Malama Pono set to achieve new highs

*HCAP’s Youth Mentoring Program Awarded Three-Year Federal Grant*

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has awarded Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc. a three-year Mentoring Children of Prisoners grant. The grant will provide HCAP’s Malama Pono Youth Mentoring Program with funding for outreach, training and support for 350 children and their mentors over three years.

Malama Pono’s mission is to break the cycle of intergenerational incarceration by providing at-risk youth with a safe and comfortable environment, guidance and support from trained mentors, opportunities to build trusting relationships with caring adults, and encouragement to achieve their goals and reach their full potential. Children participating in the program meet with a mentor one to two hours a week for at least a year.

Since its start in 2004, the Malama Pono program has operated out of HCAP’s Windward District Center in Kaneohe, Oahu. With the recent grant award, the program has moved to its own office and is expanding its focus to include Leeward Oahu as well as other communities island-wide. Adults 18 and over are encouraged to apply as volunteer mentors. Children ages 4 to 17 who have a parent in prison are invited to join as mentees.

If you or someone you know is interested in joining Malama Pono as a mentor, mentee, or supporter, please contact the program at (808) 239-2750.

DAWN’S STORY:

Single mom gains self-sufficiency with HCAP’s help

Unemployed, living in public housing, and raising two daughters, Dawn was struggling to get by. She came to HCAP’s Kalihi District Center seeking resources to help her move off public assistance and begin supporting herself. The staff assisted Dawn through the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Dress for Success, emergency food assistance, and financial assistance through Helping Hands Hawaii. Dawn was also referred to the Hawaii Technology Institute (HTI), where she received a certificate of completion in Office Technology Management. Dawn now works full-time as an office clerk, where she uses her technical skills and knowledge from HTI. She has also returned to work for HCAP as a temporary employee, assisting others to receive emergency utilities assistance through LIHEAP. “I have seen a tremendous change in Dawn,” says HCAP community worker Chad Iramina. “She is more positive, upbeat, and outgoing and has more confidence in herself.” HCAP extends its congratulations to Dawn for all that she has achieved in becoming self-sufficient and supporting her family.
“A Warrior’s Passing”

Aloha mai kākou,

As our nation mourns the recent passing of R. Sargent Shriver, the “Father of Community Action,” we at HCAP are reminded of the great work of many warriors who precede us in the War of Poverty. All that we hope to achieve in our efforts to alleviate poverty in our community is built upon the shoulders of those who did this work before us.

As the first Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity, Mr. Shriver contributed to the creation of Head Start, Community Action, and many other programs that encouraged public service and helped disadvantaged people and communities achieve self-reliance.

His life and work were exemplary, and serve as a guiding beacon for the rest of us who dedicate ourselves to the noble task of helping our fellow man.

In time, we will achieve an end to poverty by working collaboratively within our community with our clients, our partner agencies and organizations, and our Federal, State and local governmental partners. Collectively, we will all rise in the same tide.

Mahalo piha,

Robert N.E. Piper, Esq.
Executive Director

Offering Free Tax Preparations

HCAP is proud to offer the Free Tax Help Program again this year. Working individuals and households with incomes less than $50,000 a year can receive free tax preparations from trained staff and volunteers. The program, which runs from February 1 to April 15, emphasizes the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and is offered by appointment only. Interested parties should call the Main Office at 521-4531 or one of HCAP’s District Centers (pg. 8) to make an appointment.

Recovery Act supplies meals and encourages healthy lifestyles

HCAP partnered with local shelters and homeless providers to help feed thousands of Hawaii’s homeless and low-income families. The healthy food program was provided through funds provided to HCAP from the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act and was designed to help people learn to make healthier choices when shopping and preparing meals.

Through the program, River of Life Mission and the Institute for Human Services (IHS) were able to purchase milk and fresh vegetables to increase the nutritional value of the meals they served at their group meal sites. The program also provided needy families with food vouchers redeemable for fresh food and groceries at local supermarkets. Case managers often accompanied program participants to help them shop smarter with respect to making healthy food choices.

