Mother and Son Stay Focused, Secure Permanent Housing

In 2014, personal circumstances led Jaydeen and her son Tristan to become homeless. With no friends or family to stay with, Jaydeen and Tristan entered a family shelter in 2015 and sought resources to obtain permanent housing.

In the summer of 2015, Jaydeen and Tristan moved into the Kumuhonua Transitional Living Center. From the moment they arrived at the center, Jaydeen and Tristan were committed to doing whatever was necessary in order to better themselves. Not long after moving into the center, Jaydeen began working full-time. She proved to be a dedicated employee, despite the lengthy commute she had to make. Tristan continued attending college full-time, and worked tirelessly to ensure he stayed on top of his class assignments while working two part-time jobs.

In addition to remaining committed to bettering their futures, Jaydeen and Tristan also made it their priority to comply with Kumuhonua’s program requirements. Jaydeen worked with her case manager to find a community service activity that met her work schedule. Each Kumuhonua resident is required to participate in a community service activity at the Transitional Living Center. Jaydeen established a savings fund and increased the amount in her savings fund each month. Tristan also made it a priority to keep in frequent contact with his case manager. Like his mom, Tristan also increased the amount of his savings while living at Kumuhonua.

Less than four months after moving to Kumuhonua, Jaydeen and Tristan secured affordable permanent housing, and are now living in their own two-bedroom apartment in Pearl City. The staff at Kumuhonua are proud of all that Jaydeen and Tristan accomplished in such a short period of time.
HCAP’s Income Tax Services Program Helps Couple Save

Daniel and Zipporah have filed their Income Taxes at the Kalihi-Palama District Service Center for the past few years. Prior to filing their taxes with HCAP, the couple would pay between $300 and $400 in tax preparation fees. During the 2014 tax season, they heard about the Income Tax Services Program offered by HCAP. In partnership with the IRS and as part of the Hawaii Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) & Financial Empowerment Coalition, HCAP’s Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) income tax services program helps working families and individuals get the federal tax credits they have earned. Seeing that they qualified and that the program was free of charge, Daniel and Zipporah immediately called the Kalihi-Palama District Service Center to schedule an appointment.

As parents of four young children, Daniel and Zipporah greatly appreciated HCAP’s Income Tax Services Program. The program has helped them save hundreds of dollars each year in tax preparation fees alone. They told HCAP staff that now they get excited about filing their taxes. Because of the program, Daniel and Zipporah have been able to pay their bills, buy their kids things they normally could not afford, and pay off their school loans. This year, Daniel and Zipporah will be using their refund to help pay for a family car!

Every year, Daniel and Zipporah have called the Kalihi-Palama District Service Center to express their appreciation. HCAP staff would like to wish Daniel and Zipporah all the best, and look forward to helping them file their taxes next year.

Kalihi-Palama STEM Students Create a “Voting App”

This spring, Hà Initiative: Creative STEM After-School Program students at the Kalihi-Palama STEM Exploration Center were introduced to civics, public speaking, and computer engineering. In the spirit of the ongoing presidential race, the class held “Super Wednesday!” First, the students were each asked to come up with three problems that affected them or their communities. The children brought forth topics such as homelessness, lack of money, and educational challenges. Then students were asked, “If you were the Mayor or President, what would you do to address these problems?” Finally, each student wrote a personal campaign speech and held a classroom debate.

The STEM portion of the activity was to create a simple and efficient “Voting App” to help conduct a mock election. In the app the students created, they were able to enter their nominated candidates for “Class President of STEM.” They then created a mock-voting booth consisting of a refrigerator box to make the votes private, and used the Smart board as the voting machine.

The kids were excited to vote, and everyone in attendance cast their ballot, including volunteers, Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) workers, and the teacher. This was a fun, engaging activity that everyone in the class enjoyed!
The Hā Initiative: Creative STEM After-School Program Hosts Family Nights

The Hā Initiative: Creative STEM After-School Program hosted quarterly Family Nights in March. Parents, siblings, family members, and the community were invited to attend the Family Nights at each STEM Exploration Center to see what the students have been learning in the program.

