

# Annual Report

42 years of family strengthening and child abuse prevention in Maui County



# A Message from Our Board President Michael Kim, MD -34 Years with MFSS

Five years ago, I used Aesop's fable of The Crow and the Pitcher to suggest that big jobs can be accomplished using small steps; moving pebbles instead of boulders; going slow to go fast.

Here's another:

### The North Wind and the Sun

The North Wind and the Sun quarreled about which of them was the stronger. While they were disputing with much heat and bluster, a Traveler passed along the road wrapped in a cloak.

"Let us agree," said the Sun, "that he is the stronger who can strip that Traveler of his cloak."

"Very well," growled the North Wind and at once sent a cold, howling blast against the Traveler.

With Wind's first gust, the ends of the cloak whipped about the Traveler's body. But he immediately wrapped it closely around him, and the harder the Wind blew, the tighter he held it to him. The North Wind tore angrily at the cloak, but all his efforts were in vain.

Then the Sun began to shine. At first, his beams were gentle, and in the pleasant warmth after the bitter cold of the North Wind, the Traveler unfastened his cloak and let it hang loosely from his shoulders. The Sun's rays grew warmer and warmer.

The man took off his cap and mopped his brow. At last, he became so heated that he pulled off his cloak and, to escape the blazing sunshine, threw himself down in the welcome shade of a tree by the roadside.

Moral of the story: Gentleness and kind persuasion win where force and bluster fail.

Sounds good for Parenting too! Based on this fable, I think Aesop (620-564 BC) could have worked for MFSS!! Thank you to all our dedicated, hard-working staff, community partners, funders, and volunteers on the Board.

Sincerely,

### Mike Kim

The Mission of Maui Family Support Services, Inc. is to promote healthy family functioning by providing supportive services that build on family strengths.

Our Prime Directive is to utilize our collective resources toward the prevention of child abuse and neglect.



# A Message from Our Chief Executive Officer Edeluisa Baguio-Larena -21 Years with MFSS

*Individually, we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean.*– Ryunosuke Satoro, 1892-1927, Japanese Writer

The past two years tested us unimaginably, yet we continued to deliver for our participants, our communities, and each other. Thanks to our staff's unwavering care, resilience, and a sense of purpose throughout the pandemic, we are a more vital performing organization than ever.

MFSS is now affiliated with Parents As Teachers, an evidenced-based home visiting model, which is an excellent addition to our Early Head Start and Healthy Families America home visiting programs. We successfully renewed all our programs' contracts and secured a 5-year grant for our Quality Care for Hawaiian Keiki program. We did it by collaborating, not just within the programs of MFSS but with our community partners and funders. For the past 42 years, collaboration and partnership have helped us define our story, being there for families when they've needed us the most and helping them build a more secure future.

Looking ahead to the upcoming years, we will uphold the same commitment to those we serve, including our staff members. We will continue to strive to create an inclusive, highly collaborative work culture where our employees are empowered to grow and thrive.

By working together, we will be an even better, more connected organization. We will continue to shine and make MFSS a source of pride for all of us.

I'm incredibly grateful to the MFSS teams that dedicate much time and effort to delivering our essential services. I couldn't be more thankful to our participants, volunteers, Board of Directors, community partners, and funders who incessantly provide their support.

Sincerely,

Edel Baguio-Larena

We envision a community where all families are physically and emotionally healthy, and where children and youth reach their optimal potential.



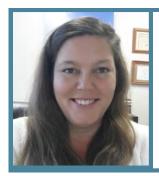
MFSS has been accredited by COA since 2002

# **Board of Directors**



# Michael E. Kim, MD, Board President

Dr. Kim practiced OBGYN on Maui since 1985 and was Board Certified OBGYN in 1987. He retired from Kaiser Permanente in June 2020. He had his own private practice initially before joining Hawaii Permanente Medical Group in 1998. He served as the Chief of Staff at Maui Memorial Medical Center in 1991. Mike has been on the MFSS Board of Directors since 1988.



# Giulietta Swenson, PsyD, Board Vice President

Dr. Swenson is a Clinical Psychologist at the Maui Memorial Medical Center. She has over 12 years of diverse Clinical Psychology experiences including being the Mental Health Specialist for the Early Head Start program of MFSS from 2010 to 2014. Giulietta joined the MFSS Board of Directors in October 2015.



