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

family support hawaiʻi

2021-2022 Annual Report
As Family Support Hawaii (FSH) enters its 46th year providing the highest quality programs for children and families, we want to thank our donors, volunteers, families, and staff for your continued support of our mission “to support families and communities in providing love and care for our children.” We know that the work we do and have done could not have happened without your generous donations of funds, volunteer time, material goods and emotional support. You are there in spirit when we serve families, and we know they are grateful for all your contributions. Our Fall campaign is key to completing our financial commitments to funders and families and we ask you to continue your support. As always, the funds received will go directly to improving the lives of West Hawaii children and their families through the programs we have featured in this Fall Newsletter.

Our staff is proud to be a part of the community we serve, living and working, nurturing their own families under the “community tree.” With your support we can “plant more trees” in more communities, extending the shelter and support we provide to more families, which helps to support our families with necessary resources. Some of our focus areas have included financial literacy, economic self-sufficiency, social and emotional development/mental wellness, language and literacy, and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) for infants and toddlers. We are excited about the new Kala‘au Early Learning Center in Kona, which is located at the Kona International Marketplace. We are also looking forward to holding our second Family Literacy Night, which will be held on Thursday, December 8, 2022 from 5:00-7:30 pm at the Hawaii Island Community Health Center above Kealakehe High School. The theme is “The Gift of Reading” and we will be hosting our EHS families for a wonderful evening of books, music, dancing, holiday activities, and food. During this season of giving, we would like to thank all our staff, families, community partners, and other stakeholders. Without you, we could not do the wonderful work that we do and we are grateful for the support. MAHALO!

EHS provides home-visiting and center-based services to pregnant women and children from birth to three who live in Ka‘u, Kona, and North Hawaii, offering child development, family development, health, nutrition, and mental wellness services for enrolled families. Activities include home visits, socialization groups, parent-to-parent support, developmental screenings and assessments, education about health, safety, and nutrition, as well as 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. EHS also 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 infancy 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 is designed to be accessible to all children in the system which is aligned with the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework. Early Learning Outcomes for Birth-Three and the Hawaii Early Learning and Development Standards. The program has transitioned to a new child assessment system called the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP). We are assessed three times per year. School readiness skills are assessed in the areas of Approaches to Learning, Social and Emotional Development; Language and Literacy Development; Cognition, including Math and Science; and Physical Development/Health. Data gathered from the DRDP assessment, as well as feedback from other Hawaii Early Learning Rate of Progress, is used by the EHS staff members and are used to guide individualized plans for the child, training and professional development plans, and program improvement plans.

Children were assessed in Spring 2022 (June) and in Fall 2022 (October 2022). In all five domain areas, Approaches to Learning-Self-Regulation; Social and Emotional Development; Head Start Language and Literacy Development; Cognition, including Math and Science; and Physical Development/Health, children who were served in Spring 2022 showed an increase in levels, between 32% and 59% of children (data not available for some children) demonstrated an increase between the Spring and Fall checkpoints. On a domain level for the entire group, the largest progression was made in the Approaches to Learning-Self-Regulation domain and the Emotional domain. The greatest increase (59%) in a specific objective was demonstrated in the Social and Emotional objective ‘Relating with Peers’ and Social Interactions with Families/Adults.’

As Family Support Hawaii Early Head Start, Program goal 1-The Family Support Hawaii Early Head Start program will enhance its mental health services to curriculum and assessment for the well-being of children, and staff to maximize their potential and quality of life.

Program Goal 2-The Family Support Hawaii Early Head Start program will work in partnership with parents and community partners to promote children’s growth in the areas of language and literacy, including those who are dual-language learners.

