



ANNUAL REPORT  
2018-2019

# FAMILY SUPPORT HAWAII

*...supporting families and communities in providing love and care for our children ... since 1979*

**I**t's been an exciting 2018, but we expect 2019 to be even more exciting when Family Support Hawaii (FSH) celebrates our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary! We were founded in 1979 with the mission *"to support families and communities in providing love and support for our children."* Each year, our programs grow and further our presence throughout West Hawaii. We have offices in Kailua-Kona, Waimea, Kealahou, and Na'alehu. Over fifty FSH employees, numerous volunteers, and an array of collaborative community groups provide the workforce necessary to carry out our mission. FSH is organized into four primary services: Child Welfare/Family Strengthening, Early Childhood Education, Child Development, and Youth Development. Each division has multiple programs that fall within our mission statement and serve to empower children, families and communities.

Family Support Hawaii continues to lead the way in creating healthy environments to support families in raising healthy children, and this past year has been filled with successes and new challenges for the agency. We have managed not only to improve our services to West Hawaii families, but have done so in a fiscally prudent and responsible way. We have expanded our speech and physical therapy services to include children of all ages, increased summer programming for Early Head Start, and expanded our Fatherhood Initiative. However, much more work lies ahead. We are particularly challenged by the impact of drugs on our community and families, and are working with community groups to respond to this problem. This ongoing effort is a critical part of our work to fulfill our mission *"to support families and communities in providing love and care to our children"*

I invite you to continue to partner with us to make sure our children, families and communities continue to get the support they need. The spirit of family and community are strong forces in our mission. We could not do this without your continued support!

Mahalo,

*Ray Wofford*  
Ray Wofford, LMSW, MBA  
Executive Director



## Early Head Start

The Family Support Hawaii Early Head Start program (EHS) provides home-visiting and center-based services to pregnant women and children from birth to three and their families who live in Ka'u, Kona, and North Hawaii. We offer child development, family development,

health, nutrition, and mental wellness services for families enrolled. Activities include home visits, socialization groups, parent-to-parent support, developmental screenings and assessments, education about health, safety, and nutrition, and therapeutic support for those with special needs. Parent Committees and the EHS Policy Council are two unique opportunities for families to become involved in decision-making for the program. The program creates and supports collaborative relationships with community partners that are responsive to children and family needs and family goals.

Every year in the spring, the program holds a Health and Safety Day to support family engagement in healthy practices and connections to community partners. Families have the opportunity to meet and connect with a variety of community partners, have health screenings for themselves and their children, participate in a music and movement class, assemble an emergency preparedness kit, get a Keiki Identification Card, and eat a delicious and healthy lunch.

In addition to engaging families, EHS provides our children a number of learning center activities, including music and movement, preparing a funny face snack at the WIC booth, and dramatic play with healthy food items.

We want to thank our community partners for their participation in our Annual Health and Safety Day:

- WIC -nutrition information
- West Hawaii Community Health Center-Keiki Dental/Hawaii SMILES project- dental screenings
- West Hawaii Community Health Center- health screenings and information
- Neighborhood Place of Kona- community resource information
- Family Support Hawaii Early Intervention Services- services for children with special needs
- PATCH- information on child care and early childhood education training
- Parents and Children Together Head Start- Head Start preschool
- Hawaii Police Department - Keiki ID
- Family Support Hawaii Newborn Enhanced Support Team (NEST) - breastfeeding and newborn attachment
- Jiggle Bums- music and movement
- Stress-Free Souls- mental health and wellness

The program is dedicated to providing services to support parents and help families move toward *self-sufficiency*. In the past year, one of our EHS families had a goal to buy a house. With support and partnership along the way, the family was able to meet this goal. Working closely with community partners to increase family well-being through family health, safety, and economic stability is something that we strive for each day in our Early Head Start program. We are proud to work in partnership with other community agencies and programs to best support positive outcomes for children and families.



## Child Development

Our Early Head Start program has worked closely with a family for a handful of years. Savanna Delovio and her husband, Kaleo, are a blended family with a total of seven children, two of whom have disabilities. They participated in Family Support Services and were consistent with their home visits, attending socials, making regular dentist, doctor and WIC appointments for their kids, and working. Needless to say, they had/have a full plate; and on top of it all, Kaleo has weekly dialysis appointments and is on a waiting list for a new kidney.

Part of the Early Head Start Program is to have parents set attainable goals for themselves and their family. Their goal was to buy a house. They decided to save money and budget. Although Savanna has always been good at this, she really decided to dig deep, focus and find where she could cut back expenses, shop and save more effectively and to truly commit to fulfilling their dream of owning their own home. Savanna grew up in Public Housing and wanted to do better for herself and her family.