# James Geiger, Esq., Board Secretary

Jim is a partner with Mancini, Welch & Geiger since 2002 practicing in the areas of commercial litigation, general business advice, and land use matters. Jim is the current MFSS Board Secretary and has been on the MFSS Board of Directors since 1989.



# Steve Clark, MD, Board Treasurer

Dr. Clark is a dedicated pediatrician in private practice on Maui since 1985. He was a member of the Active Medical Staff at Maui Memorial Medical Center and served on numerous hospital committees. He also served as Chairperson for the Department of Pediatrics in 1991-1992. Steve currently serves as the MFSS Board Treasurer and has been on the MFSS Board of Directors since 1995.



### Arliza Borja-Losano, Board Member

Arliza is an Assistant Vice President and Private Banker at First Hawaiian Bank. She strives to build long-lasting relationships with high net worth individuals and business owners to help them and their loved ones achieve financial wellness. A graduate of Baldwin High School, she married her high school sweetheart and they are parents to four children. Arliza joined the MFSS Board of Directors in April 2017.



# Joycelyn Victorino, Board Member

Joycelyn has been a long time supporter and community partner of MFSS. She retired in May 1, 2020 from ILWU where she worked for over 30 years. She is a wife, the mother of two adult sons, grandmother of five, great grandmother of two, and the first lady of Maui County. Joycelyn joined the MFSS Board of Directors in May 2019. She also serves as the Board–Early Head Start Policy Council Liaison.



# Jorge Tirona, Board Member

Jorge is a Vice President and Senior Commercial Underwriter/Relationship Officer with Central Pacific Bank in Kahului. Born in Washington DC and raised in New York, Hong Kong, and Manila, he attended High School and College in Catholic universities in Manila before returning to DC to obtain an MBA in International Development Finance from The George Washington University and embark on a career in banking. He has lived on Maui since 2007 with his wife Margarita and two daughters. He is active on the tennis courts as well as on the Boards of the Maui Food Bank and the Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce, among others. He joined the MFSS Board of Directors in December 2019.



### Michael Connor, PhD, Board Member

Dr. Connor, retired, was a Licensed Clinical Psychologist in private practice and a Full Professor of Psychology at Cal State University, Long Beach. His areas of specialty include Exercise and Sport Psychology, Child-Developmental Psychology, Parenting with focus on Fathers-Fathering, Ethnic-Racial Diversity, and Positive Aging. While he commenced working with young children at the original Project Head Start program as a Teacher, a Child Development Supervisor, and later as a Consultant to Region I, his interest in fathering issues goes back to April 1967 with the birth of his first daughter. Mike joined the MFSS Board of Directors in June 2020.



### Desiree Kawasaki Abreu, Board Member

Desiree is an Early Childhood Special Educator with the Department of Education. She has over 25 years with the Department as a School Counselor, Student Services Coordinator, Teacher and Administrator. Ms. Des prides herself on being a passionate advocate for children and is our newest Board member. She joined the MFSS Board of Directors in September 2022.

# **Executive Leadership Team**



# Edeluisa Baguio-Larena, Chief Executive Officer 21 Years

Edel holds a Masters of International and Intercultural Management and a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work. She served as the MFSS Director of Early Childhood Education from 2008 to 2014. She was appointed as Acting CEO of MFSS in October 2014 and became CEO in March 2015. She reports to the Board of Directors and is responsible for the organization's consistent achievement of its mission, strategic plan, and financial management.



# Zina Andrade, Administrative Supervisor 30 Years

Zina Andrade has been with MFSS for 30 years. She assists the MFSS Executive Leadership Team in all operations of the organization as well as facility maintenance, office-related functions, general clerical support, administrative support for the CEO, helps with orientation of all new employees and volunteers, and coordinates Board of Directors' meetings.



# Daphne Ladia, Project Director, Ho'owaiwai Kaiāulu & Quality Care for Hawaiian Keiki 21 Years

Daphne has a Bachelor's Degree in Human Services Management. She has been the Program Director of the Quality Care for Hawaiian Keiki program since 2016. In January of 2020, she was assigned to manage the Ho'owaiwai Kaiāulu Project which includes Ho'owaiwai Kaiāulu Home Visiting, Pilipa'a Ka 'Ohana, Outreach and Resource Specialists, Hale Hi'ipoi, Kāne Connections, and Youth Services. She oversees the two projects ensuring all outcomes and objectives are met on time and within budget.