The Pālolo STEM Exploration Center displayed many of their past and present student projects, reports, and illustrations. Students and parents enjoyed viewing class projects such as the human body and the life cycle of a butterfly.

The Windward STEM Exploration Center had been learning about self-sustaining aquaponics systems, chemical elements, and how these systems were sustained in many cultures throughout the world. Parents and participants were excited to create their own aquaponics project using a 2-liter plastic bottle, a live plant, gravel, and a fish. While putting together their project, the students proudly shared their knowledge with their parents.

The Leeward STEM Exploration Center students proudly shared their outdoor garden. The students have been growing green beans, eggplant, cucumbers, tomatoes and pineapple. The students harvested 15 cucumbers, 10 eggplants and 5 tomatoes for their families to take home and use to cook healthy meals. The students also discussed the charts and logs they used to monitor the growth of the garden plants, and how natural compost helps to provide nutrients to the soil.

The Central STEM Exploration Center students and families created a hydroponics project using 2-liter plastic bottles, cotton cloth, soil, water, and marigold seeds. Parents and participants filled the bottom half of the plastic bottle with water, threaded the cloth through the inverted cut bottle top and placed it on the on the bottom half. After filling the inverted top with soil, the students planted the seeds. The students explained that once the seeds sprouted, they would need to be kept in the sunlight in order to grow. The water would then be soaked upwards by the cloth to the soil. Parents were proud to see how much the students had learned in the STEM classroom.

The Kalihi-Palama STEM Exploration Center theme was, “Get Out The Vote!” For the family night STEM activity, the kids showcased the ‘Voting App’ that they designed, programmed, and created graphics for. The participants entered in the voting candidates for the night, “Who should eat first, kids or parents?” This was followed by a brief but lively debate amongst the approximately 50 children and adults in attendance. In the end, the kids programmed the options into their voting app then set up a makeshift voting booth made of cardboard to ensure private voting. The election process took several minutes, but finally Mr. Chris had a drumroll before reading the results: Kids took 80% of the vote. In the end, the take home lesson was, “No vote, no grumble.”
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Executive Director
Robert N.E. Piper, Esq., MBA

HCAP In The News

• On January 13, 2016, Midweek shared information on applying for HCAP’s Head Start program for the 2016-2017 school year.

• On February 2, 2016, KHON2 reported information about HCAP’s Income Tax Services. The story is available here: http://khon2.com/2016/02/02/free-tax-preparation-services-available-to-low-income-oahu-residents/

• On February 17, 2016, Midweek shared information on HCAP’s Income Tax Services program

• On March 9, 2016, Midweek shared information on HCAP’s Weatherization Services

Na Lima Hana Employment Core Services Participant Finds Full-Time Employment

Merae was referred to the Leahi District Service Center by Rebecca Allen, General Manager of Vancouver Transitional Housing. She was looking for employment and needed assistance with the process. Merae had been laid off from her job at a restaurant. Since she was unemployed and seeking work, Merae decided to sign-up for the Na Lima Hana Employment Core Services Program. Reiko, a Leahi District Community Worker, was able to assist her with career goals planning, resume building, and basic job readiness skills. Merae was hired at Nijiya Market as a full-time Food Prep and Cook. Merae expressed gratitude for the support, guidance and assistance she received from staff at the Leahi District Service Center.
On Friday, March 11th, HCAP Head Start parents and staff visited the Hawaii State Capitol to advocate for Early Childhood Education. Organized groups visited the offices of over 75 Senators and Representatives, including a visit to the office of Governor David Ige and Lieutenant Governor Shan Tsutsui. HCAP Head Start 2016 calendars and packets containing Head Start program information were hand delivered to each office. HCAP Head Start staff and parents approached each office with confidence, ready to engage in conversation and share stories about the positive impact of HCAP Head Start.

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

25 Years
Debora Wegesend- Head Start Teacher I

15 Years
Gail Galon- Head Start Assistant Teacher
Lori Tanno- Head Start Assistant Teacher

10 Years
Katherine Belon- Head Start Assistant Teacher
Weatherization Assistance Program Taking Applications

The HCAP Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) helps to reduce energy costs for eligible low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring health & safety. Through a home energy audit plus household-specific energy efficiency tips and education, and a selection of cost-effective energy efficient measures, struggling households can reduce their energy consumption by up to 40%. Some of those measures may include high-efficiency faucet aerators & showerheads, compact fluorescent lighting (CFL) or Light Emitting Diode lighting (LED), and/or an energy-efficient solar or hybrid heat pump water heater, all provided free of charge.

