

THE BACK PAGE

Recommended Reading: "Guidelines for Family Support Practice"

The collective wisdom of the family support field. Practices that have been found to be most useful and effective are compiled into an excellent handbook.

Available from the Family Resource Coalition (312) 341-0900

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A Maui United Way Member Agency

Family Matters is published quarterly by Maui Family Support Services



Maui Family Support Services, Inc.

333 Dairy Road, Suite 201

Kahului, HI 96732

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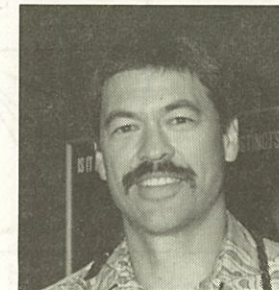
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Family MATTERS

Maui Family Support Services, Inc. Vol. 1, Issue 5 January, 1997

Issues
concerning
families with
young children



"Humans are basically good"

Michael E. Kim, M.D., President

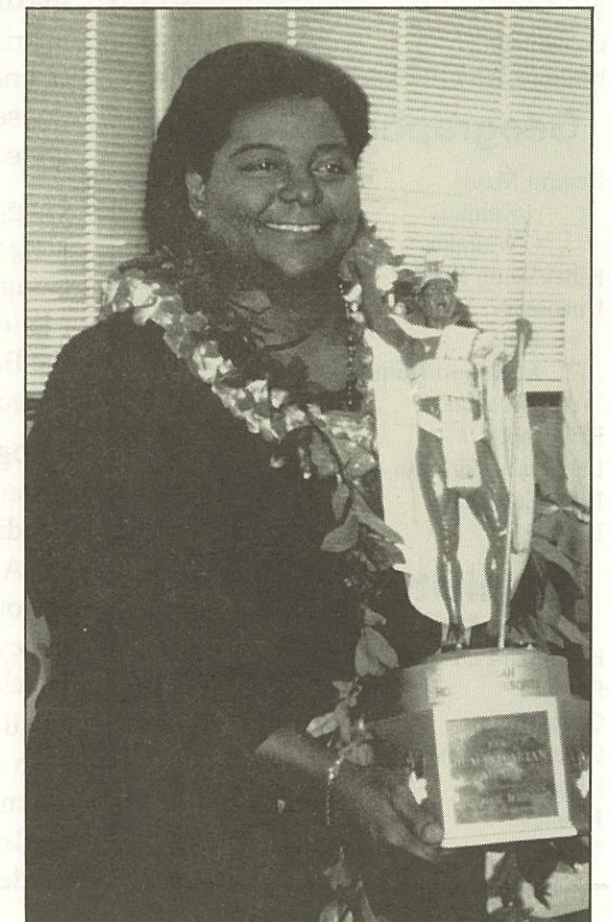
I grew up with the philosophy that *humans are basically good*. Over time, experience has shown me that this basic goodness can get buried under the stresses of life. We all know the stress of overwork and financial worry, while substance abuse and unemployment are growing community concerns. For many families the additional stress of a

new child leave parents overwhelmed. Maui Family Support Services helps to reduce stress by showing families how to cope with stressful issues, by teaching positive parenting skills and by connecting families to other community resources as appropriate.

My thanks to our hard-working, dedicated Staff and Board. And once again thanks to our community and Family of Friends for your continuing support, you can all be proud that your contribution has reduced the stress for many families and allowed for basic human goodness to express itself.

Humanitarian Award

Bettye S. Williams, Executive Director of Maui Family Support Services, has been awarded the Humanitarian Award for 1996, by the Hawaiian Hotels & Resorts. The Award was presented in honor of Ms. Williams' contributions to children and children's causes. Well known for her leadership in the nonprofit community for over 20 years, she has served as Chair of the Child Welfare Services Advisory Committee, President of the Maui Nonprofit Executive Directors Association, Chair of the Maui Children's Coalition, and President of Hawaii's Association of Weinberg Fellows
Congratulations Bettye!



Annual Report Edition

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Board
Staff

#5
Jan. 97

LOCAL VOICES

"Every day, light your small candle. tutor or mentor or speak to or smile at that one child...."