During the program, IHS provided healthy food to 5,075 people. River of Life served meals to an average of 715 people every week in Chinatown and Nanakuli. Beyond the 6-month program span, the benefits continue to impact participants and their families through the education received and healthy habits developed. The agencies have also adjusted their food services. For example, IHS has committed to serving at least one vegetarian meal a month and is including more fresh vegetables into meals through its urban farm.

HCAP and its partners are very grateful for the opportunities provided by this ARRA-funded program. It enabled many people impacted by the poor economy to learn more about eating and shopping healthier, which in turn, helped improve their health, well-being and ability to care for themselves and their families.
Shoeboxes for the Homeless in third year

For the past three years, HCAP’s Central District Center has partnered with the Chinen & Arinaga Financial Group for the “Shoeboxes for the Homeless” program. Chinen & Arinaga recruits local area schools, who count this program as a service project for their institutions. HCAP’s staff picks up and distributes the shoeboxes to clients and other various homeless providers.

The shoeboxes include a variety of necessities: hygiene products, food, school supplies and more. This year, the shoeboxes were donated by seven Mililani schools and given to Oahu residents through five homeless and transitional housing shelters and service providers: Onemalu Shelter, Onelauena Shelter, Lighthouse Outreach Center, Maililand Transitional Shelter, and Once A Month Church. HCAP Leeward District Center also shared some of the boxes with Waianae Coast families during the “Christmas on da Beach” event.

Mahalo to our “Shoebox” Partners!

Chinen & Arinaga Financial Group
Mililani Uka Elementary
Kipapa Elementary
Mililani Waena Elementary
Mililani Middle
Mililani High
Mililani Mauka
Mililani Ike
Early Reading First: 
Empowering parents and keiki to love reading

A collaboration between HCAP Head Start and the University of Hawaii is giving preschoolers a head start at school readiness. The Early Reading First (ERF) project provides enriching, hands-on activities to engage children in developing literacy and math skills. Ten HCAP classrooms are involved with the project, which also encourages parents to participate in their children’s learning.

Some recent highlights of Head Start’s ERF efforts with parents:

Family Activity Days held at all of the ERF classrooms were an open invitation for parents to visit the classroom and learn what their children are doing in the ERF project. The parents participated in the same hands-on activities that the children enjoy in the classroom.

Reading Aloud at Head Start Ma’ilil introduced parents to a variety of books and provided several demonstrations on how to effectively read aloud to a child. The parents shared with each other about the skills they learned: reading with expression, and asking questions to help kids think about what they had read. They also learned how they can tie in their own experiences to the stories. Each family was given a free book and tips on how to read aloud.

Parent Involvement at Head Start Kaimiloa started off with parents selecting a book that they liked, then sharing the reasons they chose that particular book. Just like their children, they each had different reasons for their choices: some were attracted by the pictures, had heard the story before, liked the author, or wanted to read books with Hawaiian language. HCAP Head Start’s assistant director then demonstrated a read-aloud to the parents and shared four main reasons why families should take the time to read aloud together.

Why Read Aloud to Kids?

1. They learn new words and expand their vocabulary
2. You can build strong relationships through quality time together
3. It increases their school readiness and encourages life long learning
4. They will love reading!!!
Malama Pono mentoring program continues to grow

Continued from pg. 1

The program is free and relies upon active community participation, particularly in high-need communities with larger numbers of children affected by incarceration.

HCAP welcomes Marty Oliphant as Malama Pono’s new Program Manager. Most recently, Mr. Oliphant was director of the Children’s Justice Center of Oahu. Prior to that, he served as the Hawaii Mentoring Initiative’s project director and as a case manager and trainer for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu and Maui. Marty joins the program’s Mentoring Advocate, Roxanne Akana, who has helped establish the program as integral to the Windward community. Ms. Akana has been involved with mentoring children and assisting families affected by incarceration for years through her involvement with the Rebuilders Addictions Ministry (RAM).

In December, 145 mentors, mentees and family members attended the first quarterly event of the new program, which included mentor testimonies, substance abuse prevention presentations, entertainment, and donated gifts for mentees. HCAP’s district centers participated in the planning of the event which greatly contributed to its success.