Program eligibility is income-based; families with at least one household member receiving TANF or SSI benefits are encouraged to apply. For more information, or to apply for the Weatherization Assistance Program, please contact the HCAP District Service Center nearest you.

Central (808) 488-6834
Kalihi-Palama (808) 847-0804
Leahi (808) 732-7755
Leeward (808) 696-4261
Windward (808) 239-5754

HCAP Head Start Taking Applications

HCAP Head Start is a federally funded program that provides quality services to qualifying preschoolers and their families. From our humble beginning as a summer project in 1965, we have grown to become the largest early childhood program in the State of Hawaii serving over 1,659 children and their families each year.

Head Start services are provided through part-day and full-day center-based programs, and home-based programs.

HCAP Head Start firmly believes that the lives of young children and their families can be enriched and strengthened by the quality of the program we provide to them. HCAP Head Start provides a safe, nurturing and inclusive environment for children and families; a developmentally appropriate preschool curriculum that addresses all areas of growth and development; learning experiences within the context of children’s culture and communities; and creates partnerships with families to support them in their roles as primary educators, nurturers and advocates for their children.
Interim Financial Update
Fourth Quarter FY 2016
April 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016
*Unaudited, Cash Basis

GRANTS & OTHER SUPPORT

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Description</th>
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<td>Federal grants</td>
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<td>Nonfederal grants</td>
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<td>Program &amp; other income</td>
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<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>In-kind contributions</td>
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GRANTS & OTHER SUPPORT (Pie Chart)

- Federal Grants/USDA: 28%
- Nonfederal Grants: 6%
- Program & Other Income: 73%
- Interest Income: 0%
- Contributions: 0%
- In-Kind Contributions: 0%

PROGRAM SERVICES

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<thead>
<tr>
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<td>Education &amp; childcare</td>
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<td>Senior employment &amp; training</td>
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<td>Job training</td>
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<td>Other community services</td>
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<td>Management &amp; general</td>
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<td>In-kind contributions</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>22,853,587</strong></td>
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PROGRAM SERVICES (Pie Chart)

- Education and Child Care: 55%
- Senior Employment and Training: 17%
- Other Community Services: 14%
- Job Training: 9%
- Management & General: 3%
Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc.
33 South King Street, Suite 300, Honolulu, HI 96813
Tel: (808)521-4531     Fax: (808)521-4538     E-mail: hcap@hcapweb.org

District Service Centers
Central
Tel: 488-6834     Fax: 488-7862
99-102 Kalaloa St. Aiea, HI 96701
Kalihi-Palama
Tel: 847-0804     Fax: 841-7971
1555 Haka Dr. #2408 Honolulu, HI 96817
Leahi
Tel: 732-7755     Fax: 735-6034
1915 Palolo Ave. Honolulu, HI 96816
Leeward
Tel: 696-4261     Fax: 696-0169
85-555 Farrington Hwy. Waianae, HI 96792
Windward
Tel: 239-5754     Fax: 239-3912
47-232 Waihee Rd. Kaneohe, HI 96744

Programs
Hā Initiative: Creative STEM After-School Program
Tel: 521-4531     Fax: 521-4538
Kumuhonua Transitional Living Center
Tel: 682-5494     Fax: 682-5495
Na Lima Hana- Employment Core Services
Tel: 521-4531     Fax: 521-4538
Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)
Tel: 521-4531     Fax: 521-4538
Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)
Tel: 521-4531     Fax: 521-4538
Youth Services
Tel: 591-1766     Fax: 591-1768

HCAP Head Start
Head Start Dillingham
Tel: 847-2400     Fax: 847-2302
Head Start Kunia (HARC)
Tel: 200-7690     Fax: 200-4780
Head Start Kunia
Tel: 621-5099     Fax: 621-3842

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