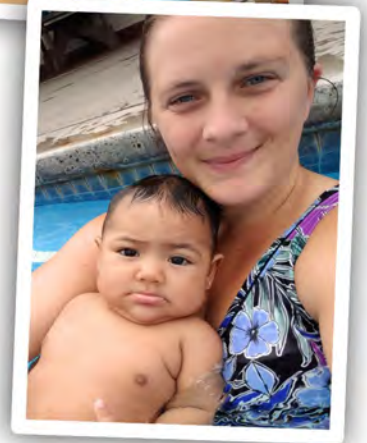
Savanna and Kaleo decided to team up with Hawaii Community Assets to help them stay on track and help guide them in meeting their goals. They connected with a realtor who believed in them and helped them find a home in Hilo they loved. Savanna wrote the owners a letter telling them about their family, some of their hardships and how much this home would mean to them. The owners accepted the offer and the process began rolling – or so they thought. The process from making the offer to closing took over five months, but patience, perseverance, determination and never losing sight of their dream payed off.

Our Child Development Program (Early Intervention) serve children from zero to three who have developmental delays or are at risk for such delays. Speech, physical, occupational, and special instruction therapists work collaboratively with the family and care coordinator to provide parents and caregivers with support and guidance to implement meaningful strategies during the child's naturally occurring daily routines and activities. We facilitate this partnership in the child's natural environment, typically the home, and promote the families' ability to provide the long term advocacy and support their children's need.

## Home Visiting Services

Home Visiting Services (HVS) has had the pleasure of working with some excellent foster parents (officially called Resource Caregivers by CWS) through the years. It seems lately that the caregivers being recruited and trained in the community are surpassing the highest standards set in the past. One highly skilled and dedicated foster family associated with a private university organization in the community was able to recruit several others in the organization and thus not only ease the shortfall of foster families, but also raise the quality.

One of those recruited families is a young couple with no children of their own. This couple accepted into their home two brothers ages 2 and 3, but felt they had to decline the boys' newborn sister due to their inexperience. However, after just a couple of short



weeks, they were able to confidently accept the infant sister as well. The two older children were traumatized and nonverbal when they were placed, but they have thrived in the care of their foster parents. The foster parents are doing an unbelievable job with the children, proactively promoting their

emotional adjustment and their physical and cognitive development. In their care, the children have discovered books, finding they love being read to. They are being provided imaginative play and musical experiences. They are eating the most nutritious foods the foster parents can prepare, and are being taken to play and educational activities outside the home. The older boys had very poor sleep initially, waking constantly during the night. After much patient intervention and support, the foster parents have been able to watch these children begin to sleep hours at a time. They also have the boys in a high quality preschool for part of the day and have seen the boys' speech blossom. These extraordinary foster parents look forward to the possibility of adopting all three children if they cannot be reunified with their biological parents. We are honored to provide these families support, additional information and skill building, and referral to resources.

## Fatherhood Initiative

The West Hawaii Fatherhood Initiative has rolled out its Father Engagement training to support our West Hawaii community to better engage with fathers for a safer and stronger community.

Included in the training are handouts for fathers titled: *Awesome Dad Cheat Sheet*, *Inside Out*, *Healthy Emotions for Fathers*, and *Dos and Don'ts of Co-Parenting*. These handouts offer great guidance and support for fathers and can serve as excellent conversation starters with fathers looking for ways to improve as fathers, partners, and in life.

A few examples from the Awesome Dad Cheat Sheet:

**Don't look at anything as 'mom' duties:** Share responsibilities. Some men still look at certain duties as 'mom' duties... don't be one of those dads. Get involved in everything and share the lead with your baby mama. Changing diapers, giving baths, getting them dressed, even feeding them provide dads with wonderful opportunities to connect with their children all the while giving mama a break; and a happy mama means a happy home.

**Love conquers all:** This one sounds corny but it should be at the center of your dad operating philosophy; above all, show your children love *especially* when you're upset. Next time you're angry, try this. Instead of yelling, give them a hug, let them know that you understand what they're going through because if they are acting out, they are certainly going through something that a little caring and compassion might help them get through. The alternative is that they get yelled at, feel even worse and don't feel safe to discuss it with you and then they act out even more. A little bit of love can go a long way. P.S this goes for partners too.