Marian Wright Edelman
"Guide My Feet"

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on home visiting caseload of 610 families

Families Served

Age		
Mothers under age 19	33.80 %	
Fathers under age 19	19 %	
Education		
Mother is neither high school nor GED graduate	35 %	
Employed		
Mothers Employed	31.6 %	
Fathers Employed	66.7 %	
Married	27.1 %	
Single	40.1 %	
Cohabiting	32.6 %	
Families With No Home Telephone	8 %	

Geographic Location

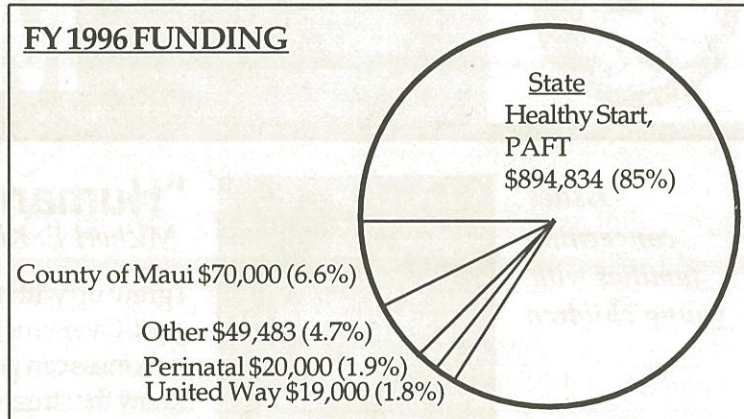
Central Maui:	46 %
Kahului	27 %
Wailuku	19 %
Kihei/South Maui:	15 %
Upcountry:	15 %
Kula	1 %
Makawao/Haliimaile	9 %
Pukalani	5 %
Paia/Haiku	3 %
Lahaina/West Maui	14 %
Hana/East Maui	4 %
Lanai	3 %

Ethnicity of Families

As defined by participants

Hawaiian/Part Hawaiian	41.1 %
Filipino	22.8 %
Caucasian	19.8 %
Other Pacific Islander	5.0 %
Hispanic	2.3 %
Japanese	2.7 %
Other	6.3 %

FY 1996 FUNDING



Audited financial report may be requested from MFSS Office.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee members included Al Sparks (Chair), Mimi Johnston, Clyde Kono and Donna Witherwax. In addition to reviewing operating budgets and financial statements, the Committee sought to maximize the return on funds available to MFSS. Interest-bearing checking and a new money market account were opened. LRT Bookkeeping was contracted for accounting services. Thayer, James and Black, CPA were retained as annual auditors.

Organization Committee was composed of Jim Geiger (Chair) Grant Howe and Rosalyn Loomis. The Committee proposed changes to the Agency's By-laws and sections of the Personnel Policy which were approved by the Board. These changes were made for clarity and to reflect current Agency practices and benefits.

Program Committee members were Wendy Choi (Chair), Milly Boren, Renee Gonzales, Katie Henry and Sandi Stoner. After review, the Committee recommended the Agency sponsor the Maui County Early Childhood Resource Team and the Maui Teen Parenting and Pregnancy Team. Both project are community-wide efforts to provide and strengthen resources available to expectant families and those parenting young children.

In conjunction with an ad hoc Planning Committee, Agency-wide goals were developed and program specific goals were revised. This provides a strong foundation to guide the activities of MFSS.

AKAMAI GUIDANCE

"The goal is to encourage families to become self-reliant. It's important that new parents learn to nurture themselves and their own relationships to best be able to nurture their children.... There are great opportunities for change and growth but they don't always come easily. Together we can get results."

Cookie Chong-Kee
MFSS Family Facilitator

Philosophy

Based on the belief that parents want to provide their children with a healthy and safe environment, MFSS sponsors four programs. These programs build on family strengths and include families as participating members of their community. Affordable prevention programs keep family difficulties from becoming expensive public concerns and support families in meeting the challenges of raising children in today's world.

Programs

Healthy Start

The Healthy Start home visiting program assists families of newborn children to identify their needs and select community based services designed to reduce stress and enhance family functioning, promote optimal child development, health and safety.

The MFSS Teen Program supports young parents and encourages continued education.

Parents as First Teachers

Focusing on the importance of parents as their child's first teacher, PAFT is an innovative educational program which enhances knowledge of early childhood growth and development. The program encourages parent-child interaction and teaches the importance of reading and school readiness activities. An educational toy, book, and video lending library is available to program participants.