Program Goal 3-The Family Support Hawaii Early Head Start program will enhance its curriculum focused on family engagement activities to improve family self-sufficiency and financial literacy, including:

- The total number of children served: 118
- The total number of families served: 96
- The average monthly enrollment: 88%
- The percentage of eligible children served: 21%
- The percentage of enrolled children that received dental exams: 75%
- Parent Engagement Activities-EHS is an important component of how we engage families. Enrolled children are part of the family networks that develop in the context of their family and culture and that parents and children are expected to be the primary nurturers of their children. The program strives to engage parents and families through multiple activities, training, and educational opportunities. Through the 2021-2022 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

Parenting Topics

- Nutrition/Food Budgeting/Cooking Demonstration
- Children’s Growth and Development
- Early Childhood Readiness Skills
- Money Matters/Financial Literacy Project
- Transition to Preschool
- Math Learning Activities
- Stress Management for Families
- Support for Children with Special Needs

Home Visiting Services (HVS) continues to provide parenting support for families working with Child Welfare Services, Voluntary Case Management, and Family Strengthening Services. HVS utilizes a combination of skill building, case management, and counseling to provide intake, wrap-around care for its clients. Last year, HVS integrated the Parents as Teachers home visiting curriculum into its framework to expand its services. Implementation has been very successful, and we have received positive feedback.

HVS is fortunate to be a part of the Hawaii Department of Human Services’ new Family First Hawaii initiative, which reduces foster care placement through evidence-based preventative services. Family First Hawaii’s goals are to restructure Child Welfare Services to offer programs for families at risk of losing their children due to abuse and neglect. This program is the latest in a series of efforts to keep children in the center of trauma-informed child welfare practice, bolster family support, and reduce the number of children who may have previously gone to foster care. The HVS program has seen a shift over the last two years. The program primarily served children in foster care placement, now most cases involve prevention and support to keep kids safely in their homes of origin. This is a testament to the positive cultural shift in Child Welfare Services in focusing on pathways to improve services.

There have been numerous successful stories that demonstrate how, when HVS reflects on what’s made positive outcomes, it’s the united teamwork of Family Support Hawaii’s programs that has helped families in Home Visiting Services reach their goals. In the past year, over half of the kids have transitioned to preschool programs, if not more. HVS works closely with Early Intervention, as sometimes developmental delays and stress or tension can work in tandem. Early Childhood Readiness Skills Program Goals and Objectives.

Beginning in May 2022, the program will be enhanced to collect outcome data for this program planning/five-year grant cycle. The program goals are as follows:

- Child Observation
- Cultural Competencies
- Domestic Violence and Substance Abuse Prevention
- Community Resources
As Family Support Hawaii (FSH) enters its 44th year providing the highest quality programs for children and families, we want to thank our donors, volunteers, families, and staff for your continued support of our mission to "support families and communities in providing love and care for our children." We know that the work we do and have done could not have happened without your generous donations of funds, volunteer time, material goods, and emotional support. You are there in spirt when we serve families, and we know they are grateful for all your contributions. Our Fall campaign is key to completing our financial commitments to funders and families and we ask you to continue your support. As always, the funds received will go directly to improving the lives of West Hawai'i children and their families through the programs we have featured in this Fall Newsletter.

Our staff is proud to be a part of the community we serve, living and working, nurturing their own families under the "community tree." With your support we can "plant more trees" in more communities, extending the shelter and support we provide to more families, and strengthen the love and care they provide for their children.

It is a collective effort that has kept our doors open and given us the continued drive to serve families. We are guided by our hard-working Board of Directors who give their time to keep us on track and in the know. Program volunteers help us extend our hands to those in need. We are also grateful for the newsroom team in Kona, which is located at the Kona International Marketplace. We are also looking forward to hosting our second Family Literacy Night, which will be held on Tuesday, December 8, 2022 from 5:00-7:30 pm at the Hawaii Island Community Health Center above Kealahike High School. The theme is the "Gift of Reading" and we will be hosting our EHS families for a wonderful evening of books, music, dancing, holiday activities, and food.

During this season of thanksgiving, we would like to thank all our staff, families, community partners, and other stakeholders. Without you, we could not do the wonderful work that we do and we are grateful for your support. MAHALO!

