# Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc. *Providing Opportunities and Inspiration Since 1965*



# Ku'i Na Lono

Spread the News

SPRING 2016

# 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

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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.

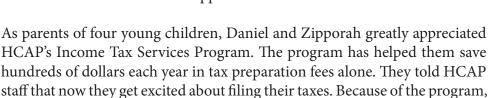
Less than four months after moving to Kumuhonua, Jaydeen and Tristan secured affordable permanent housing, and are now living in their own two-bedroom apartment in Pearl City. The staff at Kumuhonua are proud of all that Jaydeen and Tristan accomplished in such a short period of time.

Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc. is a non-profit community action agency serving low-income Oahu residents. In 2015, HCAP assisted over 20,000 seniors, adults, youth & children with employment, education, housing & basic needs.



## **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.





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, Hā 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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## **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.



# **HCAP Programs Visit the State Capitol**

Youth Services C-Base students ventured to the State Capitol for an in-depth look at how our government works. The tour helped the students to understand the law making process, including where a bill begins and how it moves through the legislature. During the Government and Law unit, students also learned about taxes, the differences between civil and criminal law, and how the executive and judicial branches of government operate. HCAP Board Member, Representative Isaac Choy (House District 23), also took time to speak with and inspire the students.



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.



Senator Michelle Kidani with HCAP Head Start Staff and Parents

# **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 homebased 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

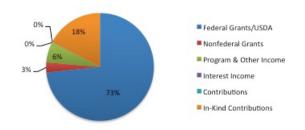
## April 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016

## \*Unaudited, Cash Basis

CURRENT PROGRAMS BY FUNDING SOURCE	PROGRAM PERIOD	BUDGET
21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC)	01/25/16 - 07/31/16	350,000
Atherton Family Foundation- STEM	03/10/15 - 03/09/16	10,000
Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)	10/01/14 - 09/30/15 10/01/15 - 09/30/16	1,857,685 2,016,929.57
Friends of Hawaii Charities - Kupuna Independent Life Series	06/05/15 - 12/31/15	3,325
Friends of Hawaii Robotics- STEM	06/01/15 - 12/31/15	900
Grant-In-Aid Employment Core Services	07/01/15 - 09/30/15	40,135.17
Grant-In-Aid STEM	07/01/15 - 09/30/15	49,999.98
Hawaiian Electric - WAP	07/14/14 - 07/31/15	25,000
Hawaiian Electric - STEM	12/18/14 - 06/17/15	15,000
Head Start	04/01/15 - 03/31/16	12,520,192
Head Start Full-Day Full-Year	04/01/15 - 03/31/16	1,080,000
Horizon Foundation - Stepping Stones Homeless Health Project	06/15/15 - 12/31/15	500
Kumuhonua Transitional Living Center - DHS Stipend	08/01/14 - 07/31/15 08/01/15 - 07/31/16	360,000 360,000
Kumuhonua Transitional Living Center- Program Income	08/01/14 - 07/31/15 08/01/15 - 07/31/16	283,400 301,185
Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	05/01/15 - 09/30/16	280,000
Saltchuk Hawaii - Youth Services	12/01/14 - 06/30/15	10,000
Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)	07/01/14 - 06/30/15 07/01/15 - 06/30/16	853,410 853,410
Starbucks Foundation - Youth Services	07/01/15 - 06/30/16	25,000
Department of Human Services- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)- STEM	01/01/15 - 12/31/15 01/01/16 - 12/31/16	100,000 100,000
TJX Foundation - Youth Services	06/01/15 - 05/31/16	5,000
Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)	10/01/14 - 09/30/15 12/07/15 - 09/30/16	105,833 94,957.71
Youth Services	07/01/14 - 06/30/16	372,500
Youth Services (Creating Employment Opportunities)	03/01/13 - 11/30/15	189,000

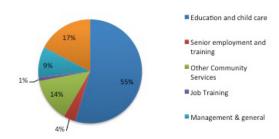
GRANTS & OTHER SUPPORT	YTD
Federal grants	16,738,457
Nonfederal grants	649,208
Program & other income	1,412,427
Interest Income	472
Contributions	13,481
In-kind contributions	3,967,974
Total	22,827,019

#### **GRANTS & OTHER SUPPORT**



PROGRAM SERVICES	YTD
Program services:	
Education & childcare	12,493,835
Senior employment & training	847,061
Job training	237,972
Other community services	3,125,443
Supporting services:	
Management & general	2,181,302
In-kind contributions	3,967,974
Total	22,853,587

#### PROGRAM SERVICES









## Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc.

Main Office

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 Honoulu, 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

## <u>Programs</u>

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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