### Debbie Butay, Chief Financial Officer 16 Years

Debbie transitioned to Chief Financial Officer in December 2018. Debbie also held this position from 2012 to 2014. Under the general direction of the CEO, Debbie is responsible for the organization's financial management. She is also responsible for maintaining compliance with program contract requirements and government rules and regulations.



# Larae Balag, , Director of Early Childhood Education 6 Years

Larae has a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education. She is responsible for the operations of Early Head Start (EHS) and Hale Hi'ipoi Infant/Toddler Center in Hāna. Larae has extensive experience in Early Childhood Education and has served as a resource speaker at EHS/Head Start conferences.



# Elizabeth Osborn, Project Director 5 Years

Beth holds a Bachelor's Degree in Education with an Emphasis on Early Childhood. She joined MFSS in 2017 and has served as Clinical Supervisor to Early Identification and Home Visiting Programs before becoming Program Director of the Healthy Families America—Lāna'i Program. She also serves as Child Development Specialist for HFA-Lāna'i.



# TraciRobello, EarlyLiteracy Project Director 1 Year

Traci has a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education. She rejoined MFSS in March 2021. She previously worked in various programs at MFSS, then went to Child Welfare Services and MEO Head Start. Before moving to Maui, she worked with the Learning to Grow Project at the University of Hawaii-Manoa, Center on the Family.

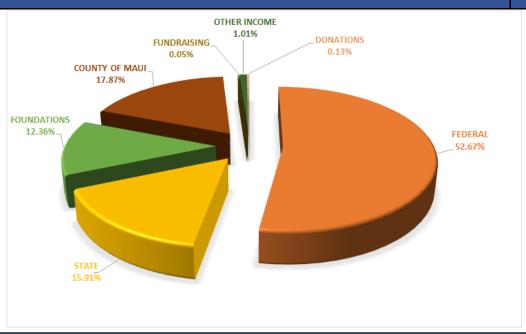
# Financial Position 2021-2022

(Unaudited)

Assets	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Cash	579,095
Accounts Receivables	728,613
Dep. & Other Current Assets	176,010
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	1,483,718
Long-Term Assets	
Net Property & Equipment	2,713,651
Endowment & Long Term Investm	ents 502,605
Total Long-Term Assets	3,216,256
Total Assets	4,699,974

<b>Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	191,430
Accrued Expenses	123,154
Payroll Liabilities	185,052
Total Liabilities	499,636
Equity	
Net Assets without Restrictions	3,680,173
Net Assets with Restrictions	520,165
Total Equity	4,200,338
Total Liabilities & Equity	4,699,974

REVENUE BY SOURCE	
FEDERAL	3,282,236
STATE	991,075
FOUNDATIONS & OTHERS	770,295
COUNTY OF MAUI	1,113,491
FUNDRAISING	2,887
OTHER INCOME	63,151
DONATION, CONTRIBUTIONS	8,072
TOTAL:	6,231,207





# Maui Family Support Services, Inc.

Strengthening Children and Families in Maui County since 1980!



### Last Year MFSS Provided ...

Outreach and Resource Information - Over 1,100 new parents visited at Maui Memorial Medical Center Home Visiting Programs - Over 3,000 home visits completed with families of children 0 -3 years old Low Cost/No Cost Infant and Toddler Centers - Over 58 children received quality child care Groups for Men and Parents- Over 190 individuals attended support/parent groups on Maui and Moloka`i Youth Life Skills Education - Over 900 youth served in Intermediate and High Schools in Maui County Child Care Subsidy Programs - Over 600 children were able to attend quality childcare in Maui County

# Over 6,300 People Served in FY 2022

























State of Hawaii Department of the Attorney General















The Harry and Jeanette





Maui Hotel & Lodging





2021-2022

An Office of the Administration for Children & Families An Office of the Administration for Children & Families

# **Early Head Start**

### Home-Based Services - Since 1998

### Center-Based Services - Since 2003

Serving Maui and Moloka'i with Home-Based Services since 1998 and Center-Based services on Maui since 2003. Hale Hi'ipoi and Licensed Family Child Care Homes were added as EHS program options in August 2022. Home-Based services are provided in the family home by trained and dedicated Home Visitors who visit with prenatal women and families with children from birth to age three years old once per week. Together, they watch and think about the child, and help the child learn using the families' interactions, daily routines, and household materials. Twice per month, families come together for Socializations where caregivers and children can play and learn together. Center-Based services are provided at one of our three child development centers in Wailuku or Lahaina. Our EHS learning environments are nurturing spaces that support the learning of very young children and create safe, fun, and welcoming environments for infants and toddlers. Partnership Licensed programs mirror our EHS learning environments while providing extended daycare for working families.