Perinatal Support Services

Offering in-home services to help women have healthy pregnancies and healthy babies. The Lanai Perinatal Program provides services to women who have health risks, difficulty accessing services or no health insurance coverage.

Maui County Early Childhood Resource Team

Promoting and coordinating activities, resources and training, the team works to improve the availability, affordability and quality of early childhood education and child care programs. National accreditation of these programs will be increased through a mentoring model. Services available to young children and families on Maui, Lanai and Molokai.

STATISTICS FY 1996

Early Identification Screenings	1,538
Early Identification Assessments	472
Parent/Child Interaction Scales (NCAST)	
Families completed at:	
6 months	91 %
6 & 18 months	73 %
Development Screenings (ICMQ)	90 %
Client Phone/Other Contacts	9,420
Agency/Professional Contacts	1,372
Client Transports	370
Education/Support Groups	10
Toy/Book Lending Library Loans	526
Families with Identified Medical Home	98 %
Individual Family Support Plan:	
New Families	84 %
Continuing Families	96 %
Received Family Planning Information	100 %
Repeat Births - Prenatal Care	93 %
Home Visits Made	6,197
Families Served by Home Visits	610
Families Demonstrating Improvement on Level IV Post Assessment	93 %
Families Not Confirmed for Child Abuse and/or Neglect	99.9 %

Lanai Perinatal

New Admissions	13
Total Women Served	21

THE BACK PAGE

Come to the **Stand For Children Celebration**, Saturday May 31
11 am to 1 pm two hours of entertainment for the entire family
at the Kaahumanu Shopping Center Stage area
See you there !

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The 2nd Annual Stand For Children Celebration

Part of a National Day designed to focus individual, community and national awareness on the importance of all children. The intent is to build a national community where no child is left behind. Join us, Sat. May 31, at the Kaahumanu Shopping Center stage area, from 11 am to 2 pm.

Join the Family of Friends

I would like to support children and families in our community

I enclose ___ \$ 25 Membership ___ \$ 50 Supporter
___ \$ 100 Patron ___ \$ 250 Benefactor
___ \$ 500 Sustainer _____ Other

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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Family MATTERS

Maui Family Support Services, Inc.

April 1997

Issues
concerning
families with
young children

The First Three Years are Crucial

Starting Points, the landmark report on early childhood development by the Carnegie Corporation, draws the conclusion, "how children function from the preschool years all the way through adolescence, and even adulthood, hinges in large part on their experiences before the age of three."

Drawing from this report and other recent research, *I Am Your Child*, a nation wide, Early Childhood Public Engagement Campaign will be launched this month (see box below). Supported by the Carnegie Corporation and over a dozen additional Foundations, the campaign will focus public awareness on the importance of the first three years of a child's life and create an exceptional collection of educational resources for parents, practitioners, and policymakers.

Some results of new research about brain development in young children are covered in *Rethinking The Brain*, a Conference Report from the Families and Work Institute. Here are some highlights:

- Research shows that the human brain has a remarkable capacity to change, but timing is crucial. There are optimal periods during which the brain is particularly

efficient at specific types of learning.

- The impact of environmental factors on a young child's brain development is dramatic and specific, actually affecting how the intricate circuitry of the brain is "wired".

- Early care has decisive and long-lasting effects on how children develop and learn, cope with stress, and regulate their emotions.

- Babies thrive when they receive warm, responsive early care. There are also times when negative experiences or the absence of appropriate stimulation are likely to have serious and sustained effects.

Please join us and encourage others to partake of this exceptional public service campaign.

Early Childhood Issue

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The Back Page

"I Am Your Child"

Early Childhood Public Engagement Campaign

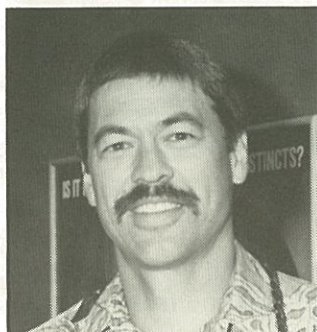
April 28th, 7:00 pm: **Hour-Long ABC Prime Time Special, "I Am Your Child"** Hosted by Tom Hanks, with Robin Williams, Whitney Houston, Billy Crystal, Mel Brooks, and many other stars. Music, comedy and a documentary about a community that has mobilized on behalf of young children.

