

family support hawai'i

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

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

Each year new families reach out to Family Support Hawaii for services. First one, then two, and in less than a year, over 900 new families have received services from our programs this year. Our Early Head Start, Early Identification, Early Intervention, and Home Visiting programs are vital to preparing *keiki* for success in education and life. Our Fatherhood Initiative has been instrumental in strengthening the ability of men in the community to build strong bonds between father and child.

When families and individuals improve their lives and become stronger, it is our hope that they will no longer need our services because they can maintain their positive changes without our support. We are committed to helping families build their own capacity to be successful so the gains they make will be sustained into the future, and in turn build a stronger community. Please take a moment to read the success stories from our programs.

I want to express my sincerest appreciation to our dedicated staff and volunteers. Mahalo to our Board Members for their hours of service and contributions. Each year Family Support Hawaii reaches out to the community to ask for support, and each year we are blessed by the generous support from our donors. **YOU** make the difference in helping us fulfill our mission “to support families and communities in providing love and care for our children.” On behalf of our families, employees, and Board of Directors, we sincerely thank you for your continued support.

Ray Wofford, Executive Director

Our annual reports are published and made publicly available on our website. We invite you to visit www.familysupporthawaii.org/about-us/annual-reports/ to access detailed insights into our early achievements, initiatives, and financial transparency.



HOME VISITING SERVICES

HVS continues to provide parenting support for families working with Child Welfare Services, Voluntary Case Management, and Family Strengthening Services. Over the past few years, HVS staff have become more skilled in implementing the Parents As Teachers (PAT) model. The PAT model has been shown to produce positive benefits, including a reduction in child maltreatment, improved school readiness, and better health outcomes. From the first meeting, we make parents feel seen and heard, using compassionate language to reassure them that their children are in good hands. Our friendly home visitors encourage parents to stay positive and overcome obstacles. Over the past year, the HVS program has seen increased client interest in group connections, allowing HVS staff to play a larger role in planning and executing Early Head Start's monthly family socializations with the Parents As Teachers model, furthering our commitment to PAT. HVS collaborates with Early Intervention, Fatherhood Initiative, and EHS to meet clients' specific needs. This partnership, alongside the Parents As Teachers model, aims to enhance children's health, safety, and kindergarten readiness. By focusing on the present and looking to the future, HVS is building a foundation for joyful children, thriving families, and a strong community. hvs.info@fsswh.org

FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE

According to the US Census Bureau, 1 in 4 children live without a father. Children growing up without a biological, step, or adoptive father in the home are at greater risk of poverty, obesity, behavior problems, dropping out of high school, drug abuse and other negative outcomes. Research shows that fathers are just as important to a child's emotional, psychological, and physical well-being as mothers. The Fatherhood Initiative is focused on engaging fathers with their children and significant others. The program brings

fathers together to share with each other their stories and provide peer support. Fathers learn techniques to cope with stress, relationships, and conflict. Some fathers came into the program at risk of losing visitation rights with their children. They felt alone and believed that the system was working against them. With the support of their peers, they were able to understand and navigate the requirements of family court and develop positive relationships with the mothers of their children, allowing them the opportunity to be a regular part of their children's lives. fatherhood@fsswh.org

EARLY INTERVENTION

In Kona and North Hawaii, early intervention services, through the state's Department of Health, is crucial for infants and toddlers with developmental delays or at risk for delays. Medical conditions, trauma, or negative experiences can impact a child's development; therefore, the earlier we identify these concerns and connect a child to services, the better the outcome for children and their families. We constantly have to adjust and be creative in how we could engage a family in a meaningful way who needed our support. We are grateful for the community resources offered and provided to families during these most difficult times. We look forward to continuing to collaborate with our community partners and local families. eis.info@fsswh.org

EARLY HEAD START

EHS's Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) program is boosting the quality of home-visiting and center-based care. A 2023 assessment revealed a high demand for infant and toddler care, leading to a new center in Kealahou. This center will increase enrollment from six to twelve children, catering to working or studying parents. Renovations and licensing are underway. EHS has adopted the Parents as Teachers (PAT) curriculum in its home-based program. This approach supports

parents as their child's first and most important teachers, focusing on parent-child interaction and understanding developmental stages for optimal learning and growth. The five-year goals of the EHS program prioritize the well-being of children and families, focusing on physical movement and nutrition. These are integrated into classroom activities, weekly home visits, and bi-monthly socialization groups. Recently, a socialization event at a Holualoa sharing garden allowed families to explore and learn about local produce. Staff well-being is also emphasized with activities like pickleball lessons, walking groups, and a kickball tournament. The program provides resources and referrals for high-quality health, early childhood education, and family development services locally and statewide. With supplemental funding, EHS is boosting transportation services, STEAM experiences, and parenting groups in partnership with Family Hui. A recent grant will enhance data support for more meaningful program use. Grateful for the ongoing support from families, staff, and community partners. ehs.info@fsswh.org

School Readiness

EHS 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 is necessary for success in school and for later learning and life. The program uses a curriculum and assessment system 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.