Larae Balag Dir.of Early Childhood Ed. 6 Years



Kuuipo Gonsalves Alonzo Home-Based Supervisor 22 Years



Leigh Racadio
Center-Based Supervisor
9 Years



Child Development Specialist Anuhea Medeiros 9 Years



Tricia Gouveia Health Specialist 8 Years



RoseOnate Education/DisabilitiesSpecialist 8 Years



Sinolian Hallens Family Case Specialist 4Years



Geri DeRego Family Case Manager 6 Years



Courtney Hampton-Fujihara Program Assistant 2 Years



Tammy Ruiz Home Visitor 21 Years



Arlene Tendo Home Visitor 17 Years



Cyntia Pennington HomeVisitor 14 Years



Tishanie Koyanagi Home Visitor 4/2022



Kristie Nakamoto Teacher 12 Years



Madelyn Quemado Teacher 10 Years



Alohi Labra-Clark Teacher Aide 10 Years



Rana Abner Teacher 8 Years



Kristen Agarpao Teacher 5Years



Bronwyn Agarpao Teacher Aide 4 Years



Sade Kahue Teacher + Years



Alje Edmond Teacher Aide 3 Years



María Javalde Teacher 3 Years



Anita Hermios Teacher Aide 2 Years



Jaelyn Chang Teacher Aide 1 Year



Melissa Paniagua Teacher Aide 3/2022



Leanne Domíngo Teacher Aíde 4/2022



Liana Pagan Teacher Aide 6/2022



Tori Honokaupu Teacher Aide 9/2022



Kaitlin Gusman Substitute Teacher Aide 10/2022

# EARLY HEAD START ANNUAL REPORT

# August 1, 2021 to July 31, 2022 Program Year

Total Amount of Public and Private Funds Received (Unaudited)

	BUDGETED*	ACTUALS
Public	1,588,510.00	1,639,032.79
Private	110,000.00	83,260.21
Donated Goods and Services	139,031.00	165,514.09
	1,837,541.00	1,887,807.09
•		
Amount from Sources:	BUDGETED*	ACTUALS
DHHS, Administration for Children and Families	1,473,510.00	1,448,570.44
DHHS, Administration for Children and Families (ARP)		77,094.04
County of Maui	70,000.00	70,000.00
State of Hawaii, Department of Education	45,000.00	43,368.31
Maui United Way	10,000.00	13,260.21
Castle Foundation	50,000.00	70,000.00
Good Fellows	50,000.00	
TOTAL:	1,698,510.00	1,722,293.00

### **BUDGETARY EXPENDITURES**

	<b>BUDGETED*</b>	<b>ACTUALS</b>
Personnel	966,358.00	1,000,333.61
Payroll Taxes	125,626.00	121,049.27
Fringe Benefits	265,962.00	222,706.39
Equipment and Supplies	30,876.00	152,993.19
Contractual Services	113,629.00	42,684.61
Rent & Utilities (including Telephone)	47,146.00	53,975.62
Training and Technical Assistance	30,881.00	33,759.97
Travel	10,170.00	4,608.46
Other Expenses	67,862.00	77,327.50
In-Kind (Good and Services)	179,031.00	178,368.47
TOTAL	1,837,541.00	1,887,807.09

### Services to Children and Families 2021-2022

Number of children served...108

Number of families served ...94

Number of Pregnant Mothers... 7

Percentage of children/pregnant women served who are at or below the Federal Poverty Guidelines: 51%

Percentage of children served who are or were in foster care: 12%

Percentage of children/pregnant women served who receive/d SNAP or Public Assistance: 8%

Percentage of children/pregnant women served who are/were homeless during enrollment: 26%

**Average Monthly Enrollment: 80%** 

Percentage of Enrolled Children that Received Medical and Dental Exam/Oral Health Screenings

Medical: 100% Dental/Oral Health Screenings: 85.2%

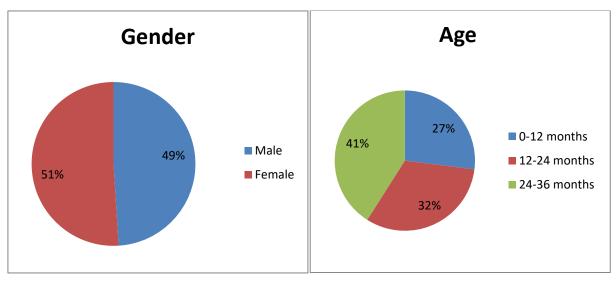
# **Efforts to Prepare Children for Kindergarten & Parent Engagement Activities**