Newsweek special edition, coinciding with the show's airing, will include a national status report on children and practical information about parenting.

Week of April 21st: Featured all week on *Good Morning America*

Internet On-Line Information: farber.fwi at aol.com
World Wide Web Site: www.iamyourchild.org

Viewpoints



Healthy Children

by Michael E. Kim, M.D.

Expectant mothers need care and knowledge so they can give their babies a healthy start in life. Among other things they need safe environments and good nutrition.

A child's brain development is very active during the prenatal period. Even before birth, the brain is affected by environmental conditions such as stimulation and nourishment. New information suggests exposure to nicotine, alcohol and drugs may cause more harmful and long-lasting effects to a child's developing brain than was previously suspected.

There is a great deal that expectant mothers and fathers can do to avoid risks and promote healthy development of their babies before they are born and during the very significant first years of life. Medical care, preventive health screening, well-baby care, immunization and attention to emotional development are all important ways to ensure that a child has a good beginning.

Good Beginnings

by Gale McNish and Terry Lock of the Maui County Early Childhood Resource Team

In light of new information on the importance of a child's early experiences, the care a young child receives, both at home and in child care, must be of the best quality possible.

Sometimes parents choose other family members to care for children while they work. This can be a wonderful option for a child. Other times, it is necessary to use several providers in order to cover hours required by work schedules. However, continuity of care has been shown to be extremely important to a child's optimum development, and an attempt should be made to have a single child care provider.

Once a parent's choice is made, it is important to stay involved with the child's caregiver. A parent can help to make their child's experiences away from home positive by sharing information about favorite activities and playthings, food preferences, fears and anxieties.

Children may be uneasy at first. This is natural and expected. Parents can ease this time by staying in close contact with the caregiver and acting as "translator" for the child. All parents share concerns and fears when leaving their child in someone else's care. In time, both parents and children will adapt. This new experience can enrich a child's life in ways never anticipated.

Aside from family members, the following types of child care providers are available:

Licensed child care provider cares for children in her home. She has attended a series of classes on child care, and her home has been deemed safe and clean by state and county agencies. These providers have had criminal checks conducted and the number of children they can care for is limited so they will be able to give each child the attention they need.

License exempt providers are permitted to care for two or fewer children in their home. They are registered with the Dept. of

Human Services.

Unlicensed child care providers may or may not offer good quality care and should be checked out carefully. They often take a larger number of children than they can properly care for. *Remember, they are unknown to DHS and have not had background or home safety checks.*

Preschools in Maui County are all licensed by the state and are of good quality. This can be an excellent option for children 3 or 4 years old.

Community



The Village - Family Resource Fair

by Bettye S. Williams

"It Takes a Whole Village to Raise a Child", theme of the 3rd Annual Family Resource Fair, places emphasis on community support for children and their families.

Organized by Maui Family Support Services and Cosponsored by Maui County, the Family Resource Fair was attended by over 250 Maui parents, children and their extended families.

"Village" support was well represented. Twenty five community service organizations participated with educational hand-outs, videos and demonstrations. A delicious lunch and door prizes were

donated by local businesses and students of the Holy Innocents Preschool displayed art work.

Child care was provided and play activities were enjoyed by the children, including play equipment supplied by Fun on the Run, allowing parents time to talk to community organization representatives and examine displays.

The Family Resource Fair received the 1996 Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies Coalition State Award recognizing outstanding programs promoting maternal and infant health through public education and coalition building.

In The Works: MFSS Video

As a part of the *MCC-Community Coalition for Child Advocacy and Prevention of Violence* public awareness endeavor, MCC Educational Video Producer, Kate Sample is creating a public service video in cooperation with Maui Family Support Services. The video will feature MFSS services through interviews with families served and staff members.

Selecting a Quality Child Care Provider

Points to consider the when measuring the quality of a child care home or center.