As part of HCAP’s on-going community collaboration effort, the agency was fortunate to execute a generous lease agreement with the Kahalu’u United Methodist Church to provide larger office space for the program. The Malama Pono staff continues to do an excellent job of making contacts with local organizations, churches and schools to recruit new mentors and mentees.

Malama Pono started the 1st quarter of the new grant period on Sept. 30, 2010. The funding level for the current year is $240,000.

Youth clean up park for service learning

This quarter, a group of young adults participated in a community clean-up and team building activities at Ala Moana Beach Park. Their service learning was part of the Community Resource unit at Youth Services, one of HCAP’s two Competency-Based High School Diploma (C-Base) Programs. The programs help youth and adults obtain their diplomas.
Your Helping Hand

Volunteer Spotlight:
Kalihi student council

Kalihi Kai Elementary School has chosen HCAP as the recipient of its student council food drive for the third year. In coordination with HCAP’s Kalihi-Palama District Center, the students collected and donated over 900 canned goods. Each year, the student council organizes a food drive to help collect food to supplement HCAP’s Thanksgiving offering of the federal Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). Thanks to Jennifer Fukuda (the coordinator that HCAP has been working with) and Kalihi Kai’s dedicated student council members, HCAP Kalihi has been able to distribute almost 3,000 canned goods over the past three years. This collaboration teaches the students about giving back, sharing with others, and fostering a spirit of Community Action at a young age.

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

20 YEARS
Jadyanne Lee

10 YEARS
Karen Noa
Kim Guieb-Kang
Maurina Ludwig
Gene Generoso

5 YEARS
Vera Yoshimi
Ida Kila
Jodi Aragon
Theresa Ioane
Robin Lindsley
Derek Nishimura
Kelli Azuma

To learn about volunteering for HCAP, please call (808) 521-4531
To contribute to HCAP, donate on-line at www.hcapweb.org or use HCAP’s code #70250 at www.auw.org/donate-now
Interim Financial Update
Third Quarter 2010
October 1, 2010 - December 31, 2010

GRANTS & OTHER SUPPORT

- Federal grants: 21,562,400
- Nonfederal grants: 1,000,699
- Program & other income: 1,660,909
- In-kind contributions: 3,171,961
- Total: 27,395,968

EXPENSES

- Education & child care: 3,584,924
- Senior employment & training: 272,231
- Job training: 74,189
- Other community services: 538,421
- Management & general: 715,717
- In-kind facilities, services & supplies: 1,042,516
- Total: 6,227,999

CURRENT PROGRAMS

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<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>PERIOD</th>
<th>FUNDED AMOUNT</th>
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MAIN OFFICE:
33 S. King Street, Suite 300, Honolulu, HI 96813
Tel: (808) 521-4531 Fax: (808) 521-4538
Email: hcap@hcapweb.org

DISTRICT CENTERS:
For help with jobs, finances, family support, or questions about our programs, call the District Center nearest you.

LEEWARD
Tel: 696-4261 Fax: 696-0169
85-555 Farrington Hwy. Waianae, HI 96792

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. #204 Honolulu, HI 96817

LEAHI
Tel: 732-7755 Fax: 735-6034
1915 Palolo Ave. Honolulu, HI 96816

WINDWARD
Tel: 239-5754 Fax: 239-3912
47-232 Waihe Rd. Kaneohe, HI 96744

HCAP HEAD START:
For affordable preschool care and support & skills for parents, call us at:

HEAD START KAPALAMA (KMR)
Tel: 847-2400 Fax: 847-2302

HEAD START KUNIA
Tel: 621-5099 Fax: 621-3842

Please visit our website!
www.hcapweb.org

PROGRAMS:

YOUTH SERVICES
Tel: 591-1766 Fax: 591-1768

SENIOR EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (SCSEP)
Tel: 521-4531 Fax: 521-4538

WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
Tel: 521-4531 Fax: 521-4538

KUMUHONUA TRANSITIONAL SHELTER
Tel: 682-5494 Fax: 682-5495

MALAMA PONO MENTORING PROGRAM
Tel: 239-5754 Fax: 239-3912

Promise of Community Action
Community action changes people’s lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live.
We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.