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EHS also provides quality educational experiences through center-based and home-based services to pregnant women and children from birth to three years. The foundations for school readiness begin in infancy 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 seeks to improve the well-being of children in the system which is aligned with the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework: Outcomes for Birth-Three and the Hawaii Early Learning and Development Standards. The program has transitioned from the former health services model to a new child assessment system called the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP). We are assessed three times per year. School readiness skills are assessed in the areas of Approaches to Learning, Regulation, Social and Emotional Development; Language and Literacy Development; Cognition, including Math and Science; and Physical Development-Health. Data gathered from the DRDP assessment, as well as from other indicators, is utilized by the EHS staff members and are used to guide individualized plans for the child, training and professional development plans, and program improvement plans.

Children were assessed in Spring 2022 (June) and in Fall 2022 (October 2022). In all five domain areas, Approaches to Learning-Self-Regulation; Social and Emotional Development; Head Start Family Engagement activities; and Language and Literacy Development, children showed an overall increase and progression across the levels. Although not detailed here, it is important for all families to ensure that each child shows an increase in levels, between 32% and 59% of children (depending on the domain) demonstrated an increase between the Spring and Fall checkpoints. On a domain level for the entire sample group, the largest progression was made in the Approaches to Learning-Self-Regulation domain. The greatest increase (59%) in a specific objective was demonstrated in the Social and Emotional objective ‘Relationships’ in the Social and Emotional Skills domain. The greatest increase (59%) in a specific objective was demonstrated in the Social and Emotional objective ‘Relationships’ in the Social and Emotional Skills domain. The greatest increase (59%) in a specific objective was demonstrated in the Social and Emotional objective ‘Relationships’ in the Social and Emotional Skills domain. The greatest increase (59%) in a specific objective was demonstrated in the Social and Emotional objective ‘Relationships’ in the Social and Emotional Skills domain.

Programs Goal #1 - The Family Support Hawaii Early Head Start program will enhance its mental health services to support and improve the well-being of children, families, and staff to maximize their potential and quality of life.

Program Goal #2 - The Family Support Hawaii Early Head Start program will work in partnership with parents and community partners to promote children’s growth in the areas of language and literacy, including those who are dual-language learners.

Program Goal #3 - The Family Support Hawaii Early Head Start program will increase family self-sufficiency and financial literacy.

- The total number of children served: 118
- The total number of families served: 96
- The average monthly enrollment: 85%
- The percentage of eligible children served: 21%
- The percentage of enrolled children that received dental exams: 75%
- Parent Engagement Activities-EHS is a link program for families with young children in the tenets that children develop in the context of their family and culture and that parents and caregivers are the primary sources of nurturers of children. The program strives to engage parents and families in a variety of activities, training, and educational opportunities. Throughout the 2021-2022 program year, families in our area 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

Parenting Topics
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- Early Learning, Reading, and Math readiness skills
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- Transition to Preschool
- Transition to Middle School
- 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

HOME VISITING

Home Visiting Services (HVS) continues to provide parenting support for families working with Child Welfare Services, Voluntary Case Management, and Family Strengthening Services. HVS utilizes a combination of skill building, case management, and counseling to provide wrap-around care for its clients. Last year, HVS integrated the Parents as Teachers home visiting curriculum into its framework to expand its services.

Implementation has been very successful, and we have received positive feedback. HVS is fortunate to be a part of the Hawaii Department of Human Services' new Family First Hawaii initiative, which reduces foster care placement through evidence-based preventative services. Family First Hawaii's goals are to restructure Child Welfare Services to offer programs for families at risk of losing their children due to abuse and neglect. This program links programs in the center of trauma-informed child welfare practice, bolster family support, and reduce foster care placement for children who may have previously gone to foster care.

The HVS program has seen a shift over the last two years. HVS has primarily served children in foster care placement, now most cases involve preventing children from ever entering the homes of their origin. This is a testament to the positive cultural shift in Child Welfare Services in expediting its pathways to improve services.