Caregivers/Teachers:

- ☺ Seem to really like children
- ☺ Children are greeted when they arrive
- ☺ Trained & experienced in early childhood education
- ☺ Trained in CPR and first aid
- ☺ Tell you what your child is doing every day
- ☺ Always ready to answer your questions
- ☺ Children & caregivers enjoy being together
- ☺ Enough staff to serve the number of children
- ☺ Children's needs quickly met even when busy
- ☺ Parents' ideas are welcome
- ☺ Ways for parents to get involved

In General:

- ☺ You can hear the sounds of happy children
- ☺ Children are comforted when needed
- ☺ You agree with the discipline practices
- ☺ Is the program licensed or regulated?
- ☺ Will *your* child be happy there?

Activities:

- ☺ A daily balance of play time, story time, activity time & nap time
- ☺ Enough toys and learning materials for the number of children
- ☺ Toys are clean, safe and within reach of children
- ☺ Activities appropriate for each age group

Setting:

- ☺ Atmosphere is bright and pleasant
- ☺ There is a fenced-in outdoor play area
- ☺ A variety of safe play equipment
- ☺ Caregivers can see entire playground at all times
- ☺ Different areas are available for resting, quiet play & active play
- ☺ Enough space for the children in all areas

For more information call (808)871-0775

THE BACK PAGE

To everyone who stands for children; who volunteer with youth groups, team sports and other activities; to those who tutor, mentor or teach children; and to all who work tirelessly on behalf of children and youth, **thank you.**

Bettye S. Williams

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Family MATTERS

Maui Family Support Services, Inc. Vol. 1, Issue 7 October 1997

Issues concerning families with young children

Creating Community

Bettye S. Williams, Executive Director

Communities are complex and varied, reflecting a rainbow of diverse people. We are fortunate that Maui is such a caring community. All of us, working together in many different ways, have created a responsive and beneficial environment that enhances our lives. Thank you for doing your part.

As a partner in creating our healthy community, Maui Family Support Services works to strengthen and empower families. Families are the building blocks of the community and have special importance due to the children they nurture. Research shows that experiences during the first months and years of life play a large part in how a child will behave as an adolescent and as an adult.

During this critical period, MFSS assists new parents in creating a wholesome, nurturing and supportive atmosphere, providing comprehensive services focused on resolving family tensions, teaching positive parenting skills and linking families to additional community resources. This assistance encourages families to become self-reliant and keeps family difficulties from becoming expensive public concerns.

To achieve our goals MFSS sponsors seven programs covering different aspects of child and family support. To encourage community understanding of these programs this Annual Report edition of *Family Matters* provides an overview of each program.



Fiesta Dinner Party

Mexican Dinner Mexican Guitarist

Saturday evening November 1st 6:30 till 10 pm

Annual Report Edition

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Join us in celebrating Maui Family Support Services 17th Anniversary. This year's event will have an authentic Mexican flavor with a fun filled evening featuring delicious Mexican food by Amelia Ramirez de Tan and music by Ignacio Cardenas, popular entertainer seen at "Papa's and Chili".

The relaxed indoor/outdoor setting of the Maui Country Club in Spreckelsville will create a pleasant background. So get out your festive fiesta finery, grab a bandana and sombrero and join us for a great time.

Tickets for this special event are \$16 general and \$8 for children under 12. Space is limited. Call 871-6100 to reserve your tickets today.

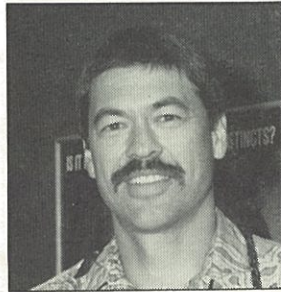
See you there, amigos!

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Working Together



President's Message

Michael E. Kim, M.D.

Maui Family support Services is celebrating its 17th year of prevention and family support services. Despite dramatic cutbacks in State funding (over \$320,000) and shrinking community resources, MFSS has continued to provide quality and effective service to Maui and Lanai. This success is due to the many repeat and new contributions from citizens, businesses and private funders. You can be proud that your support has helped families cope with stressful life situations and become more self-reliant.

Our collaborations strengthen us, our community and those most in need of help. As individuals, families, groups and services we have all worked together to bring about a measurable difference.

Your contributions are vital as we embark on a new fiscal year and we encourage you to join our Family of Friends.

I especially want to thank the Staff, members of the Board and the following Committees for their continued dedication and excellent work:

Finance Committee members Clyde Kono, Chair, Al Sparks and Mimi Johnston.

Program Committee members Wendy Choi, Chair, Milly Boren, Renee Gonzales, Katie Henry and Wanda McMaster.

Organization Committee members Jim Geiger, Chair, Grant Howe and Rosalyn Loomis.

Each committee has undertaken significant tasks in their area to maximize resources and administrative and program operations of the Agency.

MFSS Staff

Mei Amuro, Zina Andrade, Joan Audette, Jackie Balberdi, Paige Carvalho, Cookie Chong-Kee, Cynthia Coleman-Jakubczak, Connie DeBord, Robin Dickson, Melanie Dunn, Malia Entendencia, Lucinda Estrella, Nora Etrata, Mary Gilchrist, Pat Goold, Michael Guerrero, Darlene Hardin, Gil Herrera, Jo Ann Harris, Kit Hart, David Hendricks, Dolly Hinai, Sally Iwankiw, Pat Joaquin, Betty Kaya, Stacey Krenelka, Marilyn Mamaud, Liz Miller, Audra Palazzotto, Cathy Pellazar, Michelle Pietsch, Donald Powell, Jennifer Rosa, Robbie St. Sure, Claudia Thompson, Marie Via, Bettye Williams

Announcing a New Program

Family Focus

As of September 1997 the Family Focus Program is available to any Maui family with children age 0 to 5 years. Based on the successful Healthy Start model the program is flexible and client-centered. By identifying and responding to the specific individual needs of each family, as defined by the family members, Family Focus maximizes the likelihood of the family utilizing available resources most effectively and successfully. Program interactions and work with families will vary depending on individual situation or need. Mahalo to Maui County for providing funding.

Kokua and Contributions

THANK YOU to the following individuals, groups and businesses who have been so generous in supporting the work of MFSS

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

☆ K-Mart

☆ 700 Club

☆ T & S Restaurants

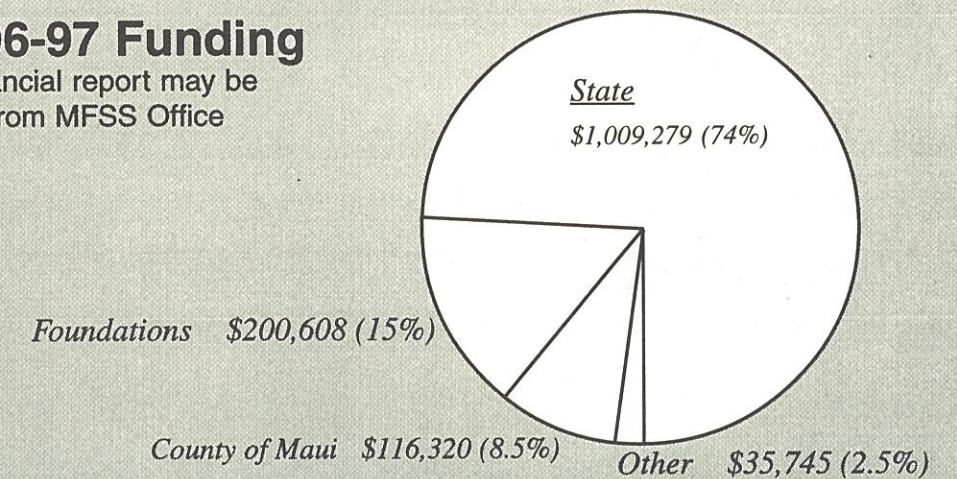
Artie's Mexican Food
Avis Rent a Car
Bank of Hawaii
BK Barbers
Candy Bouquet Maui
Cinemagic Video
Conrad, Hunton
Costco
Extreme Sports
First Assembly of God Church
Friends of the Children's Advocacy
Fry, Jef
Girl Scout Troop 931
Grand Waikapu Resort
Guy Buffet Collection
Hale Mahaolu
Hart, Kit
Hopaco
Harris, JoAnn & Bruce

Kaanapali Beach Hotel
Kaunoa Senior Citizens
Ke'ena Kuakahi Art Studio
K-Mart
Lahaina Pure Water Company
Leal, Art
Lee-Bear & Company
Leuteneker, Ann
Lori's Hair Shack
Mama's Fish House
Marcos Grill & Bar
Martin, Dr. George
Maui Child & Books
Maui Community Correctional Center
Maui Karate School
Maui Land and Pine
Maui Mountain Coffee Co.
Maui Prince Makena Resort
Maui Soda & Ice

Maui Specialty Chocolate
Maui Stamps
Maui Stingrays
Nail Art Hair Salon
Ocean Activities
Pair-O-Dice Pizza
Pascuael, Patricia
Planet Hollywood
Pukalani Pizza Hut
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Roy's Kahana Bar & Grill
Scoops Ice Cream
Smythe, Seward Jr.
The Bakery
The Basket Company
The Nail Shop
Tropo Hurricane
Wailea Resort Company
Wunderbar Cafe

FY 1996-97 Funding

Audited financial report may be requested from MFSS Office



The Family of Friends

MAHALO NUI LOA to all Family of Friends members for your continuing support and contributions. Working together for the benefit of families in our community helps to create a safe and healthy future

Benefactors:

Kit Hart, Mr. Cary Marshall/Maui Ice Co., Inc., Maui Electric Co., Edward & Sally Simonds

Patrons:

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- ★ Kihei/Wailea Rotary Club
- ★ Maui Hotel Association
- ★ Haleakala Waldorf School
- ★ Friends of the Children's Advocacy

MAJOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Atherton Family Foundation	County of Maui	Children's Trust Fund
Department of Health	Hawaii Community Foundation	Maui United Way
Maui Hotel Association	Frear Eleemosynary	Trimble Foundation
Henry & Dorothy Castle Memorial Fund		Anonymous
of the Samuel N. & Mary Castle Foundation		

Programs

Healthy Start

Designed to support and empower families through the important first years of a child's life, Healthy Start uses a family strengthening model. Helping families identify areas where they need assistance, a specially trained Family Facilitator works with each family to assist them in becoming self sufficient in these areas.

Services are long term, continuing 3 to 5 years, and intensive according to the family's needs. Family problems may involve lack of health insurance or inadequate housing. Many parents require child development and parenting information while other families may be dealing with more complex situations like unemployment, domestic violence or substance abuse.

A family may consist of a child and single parent, both parents, or other caregivers such a grandparent with responsibility for the child.

The program is confidential and evaluations show it to be highly effective. Based on the Hawaii Healthy Start model, there are now 244 Healthy Families America sites in 36

States and the Dist. of Columbia as well as in the Philippines, New Zealand, and Guam. Canada is currently reviewing implementation.

Healthy Start Teen Program works with teen age parents, encouraging them to continue their education and develop a life plan based on long term goals. The program may involve the parents and grandparents of the teen parent to strengthen family support as well as the DOE Teen Pregnancy Centers to stimulate school achievement.



FY 1997	
Families served	481
Home visits made	5928
Families demonstrating improvement on Level IV Post Assessment	97%
Families not confirmed for child abuse and/or neglect	98%

Healthy Start and Hi'ilei O Hawai'i*

DEMOGRAPHICS: FY 1997 Based on home visiting caseload of 550 families

Families Served		Geographic Location		Ethnicity of Families <small>As defined by participants</small>	
Age: Mothers under age 19	35%	Central Maui:	47%	Hawaiian/Part Hawaiian	41%
Fathers under age 19	20%	Kahului	34%	Filipino	22%
		Wailuku	13%	Caucasian	18%
Education: Mother neither high school or GED graduate	29%	Kihei/South Maui:	15%	Other Pacific Islander	5%
		Upcountry:	13%	Hispanic	6%
Employed: Mothers	35%	Kula	1%	Japanese	3%
Fathers	65%	Makawao/Haliimaile	7%	Other	5%
		Pukalani	5%		
Married:	25%	Paia/Haiku	5%		
Single	43%	Lahaina/West Maui	12%		
Cohabiting	32%	Hana/East Maui	4%		
Families with no home phone	11%	Lanai Island	4%		

*Figures for Hi'ilei O Hawai'i from 1/97 to 6/97 only

Programs

Early Identification Team

On the job 7 days a week, the MFSS Early Identification Team (EID) conducts interviews with new parents at Maui Memorial Hospital to provide parenting information and link families with community resources.

If a new parent is interested and eligible to participate in an MFSS program they are linked with a Family Facilitator who will assist the family in identifying and meeting its needs. Whether or not a new parent signs up for MFSS programs, they receive the latest printed information on parenting, child development and a community resource list. In addition, first time parents receive the informative "Keiki O Hawaii" newsletter.

