Windward District Client Reaches Her Recovery & Employment Goals

Ipo’s journey began in August 2019, when she was houseless, living in Waimānalo. She came to HCAP’s Windward District Service Center seeking a chance to start over.

Windward District Service Center staff referred Ipo to the Kāneʻohe Joint Outreach Center for immediate housing and substance abuse assistance, and she then moved on to outpatient rehabilitation services from Hina Mauka.

Ipo continued working with HCAP staff toward her self-sufficiency goals, enrolling in the Nā Lima Hana Employment Core Services Program, where she received job readiness training to strengthen her resume and interview skills. Nā Lima Hana also assisted Ipo with getting a bus pass to attend interviews. Soon, she was able to secure employment.

Ipo now supports herself with a job at Big City Diner and continues to receive outpatient services from Hina Mauka to support her recovery. Though she faced many challenges throughout her life, Ipo is now a “new woman,” according to the Windward District staff who first met her two years ago.
HCAP Programs Provide Stability, Inspiration for Veteran Who Faced Homelessness

After retiring from twenty years of military service, Nani’s personal life hit a low, leaving her depressed, financially unstable, and houseless. She returned home to Hawaiʻi with what little she had left.

It was difficult to make ends meet on a limited military pension and disability benefits, and by October 2014, Nani faced eviction from her Waipahu apartment. She was able to stay with family temporarily, but began searching for other housing options. Nani reached out to an aunt who recommended HCAP’s Kumuhonua Transitional Living Center.

Nani’s aunt had been housed at Kumuhonua previously, and had benefited from the services offered to residents. Living at Kumuhonua helped Nani’s aunt secure permanent housing and sustain the personal gains she had made during her time there.

In February 2015, Nani was offered a unit at Kumuhonua. She met with a Case Manager twice each month to work on her goals, and by May, Nani was employed as a Resident Aide. She was breaking old habits, building confidence, and saving money.

Using the budgeting techniques she learned at Kumuhonua, Nani worked to achieve financial stability and was able to secure permanent housing in 2017.

In December 2017, Nani returned to Kumuhonua as a part-time maintenance worker, and in 2020 she was promoted to Maintenance Specialist. In this position, she assists with administrative tasks as well as building repairs and maintenance, while giving back to the organization that helped her in a time of need.

“In Honolulu Community Action Program has given me the opportunity and motivation to help other people in need and give back to the community,” Nani said, “I don’t do this job for the pay, but for the love of helping others.”
One Year Later, Employment Program Participant Continues Reaching Her Goals

In July 2020, HCAP announced that Nā Lima Hana Employment Core Services Program participants would be eligible to receive tuition assistance for vocational training programs at partner schools.

Andrea was one of the first to take part in the new initiative, and was able to enroll in the Pharmacy Technician Program offered by the University of Hawai‘i Kapi‘olani Community College with the help of Nā Lima Hana’s tuition assistance.

After seven months of classroom instruction and hands-on experience, Andrea completed the Pharmacy Technician Program and received her Certificate in February 2021. She then started applying for jobs in her new career field, and was hired as a Pharmacy Technician at Longs Drugs. By June 2021, Andrea had surpassed 90 days on the job and continues to find success in her new position.

Employee Anniversaries

Mahalo to our HCAP staff who reached the following service milestones this quarter:

5 Years
Marissa Galvadores, Head Start Assistant Teacher

10 Years
Sheldonaire Hao-Tamon, Head Start Teacher

25 Years
Patricia A. Williams, Head Start Teacher

35 Years
Lilyann L.K. Moniz, Head Start Teacher

40 Years
Roxanne Bell, Head Start Teacher
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Keiki Crossing: Learning Pedestrian Safety with HCAP Head Start

During their first week back in the classroom for the 2021–2022 school year, the HCAP Head Start keiki of Aiea I learned about pedestrian safety.

Personal safety in everyday situations is an important part of early childhood learning. Learning traffic safety is especially important today, as schools return to in-person learning and many children have spent the majority of the past year at home.

HCAP Head Start student Tristin used her safety knowledge and gross motor skills while practicing walking on a pretend crosswalk in the classroom. This exercise helps the keiki build confidence and decision-making skills as they choose where to walk and how to find the nearest crosswalk.
Nā Lima Hana Employment Core Services Reengages with Oʻahu Work Furlough Programs

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Nā Lima Hana Employment Core Services Program staff have worked hard to keep participants and partners engaged.

In August, the program was finally able to resume partnership activities with work furlough programs offered at Oʻahu correctional facilities after pausing due to the pandemic. Work furlough programs allow incarcerated individuals to obtain employment and temporarily leave the correctional facility during the day for work shifts, providing a pathway for a smooth transition back into society and new opportunities to learn job skills.

In preparation to reengage with the program, Nā Lima Hana staff attended a training session at the Women’s Community Correctional Center. The training covered policies, procedures, and best practices for visitors and volunteers entering the facility, and allowed staff to meet the participants.

Ready to Learn: Families Receive Supplies for New School Year

Each year, HCAP partners with Helping Hands Hawai‘i’s Ready to Learn School Supply Drive to provide supplies to families in need. Former HCAP Head Start parent Hanae is one of many who picked up supply kits this fall. The pandemic made it difficult for Hanae to support her family financially, and she worried about being able to afford school supplies for her daughter this year. She was referred to Ready to Learn for assistance getting the necessary school supplies for her daughter to start kindergarten with confidence.
Kaulana planned to join the military until an accident in his teen years broke both his collarbone and tibia. These health setbacks left him depressed and disqualified from joining the armed forces. However, Kaulana eventually discovered a new passion: driving trucks. He decided to start working toward obtaining a Commercial Driver License (CDL) to make his passion a career.

Kaulana began working multiple jobs to save money to pay for CDL training, but his work hours were cut when the pandemic hit. He contacted HCAP partner ALU LIKE, Inc. looking for financial assistance and was referred to HCAP’s Nā Lima Hana Employment Core Services Program.

Through Nā Lima Hana, Kaulana completed Job Readiness Training and secured a part-time job. He also qualified to receive tuition assistance for vocational training.

Since then, Kaulana was accepted into Hoapili Trucking’s Professional Driving Academy and is now on his way to obtaining his CDL and being able to provide for his family.

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Mahalo to Our Donors and Funders

Mahalo to the following donors and funders for their contributions to the Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc. from July 1 to September 30, 2021

**The Starbucks Foundation Neighborhood Grants**
$1,000 to the Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc.

**Spicers Paper, The Central National Gottesman Foundation**
$1,500 to the Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc.

**Verizon Wireless Foundation**
$2,500 grant award for the Hā Initiative: Creative STEM After-School Program
Interim Financial Update  Unaudited, Cash Basis
Second Quarter Fiscal Year 2022 | April 1, 2021 - September 30, 2021

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<tr>
<th>Current Programs By Funding Source</th>
<th>Program Period</th>
<th>Budget</th>
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<td>Atherton Family Foundation</td>
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<td>Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) - PY 20</td>
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Grants & Other Support

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Expenses

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<th>Supporting Services</th>
<th>Management &amp; General</th>
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Nonfederal Grants 6%
Program & Other Income 1%
In-Kind Contributions 14%

Federal Grants 79%
Education & Childcare 59%
Other Community Services 18%
Management & General 8%
Senior Employment & Training 1%