During the 2024-2025 program year, the program transitioned to Parents as Teachers for our home-based curriculum. The PAT approach partners, facilitates, and

reflects so that all children develop, learn, and grow to realize their full potential. The PAT approach educates and supports parents in their role as their child's first and most important teachers and advocates. At its core, Parents as Teachers is about parent-child interaction. The Home Visitor supports parents in understanding their child's developmental stages and the opportunities each stage offers for learning. The Parents as Teachers model is built on a strengths-based approach, emphasizing that all parents, regardless of personal circumstances, can be empowered, gain control over difficult circumstances, and interact with their children to facilitate healthy development. The center-based option will continue to utilize the Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers, and Twos curriculum.

As its child assessment tool, the program utilized the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP), in which children are assessed three times per year. School readiness skills are evaluated in Approaches to Learning & Self-Regulation, Social and Emotional Development, Language and Literacy Development, Cognition, including Math and Science, and Physical Development. Data gathered from the DRDP assessment and other sources are analyzed by EHS staff members and used to guide individualized plans for the child, training and professional development plans, and program improvement plans.

Children were assessed in Spring 2024 (June) and Fall 2024 (October). In all five domain areas, Approaches to Learning & Self-Regulation; Social and Emotional Development; Language and Literacy Development; Cognition, including Math and Science; and Physical Development, EHS children showed an overall increase and progression across the levels. It has been determined that 93% of assessed children demonstrated an increase between the Spring and Fall checkpoints. On a domain level for the

assessed group, the most significant progression was made in the Social and Emotional Development and Physical Development domains. The most significant increases in specific objectives were demonstrated in the Social and Emotional Development objective "Identity of Self in Relation to Others," in the Language and Literacy Development objective "Interest in Literacy," and in the Physical Development objective of "Perceptual Motor Skills and Movement Concepts."

Community Assessment & Program Goals

EHS conducted a comprehensive Community Assessment in the summer of 2023. It solicited input from the governing bodies and Parent Committees, collected and analyzed meaningful data, and collaborated with all staff to strategically plan for its Five-Year Program Goals and Objectives. Beginning in May 2024, the program started the first year of this program planning/five-year grant cycle. The program goal and corresponding objectives are as follows:
Program Goal: The Family Support Hawaii EHS program will refine and enhance its systematic approach to wellness to better support and cultivate a culture of well-being for children, families, and staff.

- Objective #1: Physical Wellness
- Objective #2: Nutrition

Program Information Report Data

The total number of children served: 123
The total number of pregnant women served: 17
The total number of families served: 105
The average monthly enrollment: 72
The percentage of eligible children served: 25%
The percentage of enrolled children that received medical exams: 100%
The percentage of enrolled children that received dental exams: 64%

Parent Engagement Activities

EHS is a family-centered program that follows the tenets that children develop in the context of their family and culture and that parents are respected as their children's primary educators and nurturers. The program strives to engage parents and families through various activities, training, and educational opportunities. Throughout the 2023-2024 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
- Family Literacy Night
- Health/Safety Day
- 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
- Money Matters-Financial Literacy Project
- 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



financials

PUBLIC FUNDS RECEIVED FY 2023-2024

US Dept of Health and Human Services	\$	1,625,230
US Dept of Education	\$	1,672
US Dept of Agriculture	\$	7,235
State and County	\$	2,133,109
Contributions and Other Revenue	\$	890,145
Public Funds	\$	3,767,246
Private Funds	\$	890,145
Total Federal	\$	1,634,137
Total Non Federal Share	\$	3,023,254
Total Funding	\$	4,657,391

EXPENSES FY 2023-2024

Wages, PR Taxes, Benefits	\$	2,334,585
Indirect Expenses	\$	476,042
Occupancy	\$	200,185
Training, Travel, Conferences	\$	121,093
Supplies	\$	117,804
In-kind Expense	\$	94,800
Equipment and Vehicle Exp	\$	66,741
Insurance	\$	46,307
Outside Services	\$	42,603
Depreciation	\$	36,883
Parent Training & Socialization	\$	26,742
Telephone	\$	24,658
Loss in Impairment	\$	20,262
Utilities	\$	17,952
Fundraising Expense	\$	16,239
Mileage Reimbursement	\$	12,071
Professional Fees	\$	11,331
Dues and Memberships	\$	5,103
Other Expenses	\$	399
Total Expenses	\$	3,671,800

FINANCIAL AUDIT

In accordance with the Single Audit Act and 2 CFR part 200, subpart F, our Financial Audit Report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 by Carbonaro CPA & Associates INC was released on December 12, 2024 and did not report any findings. The complete financial report is available online at <https://familysupporthawaii.org/about-us/annual-reports/>