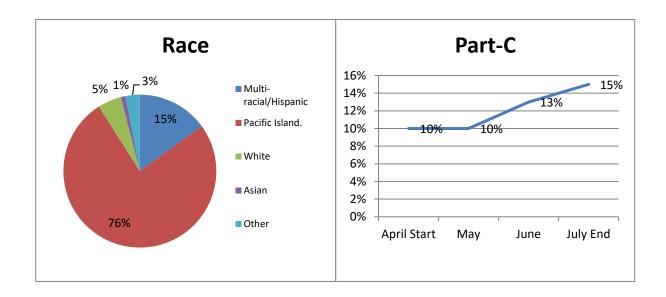
# **Annual 2021-2022 School Readiness Report**

- ➤ 3<sup>rd</sup> Checkpoint Period consist of 74 children with assessment data. Data is reflective of the children who received Home Based and Center Based services between April 21, 2022 and July 31, 2022. Approximately 15% out of the 74 children assessed during this period received early intervention services with Individual Family Support Plan (IFSP).
- Five Central Domains of development in the Teaching Strategies GOLD assessment system are utilize to report children's growth and learning. Teaching Strategies GOLD provides MFSS EHS teachers, home visitors, and administrators with valuable data 3 times a year to track and monitor children's progress as well as to assess progress in each service option: Home Based or Center Based. Aggregating the data provides an overall snapshot of performance, agency wide.

# **Demographics of Participants**

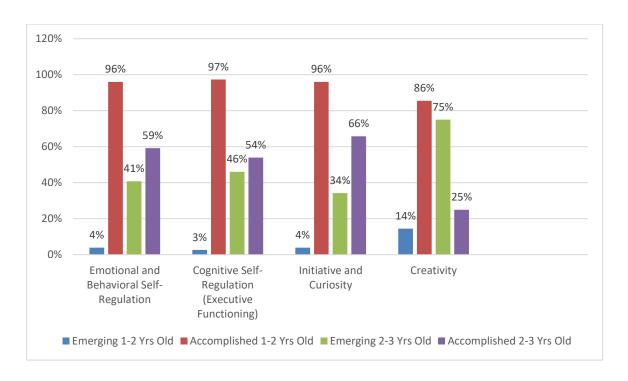
➤ The charts below show the demographics of the participants within the 3<sup>rd</sup> Checkpoint Period:



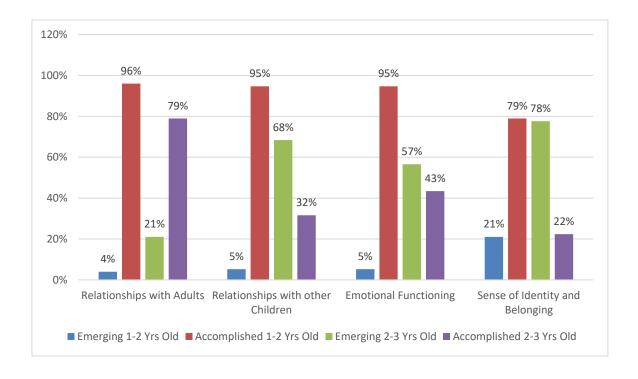


➤ The tables below represent children's progress towards the five central domains of development, program wide.