EID Team members refer parents to other community programs and answer questions about applying for the WIC program and Quest Medical Insurance. It is important that uninsured parents apply for Quest within five days of the birth to be sure the hospital charges related to the delivery will be covered. Pregnant women or new parents may call MFSS directly, be referred by other community agencies or a physician.

FY 1997	
EID Screenings	1576
EID Assessments	588
EID Admissions	235

Parents As First Teachers

Enhancing parents knowledge of early childhood growth and development, Parents as First Teachers (PAFT) encourages parent-child interaction and teaches the importance of reading and school readiness activities. The role of parents as their child's first teacher is the focus of this innovative program. In addition to conducting staff training and parent groups, the PAFT team includes 2 child development specialists and maintains an educational toy, book, and video lending library available to families and staff. Through the Hawaii Community Foundation, the Children's Trust Fund provided a \$50,000 grant to increase our emphasis on children with special needs and their parents. The target population included children with cognition, speech, language, physical, motor, vision, and hearing developmental delays and children with biological and environmental risks. The program's impact was enhanced through individual family consultations, education and working in partnership with families and other services.

PAFT	
Parent/Staff Trainings	10
NCASTS	87
ICMQ Developmental Screenings	384

Lanai Perinatal

Due to lack of maternal delivery services on Lanai, pregnant women travel to other islands for hospital delivery. Expectant mothers make arrangements and bear the cost of travel, housing and transportation for the period surrounding delivery or for any additional hospital procedures.

Due to this unusual hardship, all pregnant women on Lanai may be referred to the MFSS Perinatal Program. The MFSS Family Facilitator on Lanai checks for warning signs of potential health problems, assists with applications for medical insurance and WIC programs, recommends additional community resources, as well as providing information important to healthy pregnancy and birth, breast-feeding and post partum care. MFSS's Lanai office is located at 730 Lanai Ave. Ste. 114, Lanai City. For more information, expectant parents may call 565-7484.

Lanai Perinatal	
New Admissions	13
Total Women Served	21

Programs

Hi'ilei O Hawai'i

The Hi'ilei O Hawai'i (Caring for a beloved child of Hawaii) Program began in January 1997. Following the Healthy Start model and focusing on native Hawaiian or Part Hawaiian families, services are offered to families with children 0 to 23 months old and may continue until a child is 5 years old. Specially trained Family Facilitators working in the program receive additional training in specific topics regarding Hawaiian Culture and related areas. The Hi'ilei team has been active in identifying lesser known community resources which have assisted families dealing with financial hardships and other difficulties.

January thru June 1997

Total Families served	69
Home visits	440
Information/Referral	963

Maui County Early Childhood Resource Team

The MCECRTeam has the important task of improving the availability, affordability and quality of early childhood education and child care programs.

As a result of MCECRT's involvement in the County Council's Subcommittee on Child Care, the County has made available \$40,000 to middle income families for financial assistance for their child care and education needs. Other child care and education subsidies, such as Child Care Connection and Preschool Open Doors, continue to be available for low income and special needs children.

In June 1997, Maui's Good Beginnings Community Council, Chaired by Bettye S. Williams, approved the final draft of the five year Good Beginnings Plan for Maui County. The Plan details over 175 specific strategies within 5 areas that will coordinate and improve early childhood education in our County. During the first year of implementation the Team will be undertaking some 30 of these strategies including the development of a playgroup model handbook; developing tools for preschools to assess and improve their "family friendliness"; and developing a pilot program for businesses to participate in Early Childhood Education and Care programs.

The Accreditation Mentor Project, in its 2nd year, supports early childhood programs applying for national accreditation. Accreditation is awarded to programs which successfully demonstrate their achievement of standards above basic regulatory requirements. Eight mentors have been assigned to 13 center based and 2 family child care providers to guide and support them through the process.

The Team convened a group of ten professionals in the early childhood field to create a master calendar of training/educational opportunities presently available from a variety of sources. The goal of such a calendar is to share resources available as well as identify gaps and overlaps that may exist in training presently offered.

For more information call MCECRT at 871-0775.

MCECRT staff: Terry Lock, Coordinator, Linda Brown, Charlene Doi, Yana Howerton, Gale McNish and Becky Takashima.