**Sense of humor required:** There will be times when your child does something that will make you want to blow your lid; breaking something, writing on the walls, other kinds of mayhem. Before you snap, take a deep breath and see if you are able to find humor in the situation. Remembering for example' when you were doing the same kind of thing as a kid and this must be karmic payback. Have a laugh at it, help your child clean up the mess and then make safety precautions to protect other valuables. If you are unable to find humor, take as many breaths as you need until you can. This will help both of you learn and love each other.

If you are interested in reading more tips for dads or attending a father group, contact the Fatherhood Initiative at: 808-215-9223. Regular group meetings are every Wednesday at 6:30PM near Costco.



# EARLY HEAD START



**F**amily Support Hawaii Early Head Start provides quality educational experiences through center-based and home-based services to pregnant women and children from birth to three years old. The foundations for school readiness begin in pregnancy and continue for the first three years. The foundational nature of developing skills, knowledge, and attitudes in the infant and toddler years are necessary for success in school and for later learning and life. The program uses a curriculum and assessment system which is aligned with the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework, the EHS Child Outcomes for Birth-Three and the Hawaii Early Learning and Development Standards. Assessment data is collected three times per year using the My Teaching Strategies assessment system. School readiness skills are

assessed in the areas of social/emotional, cognitive, language and literacy, physical development and approaches to learning. Results from the My Teaching Strategies assessment, as well as from other sources, are analyzed by EHS staff members and are used to guide individualized plans for the child, training and professional development plans and program improvement plans.

- The total number of children served: 143
- The total number of families served: 126
- The average monthly enrollment: 100%
- The percentage of eligible children served: 33%
- The percentage of enrolled children that received medical exams: 100%
- The percentage of enrolled children that received dental exams: 78%

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

**E**arly Head Start is a family-centered program, following the tenets that children develop in the context of their family and culture and that parents are respected as the primary educators and nurturers of their children. The program strives to engage parents and families through a variety of activities, training and educational opportunities. Throughout the 2018-2019 program year, families in our program had opportunities to participate through:

- Teacher and Home Visitor Visits
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Health Advisory Committee Meetings
- Male Involvement Activities
- Policy Council Meetings
- Community Field Trips
- Parent/Child Socialization Events

## PARENT TRAINING TOPICS

- Oral Health
- Nutrition, Food Budgeting
- Cooking Demonstration
- Children's Growth and Development
- Job Readiness Skills
- Transition to Preschool
- Health and Safety
- Math Learning Activities
- Stress Management for Families
- Support for Children with Special Needs
- Child Observation
- Cultural Competencies
- Domestic Violence and Substance Abuse Prevention
- Community Resources



## TEACHING STRATEGIES GOLD

### ASSESSMENT RESULTS

June 2019

#### CHILDREN AGE BIRTH TO 1

Below Expectations: 0%  
Meeting Expectations: 100%  
Exceeding Expectations: 0%

#### CHILDREN AGE 2-3

Below Expectations: 25%  
Meeting Expectations: 73%  
Exceeding Expectations: 2%

#### CHILDREN AGE 1-2

Below Expectations: 7%  
Meeting Expectations: 92%  
Exceeding Expectations: 1%

#### TOTAL CHILDREN AGE BIRTH-3

Below Expectations: 13%  
Meeting Expectations: 85%  
Exceeding Expectations: 2%



# Financials

## PUBLIC FUNDS RECEIVED FY 2018-2019

US Dept of Health and Human Services	1,430,330
US Dept of Agriculture	9,906
State and County	1,329,311
Contributions and Other Revenue	316,216
Public Funds	2,769,547
Private Funds	316,216
Total Federal	1,440,236
Total Non Federal Share	1,645,527
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>3,085,763</b>

## EXPENSES FY 2018-2019

Wages, PR Taxes, Benefits	1,660,190
Outside Services	405,517
Indirect Expenses	390,514
Occupancy	149,736
Supplies	120,830
Training, Travel, Conferences	97,417
Equipment and Vehicle Exp	61,443
Inkind Expense	59,461
Insurance	36,256
Telephone	28,023
Depreciation	20,459
Fundraising Expense	18,852
Project Expenses	18,181
Utilities	17,015
Mileage Reimbursement	13,752
Professional Fees	2,070
Postage, Printing, Advertising	1,275
Client Assistance	951
Other Expenses	547
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>3,102,489</b>

## FINANCIAL AUDIT

**I**n accordance with the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133 our Financial Audit Report for fiscal year ending **June 30, 2019** by Carbonaro CPA & Associates INC was released on **January 5, 2020** and did not report any findings. The complete financial report is available online at our website at <https://familysupporthawaii.org/about-us/annual-reports/>