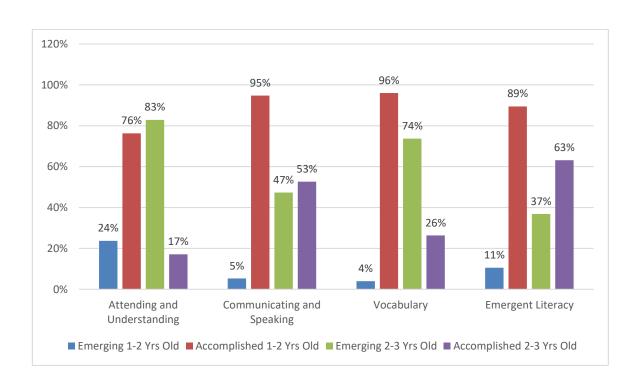
**Table 1: Approaches to Learning** 



**Table 2: Social & Emotional Development** 



**Table 3: Language and Communication** 



**Table 4: Cognition** 

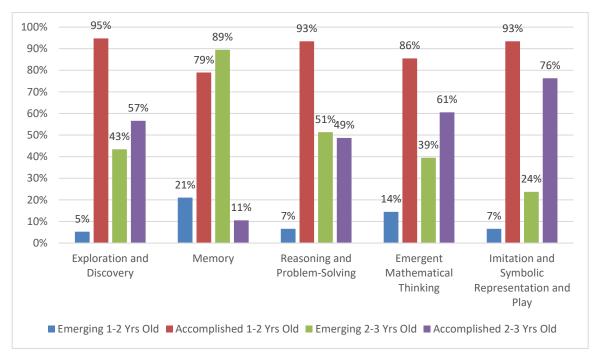
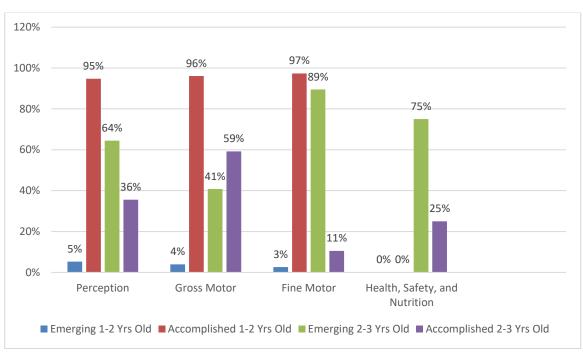


Table 5: Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development



➤ Data Outcome: The table below represent children's progress towards School Readiness Goals in the spring of program year 2020-21. The table reflects contrasting data of children's progress in both Center-Based and Home-Based options.

	Center Based Lahaina	Center Based Waiale	Center Based Wailuku	Home Based
School Readiness Goals	Meeting	Meeting	Meeting	Meeting
Goal 1 Language: Child will acquire new words to enhance vocabulary.	43%	50%	62%	55%
Goal 2 Social-Emotional: Child will follow classroom rules, directions, and routines.	50%	75%	67%	19%
Goal 3 Cognitive: Child will increase problem-solving skills to use in everyday events and situations.	100%	75%	90%	36%
Goal 4: Physical: Child will become self-sufficient in their personal needs.	71%	63%	71%	36%
Goal 5: Approach to Learning: Child will demonstrate attentiveness and cooperation in various activities with persistence.	100%	75%	90%	36%

- ❖ **Data Summary:** The data collected during 3rd Checkpoint Period shows an increase in children's developmental growth and a steady retention towards School Readiness Goals, compare to previous checkpoints within the program year.
- ➤ In the area of *Approaches to Learning*, data show growth in every age group particularly in the *sub-domain: cognitive self-regulation* where 97% of children ages 1-2 accomplished the skills by the end of program year.
- ➤ In the area of *Social and Emotional Development*, 96% of children ages 1-2 successfully gained skills in the *sub-domain: relationships with adults*, as well as 79% of children ages 2-3.
- ➤ In the area of *Language and Communication*, approximately 96% of children ages 1-2 gained skills in the *sub-domain: vocabulary* while 74% of children ages 2-3 are developing *similar* skills.

- ➤ In the area of *Cognition*, 95% of children ages 1-2 successfully gained skills in the *sub-domain:* exploration and discovery while 57% of children ages 2-3 are emerging.
- ➤ In the area of *Physical Development*, 97% of the 1-2 year olds gained skills in *fine motor* while 89% of children ages 2-3 are emerging in similar skill set. 0% of children ages 1-2 were not recorded under *sub domain: health, safety, and nutrition;* while 75% of children ages 2-3 developed concept of *health, safety, and nutrition*.
- > Strengths: Children between the ages of 1 and 2 demonstrated significant growth in all five developmental areas by the end of program year.
- Areas of Improvements: Program administrators, along with staff and participants, will continue to monitor children's progress towards School Readiness Goals to determine developmental areas in need of expansion. Additionally, program administrators will continue to focus on appropriate professional development, staff training, and coaching to ensure high quality services geared towards children development and school readiness.

# Family Engagement 2021-2022 Activities Report

Family Well-Being: Pedestrian Safety; Car Safety; Fire Safety; Nutrition and Healthy Choices; Preventing Lead Exposure in Children; Preventing Child Heat Strokes in Cars; Family Planning; SIDS Prevention through Safe Sleeping Practices for Baby; Immunizations-Protecting your Child; