Governor Ige Proclaims May as Community Action Month

On May 16th, Governor David Ige officially proclaimed May as Community Action Month. HCAP Executive Director Robert Piper, Esq., MBA was joined by Director of Planning, Program Development and Communications Michael Hane and Acting Director of Community Services Robin Fakaosi in the official proclamation ceremony at the Governor’s Ceremonial Room.

Also in attendance were HCAP Board of Directors Chair Edward Mersereau, HCAP Board of Directors Vice-Chair Terrence Aratani, and State Office of Community Services Executive Director Denise Iseri-Matsubara.

Fellow members of the Hawaii Community Action Program Directors Association were also present, including Hawaii County Economic Opportunity Council Executive Director Jay Kimura, Kauai Economic Opportunity Chief Executive Officer MaBel Ferreiro Fujiuchi, and Maui Economic Opportunity Chief Executive Officer Debbie Cabebe.

Community Action Agencies were created from President Lyndon B. Johnson’s 1964 proclamation of America’s “War on Poverty.” The nation’s 1,000-plus Community Action Agencies are a robust, state and local force—reaching children and families in 99% of America’s counties with life-changing services that create pathways to prosperity. Community Action Agencies connect individuals and families to approaches that help them succeed — including high quality education programs for children, job retraining for adults, utility assistance for low-income households, and so much more.

In this issue:

- HCAP’s Income Tax Services Brings Back Over $1 Million to Our Communities! (pg. 2)
- Kumuhonua Resident Secures Permanent Housing at La‘i‘ola (pg. 5)
- Na Lima Hana Participant Obtains Employment as Account Manager (pg. 6)
HCAP’s Income Tax Services Brings Back Over $1 Million to Our Communities!

District Service Center staff and volunteers have once again made the Income Tax Services/ Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Program a success! This year, 702 households filed their tax returns at one of the five District Service Centers or the HCAP Corporate Office. More than 42% of these filers received the Earned Income Credit, realizing more than $536K from that credit alone. Overall, the EITC Program brought back $1,222,071 to our local families and communities.

A big mahalo to our partners, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Hawaii Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA), for all their patience and support this season. We especially want to thank the Bank of Hawaii, Honolulu Community College, and VITA for providing us with valuable volunteer support. We couldn’t have succeeded without the discipline and dedication of our staff and volunteers, who continue to make our clients feel welcomed during appointments and drop-ins.

Hā Initiative Holds Final “Family Nights” of School Year

The Hā Initiative: Creative STEM After-School Program, a 21st Century Community Learning Center, held their final “Family Nights” at all five STEM Exploration Centers in May. Family Nights occur quarterly and gives students and parents a chance to engage in a hands-on activity, where they work together to create something they can take home. It is also an opportunity for students to showcase their projects, classwork, and certificates they have received.

For the Family Nights at the Honolulu and Leeward STEM Exploration Centers, students and their parents planted corn, green and white beans, and carrots. At the Kalihi and Central STEM Exploration Centers, students made “sock heads” with their families. Sock heads are made with nylon stockings, grass seeds, potting soil, wiggly eyes, and rubber bands.

The Windward STEM Exploration Center did something different from the other four STEM Exploration Centers: they made a living wax museum featuring eight STEM influencers: Hedy Lamarr, Dorothy Vaughan, Mae C. Jamison, Jane Goodall, Katherine C. Johnson, Sara Seager, Sally Ride and Tiera Guinn Fletcher.
Leeward Kupuna Visit Ma’o Organic Farms

In April, participants of Leeward District Service Center’s Kupuna Independent Life Series took a field trip to Ma’o Organic Farms. It was a fun-filled and informative excursion, as the kupuna learned the true meaning of Ma’o Organic Farms’ slogan, “No Panic, Go Organic!”.

Ma’o Organic Farms’ mission is to restore a thriving and resilient community food and education system while cultivating youth leadership in Waianae. Kukui and her daughter Hiwa, both Ma’o staff members, gave kupuna a tour of the fields and discussed the fruits, vegetables, and plants that grown at the farm. At the end of the farm tour, the staff of Ma’o Farms gave a food demonstration of a healthy, organic meal: salad and corned beef with leeks. The kupuna assisted the staff with the food preparation.

The kupuna were humbled by the mission of Ma’o, and the organization’s commitment to ensure they enact their kuleana (responsibility) to take care of their beloved āina (land). They ended their field trip feeling empowered to make healthy choices with their diet such as buying organic produce or even starting an organic garden in their own backyard.

LIHEAP Participant on Fixed Income Receives Assistance

During the month of May, staff from HCAP’s District Service Centers completed Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) intake at several selected satellite sites. The purpose of the satellite locations is to serve vulnerable populations such as seniors and those with disabilities since it is harder for them to visit the District Service Centers in person.

HCAP’s Kalihi-Palama District Service Center was able to reach a lot of seniors, when they visited the Hawaii Chinese Christian Mission Gospel Center. Mei-Zhen was one of the many senior applicants who applied through HCAP that day.

Like most seniors, Mei-Zhen lives on a limited budget. She lives alone and subsists on a fixed Social Security income. The costs of rent, medication, food, and other living expenses take up most of her budget. Because of Hawaii’s rising cost of living, the program is very important to people like Mei-Zhen. Upon completing the application, Mei-Zhen expressed gratitude to the Kalihi-Palama District Service Center staff for their assistance at the satellite site.
HCAP Participates in Charity Walk ’19

On May 18th, the Honolulu Community Action Program participated in the Hawaii Lodging and Tourism Association’s Charity Walk ’19. This was HCAP’s fourth year participating in the annual Charity Walk. Since its inception in 1978, the Hawaii Visitor Industry Charity Walk has raised more than $34 million to support hundreds of local charities throughout the state.

A total of 74 HCAP staff, ohana, board members, and friends supported HCAP’s participation in the event, which included 54 registered walkers.

HCAP was represented at the Charity Walk by staff and supporters proudly wearing their HCAP t-shirts. It was a great day filled with lots of food, camaraderie, and a good workout. Thank you to everyone who donated and/or walked on behalf of the HCAP team. It was a very fun and memorable day and we are already looking forward to next year!

Mahalo to our Donors and Funders

HCAP would like to thank the following funders. From April 1, 2019 to June 30, 2019, HCAP received funding from the following:

**Friends of Hawaii Charities** - $3,000 grant award to the Kupuna Independent Life Series

**Weatherization Assistance Program for Low-Income Persons** - $237,599 grant award to the Weatherization Assistance Program
Kumuhonua Resident Secures Permanent Housing at La’iola

Walter, a senior, was forced to vacate his rental unit after his brother, who was the homeowner, decided to sell the property. With nowhere to live, Walter set up an encampment on the shores of Pearl Harbor. But following homeless encampment sweeps in the area, Walter relocated to the Hale Mauliola Navigation Center on Sand Island, where he lived in converted shipping containers.

Walter lived at Hale Mauliola and received services from the Institute for Human Services for six months before the opportunity to move into the Kumuhonua Transitional Living Center arose. At first, Walter was reluctant about the move. He had been living in the Honolulu metropolitan area for a while and was not familiar with the Kapolei area. Not long after his entry into Kumuhonua in September 2017, Walter tested positive for kidney complications. Walter started dialysis soon thereafter, and Kumuhonua staff did their best to help him keep track of medication and doctor’s appointments.

During his stay at Kumuhonua, Walter kept up with all of his commitments, including meeting goals set in his individual housing plan, attending case management meetings twice a month, and participating in nutrition and budgeting workshops and house meetings. Walter opened a savings account, collected Social Security Disability payments, and through careful budgeting with his case manager, he was able to save money while living at Kumuhonua.

Walter ultimately was able to increase his net worth, which opened up more housing options for him. Earlier in the year, he was able to secure permanent housing at La’iola Elderly Housing, an affordable apartment complex for seniors in Wahiawa. Walter was very excited about the move and made the proper arrangements for his transportation and dialysis treatments.

On April 16th, Walter successfully moved out of Kumuhonua and into Laiola. Kumuhonua staff wishes him the best of luck in his new endeavors.

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

40 Years
Virginia Magsanide - Accounting Specialist II

10 Years
Robert Piper - Executive Director
Stevi dela Cuesta - Head Start Teacher I
Na Lima Hana Participant Obtains Employment as Account Manager

Cherviann, a mother of two, came to the Leahi District Service Center in October determined to make ends meet. She was looking for a full-time job that would be challenging and also pay the bills. Cherviann enrolled in the Na Lima Hana Employment Core Services (ECS) Program. As part of Job Readiness Training (JRT), the Leahi District Service Center staff helped her develop her resume and prepare for job interviews. After completing JRT, Cherviann began her job search.

Cherviann eventually landed a full-time position as account manager at Colortyme, and has kept in touch with HCAP staff. During the holiday season, she was an active participant in the Toys for Tots Program. Leahi District Service Center also made sure that, through their collaboration with Helping Hands, Cherviann’s family was “adopted” and received personalized gifts from the Adopt A Family Program. Last month, Leahi District Service Center staff presented Cherviann with a gift card for completing an important employment milestone: maintaining employment for ninety days.

Cherviann has nothing but great things to say about her current position: she loves her job and is happy with what she does. She manages the front desk and sometimes helps with the product sales of Colortyme. Leahi District Service Center will continue to follow up with Cherviann and provide assistance and resources to help her achieve self-reliance.

SCSEP Helps Participant Make Ends Meet

Earlier this year, Mary came to the HCAP Corporate Office seeking employment assistance. With her husband living in a care facility, Mary found herself struggling to pay rent. HCAP staff referred her to the Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP). After her initial assessment, Mary was determined to be eligible for program services.

Today, Mary is a SCSEP trainee and has been placed at the St. Elizabeth’s Episcopal Church as a janitor. She really enjoys working at St. Elizabeth’s, and with the additional income she receives as a SCSEP participant, Mary is able to make ends meet.
Interim Financial Update  
First Quarter FY 2020  
April 1, 2019 - June 30, 2019  
*Unaudited, Cash Basis

### PROGRAM SERVICES

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<tr>
<th>Program services:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Education &amp; childcare</td>
<td>3,706,856</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior employment &amp; training</td>
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<td>Other community services</td>
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<td>In-kind contributions</td>
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<td>Supporting services:</td>
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<td>Management &amp; general</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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### CURRENT PROGRAMS

**BY FUNDING SOURCE**

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<th>PROGRAM</th>
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<th>BUDGET</th>
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<td>Head Start Full-Day Full-Year</td>
<td>04/01/19-03/31/20</td>
<td>1,296,640</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kumuhonua Shelter - DHS Stipend</td>
<td>08/01/18-06/30/19</td>
<td>450,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kumuhonua Shelter - Program Income</td>
<td>08/01/18-06/30/19</td>
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<td>Kumuhonua Shelter - Roof Renovations</td>
<td>12/01/18-11/30/21</td>
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<td>Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)</td>
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<td>Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)</td>
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<td>Rapid Re-Housing</td>
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<td>Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) - STEM</td>
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<td>Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)</td>
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<td>WAP/LIHEAP</td>
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**BY FUNDING SOURCE**

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<td>Atherton Foundation - Kupuna</td>
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<td>Bennett Foundation</td>
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<td>Central Pacific Bank Foundation - ECS</td>
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<td>Gwenfread Elaine Allen Fund - Head Start</td>
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<td>Hawaii Bowl Foundation - STEM</td>
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<td>Hawaii Visitor Industry Charity Walk - Early Head Start</td>
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<td>Head Start</td>
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### GRANTS & OTHER SUPPORT

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<td>Nonfederal grants</td>
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<td>Program &amp; other income</td>
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<td>In-kind Contributions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5,681,797</td>
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**GRANTS & OTHER SUPPORT**

- Federal grants/USDA: 69%
- Nonfederal grants: 5%
- Program & other income: 5%
- In-kind Contributions: 21%

**PROGRAM SERVICES**

- Education and childcare: 61%
- Senior employment and training: 10%
- Other community services: 10%
- In-kind contributions: 7%
Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc.  
Corporate Office  
1132 Bishop Street, Suite 100, 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
Na Lima Hana Employment Core Services Program  
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

Kumuhonua Transitional Living Center  
Tel: 682-5494  Fax: 682-5495  
91-1096 Yorktown St. Kapolei, HI 96707

HCAP Head Start & Early Head Start  
Head Start Waipahu  
Tel: 847-2400  Fax: 847-2302  
94-810 Moloalo St, Suite 200 & 210  
Waipahu, HI 96797

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