ida
P-3 Windward Grant
Samuel Moku
Hawaii Pacific University
Judy Hirashima
Hawaiian Electric Company
Alan Shinn
Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawaii
William Shiroma
Bank of Hawaii
Elmer Kaai
Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce

Executive Director
Robert N.E. Piper, Esq., MBA

Mahalo to HCAP Board Members for their Continued Support

Throughout the quarter, HCAP board members attended various trainings to learn more about their role and responsibility as board members, federal and state rules and regulations, HCAP as an agency, and the programs and services HCAP provides.

In July, HCAP staff and board members attended a three-day training offered by the National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSP) and the State Office of Community Services. The training covered topics including Board Governance, OMB Uniform Guidance, and the current environment for Community Action. Mahalo to HCAP Board Members Garrick L.H. Goo, Rebecca Allen, Terrence Aratani, Judy Hirashima, Phyllis Ida, Elmer Kaai, and Samuel Moku for taking the time out of their busy schedules to attend the training.

In September, HCAP Board Members attended Board Governance training presented by HCAP Executive Director Robert N.E. Piper, Director of Planning, Program Development and Communications Michael Hane, and Head Start Director Lynn Cabato.

In September, HCAP board members attended the HCAP Board of Directors’ Program Orientation and Tour. The board members toured several program sites around the island and received in depth presentations about all of HCAP’s programs and services.
Mahalo to our Funders

HCAP would like to thank the following donors and funders.
From July 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016, HCAP received funding from the following:

**Aloha United Way**- $53,000 grant award to HCAP for Coordinated Statewide Homeless Initiative

**The Clarence T.C. Ching Foundation**- $13,720 grant award to HCAP Youth Services

**Friends of Hawaii Robotics**- $1,875 grant award to the Hā Initiative: Creative STEM After-School Program

**Hawaii Lodging & Tourism Association, Visitor Industry Charity Walk**- $10,000 grant award to Kumuhonua Transitional Living Center

**Starbucks**- $25,000 grant award to HCAP Youth Services

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**HCAP In The News**

On August 25, 2016 the Hā Initiative: Creative STEM After-School Program was featured in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser. The article, titled “Hands-on learning bolsters students’ STEM expertise” talked about the program’s unique offerings and shared quotes from students and a parent from the Waiahole STEM Exploration Center.

The story may be viewed at [http://www.staradvertiser.com/features/hands-on-learning-bolsters-students-stem-expertise/](http://www.staradvertiser.com/features/hands-on-learning-bolsters-students-stem-expertise/)

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**Features**

**Hands-on learning bolsters students’ STEM expertise**

By Dominique Times
times@staradvertiser.com
August 25, 2016

![Image](https://via.placeholder.com/150)

Handson learning bolsters students’ STEM expertise,

By Dominique Times

Bruce Asato / BASATO@STARADVERTISER.COM

Fourth grader Kaela Sirota explains how a lightweight wooden car moves as volunteer Brian Matsumoto, who is an engineer, looks on at the Ha Initiative program at Waiahole Elementary School recently.

Keith Nakano, technical projects coordinator at the Ha Initiative, showed students at the program’s Waiahole Elementary School location a pine wood derby car Aug. 12 to inspire them to build their own.

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[Learn more about HCAP's work at their website](http://www.hcapinc.org).
Family of Five Gets New Water Heater Through Weatherization Services

Whiston's five-member household was without hot water for six months. He compared their living situation to “camping.” With the Residential Energy Solutions Initiative (RESI) Program, HCAP was able to assist Whiston and his family with an array of energy saving devices at no cost to them. They were given LED light bulbs that have low energy consumption and last longer than an average light bulb, an energy-efficient refrigerator, and a solar water heater. Now they can reduce their energy burden and finally have hot water again!

HCAP’s Weatherization Services prioritize services to seniors, families with young children, people with disabilities, households with high-energy usage, and families experiencing a high-energy burden. Program eligibility is income-based; families with at least one household member receiving TANF or SSI benefits are encouraged to apply.

HCAP Head Start Children Begin New School Year

The Kalihi Kai Head Start classroom kicked off the school year by engaging students in developing Positive Behavior Support Rules. Having rules in the classroom helps children take care of their classroom and materials, know classroom expectations, and respect themselves and their peers.

At the start of the year, the Kalihi Kai Head Start children also enjoyed the first of many story times! Reading aloud to young children helps them acquire the information and skills they need to succeed in school and in life. Some of the skills acquired during story time include learning the meaning of words, acquiring knowledge of printed letters and spoken words, and learning the relationship between sound and print. The children also learned about varieties of writing styles, the difference between written language and everyday conversation, and most importantly how fun reading can be!
## Interim Financial Update

**Second Quarter FY 2017**

**April 1, 2016 - September 30, 2016**

*Unaudited, Cash Basis*

### CURRENT PROGRAMS BY FUNDING SOURCE
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC)</td>
<td>01/25/16 - 06/30/16</td>
<td>350,000</td>
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<td>Aloha United Way- Coordinated Statewide Homeless Initiative</td>
<td>08/12/16 - TBD</td>
<td>53,000</td>
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<td>Clarence T.C. Ching Foundation</td>
<td>05/16/16 - 12/31/16</td>
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<td>Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)</td>
<td>10/01/15 - 09/30/16</td>
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<td>Cooke Foundation - Youth Services</td>
<td>05/13/16 - 05/12/17</td>
<td>13,720</td>
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<td>Friends of Hawaii Charity</td>
<td>05/26/16 - 01/31/17</td>
<td>4,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Head Start</td>
<td>04/01/16 - 03/31/17</td>
<td>12,762,900</td>
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<td>Head Start Full-Day Full-Year</td>
<td>04/01/16 - 03/31/17</td>
<td>1,507,135</td>
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<td>Kumuhonua Transitional Living Center - DHS Stipend</td>
<td>08/01/15 - 07/31/16</td>
<td>360,000</td>
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<td>Kumuhonua Transitional Living Center - Program Income</td>
<td>08/01/15 - 07/31/16</td>
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<td>Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)</td>
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<td>Office of Economic Development (Mayor's Grant)</td>
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<td>Residential Energy Solutions Initiative (RESI)</td>
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<td>Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)</td>
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<td>Starbucks Foundation - Youth Services</td>
<td>08/01/16 - 07/31/16</td>
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<td>Department of Human Services-Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)- STEM</td>
<td>01/01/16 - 12/31/16</td>
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<td>Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)</td>
<td>12/07/15 - 09/30/16</td>
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<td>Youth Services</td>
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<td>Youth Services</td>
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### GRANTS & OTHER SUPPORT
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<th>Source</th>
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<tr>
<td>Federal grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nonfederal grants</td>
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<td>Program &amp; other income</td>
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<td>Interest Income</td>
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<td>Contributions</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-kind contributions</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>9,748,136</td>
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### GRANTS & OTHER SUPPORT Chart

**Program Services**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>YTD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education &amp; childcare</td>
<td>6,607,375</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior employment &amp; training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Job training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other community services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management &amp; general</td>
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<td>Supporting services</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-kind contributions</td>
<td>1,469,785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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</table>

**Program Services Chart**
Mahalo 1,000 times!

Thank you for your continued support of HCAP!

This quarter HCAP reached 1,000 LIKES on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/HCAPhi