There have been numerous successful stories of children, when HVS reflects on what made positive outcomes, it's the united teamwork of Family Support Hawaii's programs that has helped families in Home Visiting Services reach their goals. In the past year, over half of the kids have remained in their homes through the programs, if not more. HVS works closely with Early Intervention, as sometimes developmental delays and stress or tension can be linked. Early Intervention.

The year started with a strong start. HVS included HVS families in their bi-monthly family group "socializations" where families get to know one another and understand that they’re not alone in the highs and lows of parenting. The Family First Hawaii program is exciting and unique and tailored to fathers. Having an agency that can provide all this seamlessly is critical in supporting families.
FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE

Family Support Hawaii has been delivering the Fatherhood Initiative for over 18 years to support our community’s fathers to be more engaged and successful with their families. Research confirms the importance of father involvement in a child’s social, emotional, and educational development. Children who grow up with an involved father are more likely to have positive outcomes such as graduating from high school, avoiding drug abuse, and achieving financial stability. Resilient families build resilient communities.

Over the past year, the Fatherhood Initiative has offered monthly support group meetings for fathers in Kona and at platforms to accommodate families. Our Ulu Waini transitional housing, as well as our yellow team of qualified therapists continue to provide support, evaluations/assessments, and most importantly offer coaching to program families in the families for implementation of strategies. Equity and access to services are important to us as we continue to engage families.

If you would like to be a part of one of our monthly groups, or act as a mentor for a father in need, please contact Ben Huss, Program Director, at 808-640-9550 or email fatherhood@sfsh.org.

EARLY INTERVENTION

The Kona and North Hawaii early intervention services are crucial for infants and toddlers with developmental delays or who are at risk for delays. Medical conditions, trauma or negative experiences can impact a child’s development, therefore the earlier we identify these issues and connect a child to services, the better the outcome for children and their families. Though COVID continues to impact our programs and families we serve, we are now better prepared to offer alternatives regarding how services are delivered.

We have continued to offer both in person visits and services via virtual platforms to accommodate families. Our team of qualified therapists continue to provide support, evaluations/assessments, and most importantly offer coaching to program families in the implementation of strategies.

We at FSH would like to share one of our success stories from a family we serve, with a child named Tegan. She has been with the North Hawaii Child Development Program since she was four months old. Tegan has a diagnosis of Down Syndrome, and following her birth, she required procedures for her heart conditions and needed a feeding tube for all her nutrition. Over the last two years, Tegan has received services from our Physical Therapist, Speech Language Pathologist, Occupational Therapist, and Teachers, who love getting to visit Tegan and her family.

Lately, Tegan has been leaning signs to help her get her needs met. Tegan loves getting into mischief and is an avid climber, often scaling tall furniture and barricades! She loves to color and play outdoors, and Mom reports that Early Intervention visits have also helped Tegan improve her socialization skills. She enjoys make-believe play like rocking and feeding her baby dolls... which has given her lots of great practice now that she’s a big sister.

Tegan’s parents have been excellent participants in the Early Intervention process, advocating for Tegan’s needs, working on strategies at home between sessions, and sending us cute Tegan’s photos.
### Financials

**Mahalo**

...to all of the individuals, trusts, foundations, and businesses for their contributions of time, money, and/or in-kind support for the past year.

### Financial Audit

In accordance with the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133 our Financial Audit Report for fiscal year ending **June 30, 2022** by Carbonaro CPA & Associates INC was released on **December 1, 2022** and did not report any findings. The complete financial report is available online at our website at [https://familysupporthawaii.org/about-us/annual-reports/](https://familysupporthawaii.org/about-us/annual-reports/)

### Public Funds Received FY 2021-2022

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<th>Source</th>
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<td>US Dept of Health and Human Services</td>
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<td>US Dept of Education</td>
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<td>US Dept of Agriculture</td>
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<td><strong>Total Funding</strong></td>
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### Expenses FY 2021-2022

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<td>Indirect Expenses</td>
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<td>Outside Services</td>
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<td>Other Expenses</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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