



Ku'i Nā Lono

Spread the News

April - June 2021

HCAP, Department of Health, and Nonprofit Partners Work Together to Vaccinate Rural O'ahu Communities



In April 2021, in an effort to increase COVID-19 vaccination rates among rural O'ahu communities, a free vaccination event was held at the Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc. (HCAP) Head Start program's Kunia campus. The event aimed to vaccinate agricultural workers and their families from across the Central, Leeward, and North Shore areas of O'ahu.

Over 100 individuals received their COVID-19 vaccination shots at the event, which was a collaboration between HCAP, the Hawai'i State Department of Health, the Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Hawai'i COVID-19 Response, Recovery, and Resilience Team, and Project Vision Hawai'i. A majority of the participants came from rural, low-income, and immigrant communities of O'ahu that have been hit hardest by the pandemic.

HCAP Executive Director Robert N.E. Piper shared that these communities often face "language barriers and limited transportation access...which make getting vaccinated a difficult if not impossible process," and that through these collaborations with state agencies and nonprofit organizations, "we are better able to reach out to and vaccinate O'ahu residents who may have otherwise struggled to find access and services to accommodate their needs."

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Journey to Recovery: HCAP Client Finds Employment, Maintains Sobriety, and Regains Her Confidence

Natalie was first introduced to Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc. (HCAP) through Po‘ailani, Inc., a nonprofit in Kāne‘ohe that provides dual diagnosis treatment services for substance abuse disorders and mental illnesses. After learning what HCAP had to offer during a virtual presentation from our Windward District Service Center staff, Natalie immediately reached out and was enrolled in the Nā Lima Hana Employment Core Services (ECS) Program.

In the weeks that followed, Natalie worked closely with the Windward Community Services Specialist to create a resume, prepare for interviews, and explore different employment options. She was anxious as she had been dealing with many struggles in life and was now learning to regain her self confidence and reintegrate back into society.



Natalie’s main focus was to maintain her sobriety, continue with her treatment plan, and attend all her meetings at Po‘ailani. Because of these challenges, Natalie was facing several barriers while trying to find employment. Her State I.D. had been lost, her hours of availability for work were limited due to her treatment meetings, and finding a good fit for her vulnerable situation was also a challenge. However, HCAP’s Windward Community Services Specialist and Natalie were able to work together to strategize a plan of action, and also obtain Natalie’s State I.D. through online and mail-in services.

Natalie put in a lot of hard work and submitted her resume and several employment applications. After a few weeks of job searching, Natalie notified our Windward Community Services Specialist that she had obtained employment as a part-time Market Researcher. The job fit her needs and time schedule and Natalie was very excited to get started. With the help of the Nā Lima Hana Employment Core Service Program, Natalie was also able to receive work attire to make her feel confident when starting her new job.

Natalie still has a long journey ahead of her to reach recovery and self-sufficiency, but she now has a plan of action and an amazing outlook on life. Natalie has the support of the team at Po‘ailani and HCAP’s Windward District Service Center, which will help her maintain her mental health, sobriety, and newfound employment. With her team on her side, Natalie will have access to the resources and care that she needs to continue to thrive. Natalie is so very grateful and motivated for what is ahead of her.

Natalie’s story truly defines the meaning of “Community Action”. It’s about working together as a community, building a team, uplifting an individual, starting where the person is at, taking it one step at a time, and knowing that every little bit of effort or “action” will make a big difference in that person’s life.

If you are interested in receiving tuition assistance for vocational school or are in need of employment services, please email NaLimaHana@hcapweb.org for more information.

HCAP Head Start and Early Head Start Program Returns to In-Person Learning

This spring, the HCAP Head Start and Early Head Start program returned to the classroom for in-person learning after over a year of remote services. The federally-funded Head Start program has been providing early education services to low-income families on O'ahu since 1965.

HCAP Head Start Director Grant Kogami is proud that the program was able to adapt and excel at delivering remote services in the past year, but shared that both staff and families are happy to be back in the classroom: "The children and families have been more than patient and understanding. Now it is our turn to show our gratitude by providing them with the in-person services they need and deserve."

The preparation to welcome the students back to in-person learning has been extensive, with the continued health and safety of the children, staff, families, and community at-large as a top priority.

An 'Ewa-area Head Start parent shared that "[the Head Start staff] did a great job of explaining the policies and procedures to us, including maintaining six-foot distance and sanitizing," and that her child was excited to return to school with these measures in place.

To spread the word about the new school year, HCAP Head Start staff shared information about the program throughout the community, at housing complexes, shelters, clinics, and local businesses. Approximately 4,000 applications for the 2021-2022 school year were distributed through their efforts.



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Hā Initiative Students Dissect Crayfish!



The Hā Initiative: Creative STEM After-School Program is back in the classroom with exciting, hands-on activities for the participants. In June, students had the opportunity to dissect crayfish provided by Carolina's Young Scientist Crayfish Dissection Kit!

During the dissection, students located and identified the crayfish's external and internal features. Students also learned that crayfish were first introduced into taro patches near Ahuimanu Stream in 1923, and that in the 1940s, crayfish were considered pests to taro cultivation as their burrows can cause the draining of lo'i. "My favorite part was finding the gills on the crayfish!" said Manany, a Hā Initiative student. Manany is interested in learning more about biology and hopes to get a STEM related job so that she can help provide for her family.

The students had fun during the dissection while learning about the natural environment and biology. This type of educational, fun, and hands-on lesson is why we love having our keiki back in the classroom!

Single Mother Works Toward Self-Sufficiency Following Pandemic Job Loss

Jaime first contacted the Central District Service Center for assistance with past-due rent after being furloughed from her job amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Like many other local residents who lost their jobs in the past year, Jaime scrambled to file for unemployment benefits only to face long wait times as the state struggled to handle a growing backlog of applications.

Along with rental assistance, Jaime also expressed interest in employment opportunities and was referred to the Nā Lima Hana Employment Core Services Program. Central District Service Center staff provided her with information on vocational training programs that could lead Jaime into a new career path.

After considering all of her options, Jaime decided to enroll in Phlebotomy courses through the Hawai'i Medical Training Center. "One advantage of the program," Jaime explained, "is that classes are offered at convenient times that allow me to still be a mother and attend school without overextending myself."

Recently, Jaime passed the National Healthcareer Association (NHA) Phlebotomy exam, earning her Phlebotomy Certificate. Jaime also shared that she plans to continue her education while working as a phlebotomist by earning further healthcare certifications: "It would open up doors for more employment options in the future, as I would be certified in multiple healthcare fields, giving me that competitive edge on my job applications," she said, "My future goal is to be able to provide for me and my children without the need of government agencies. To be self-sufficient and a positive, contributing member to society."

HCAP Central District Service Center staff will continue to support Jaime in her future career endeavors.



Employee Anniversaries

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

5 Years

Tiffany Cadirao - Head Start Assistant Teacher

25 Years

Ranjah Jimeno - Head Start Teacher I

10 Years

Denise Morris - Head Start Assistant Teacher
Vivian Yun - Grants Manager

30 Years

Colleen Lomavita - Family Advocate

15 Years

Evelyn Rapoza - Payroll Specialist

HCAP Contributes \$50,000 to HomeAid Hawai'i to Support Permanent Housing for Homeless in Kalaeloa

On April 8th, Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc. (HCAP) presented a check for \$50,000 to HomeAid Hawai'i. This contribution through CARES Act funds will support the development of Kama'okū, a master-planned community in Kalaeloa providing permanent housing for homeless individuals - a population left increasingly vulnerable by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kama'okū is the first kauhale of its kind and will include 36 tiny homes, along with a community center, multi-purpose gathering space, and community farming area. HCAP's contribution will be used to weatherize the tiny homes to make them more energy-efficient.

Davilyn Chang, Program Manager at HCAP's Kumuhonua Transitional Living Center, presented the check to Nani Medeiros, Executive Director of HomeAid Hawai'i, during a visit to the Kama'okū site.

Following the presentation, Nani led Davilyn and the other HCAP staff in attendance on a tour of the construction site, where they were able to see inside one of the 90 square foot, single occupant homes.

HCAP Executive Director Robert N.E. Piper stated, that "HCAP stands proudly with HomeAid Hawaii and all of its supporters on this kauhale, which represents the first building block of many more to come in our unified battle to end homelessness in our community."



Mahalo to Our Donors and Funders

HCAP would like to thank the following funders.

From April 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021, HCAP received funding from the following:

<u>Friends of Hawai'i Charities</u>	\$3,000 grant award for the Kūpuna Independent Life Series
<u>Friends of Hawai'i Robotics</u>	\$16,200 to the Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc.
<u>Friends of Hawai'i Robotics</u>	\$3,000 grant award for the Hā Initiative: Creative STEM After-School Program

A big mahalo to the following donors who contributed to HCAP through the 2020 Aloha United Way campaign:

Kathleen Akimoto	Sean Nakamoto	Devlynn Tanioka
Patricia Beatty	Naomi Peterson	Deseree Tano
Melvin Conjugacion	Robert Piper	
Tania McMoore	Kathleen Saiki	

Interim Financial Update

First Quarter FY 2022
April 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021
***Unaudited, Cash Basis**

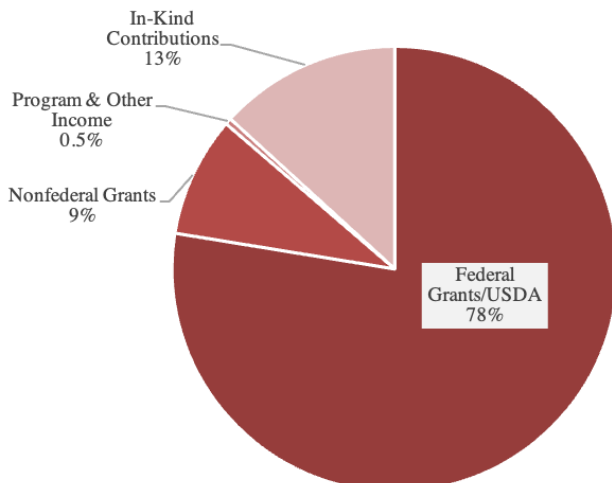
CURRENT PROGRAMS BY FUNDING SOURCE	PROGRAM PERIOD	BUDGET
Atherton Family Foundation	12/01/20-11/30/21	10,000
Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)	10/01/20-09/30/21	3,586,965
CSBG CARES Act Supplemental	03/27/20-09/30/23	2,640,352
First Hawaiian Bank Foundation	03/19/21-03/18/22	10,000
Friends of Hawaii Charities	04/01/21-12/31/21	3,000
Friends of Hawaii Robotics	5/18/21-12/31/21	16,200
Friends of Hawaii Robotics	11/01/20-10/31/21	327
Friends of Hawaii Robotics	06/25/21-05/31/22	3,000
Hawaii Community Foundation - Trauma Informed Care	12/01/20-11/30/21	10,000
Hawaii First Robotics	06/22/21-07/21/22	400
Verizon Wireless Foundation	11/01/20-10/31/21	2,500
Head Start	04/01/21-03/31/22	14,284,408
Head Start - American Rescue Plan	04/01/21-03/31/23	2,258,183
Head Start Full-Day Full-Year	04/01/21-03/31/22	1,228,609

CURRENT PROGRAMS BY FUNDING SOURCE	PROGRAM PERIOD	BUDGET
Kumuhonua Shelter - DHS	07/01/20-06/30/21	500,000
Kumuhonua Shelter - Program Income	07/01/20-06/30/21	258,500
Kumuhonua Shelter - Renovations	12/01/18-11/30/22	500,000
Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	10/01/20-09/30/21	228,467
State Office of Community Services - Employment Services	10/01/19-09/30/21	259,880
Rapid Re-Housing	06/15/20-06/14/21	488,493
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	1/01/21-12/31/21	100,000
Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)	07/01/20-06/30/21	287,011
WAP/LIHEAP	10/01/20-09/30/21	245,854

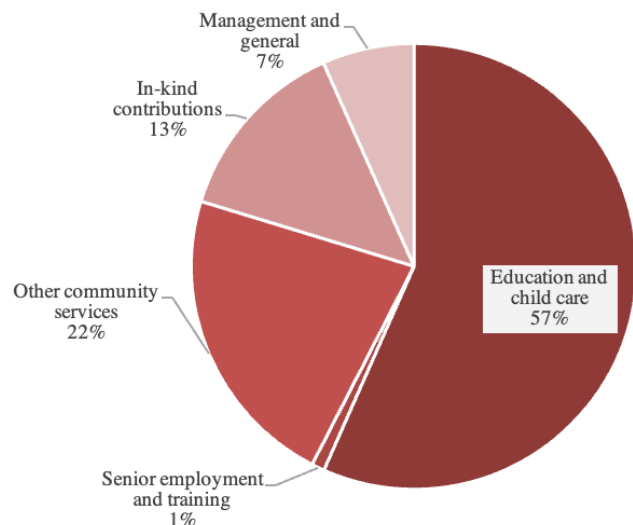
GRANTS & OTHER SUPPORT	YTD
Federal grants/USDA	4,630,455
Nonfederal grants	521,826
Program & Other Income	27,731
In-kind Contributions	788,988
Total	5,969,001

EXPENSES	YTD
Program services:	
Education & childcare	3,283,029
Senior employment & training	54,157
Other community services	1,283,962
In-kind contributions	788,988
Supporting services:	
Management & general	387,115
Total	5,797,250

GRANTS & OTHER SUPPORT



EXPENSES





Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc.

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1132 Bishop Street, Suite 100, Honolulu, HI 96813

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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

Nā Lima Hana Employment Core Services Program

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

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

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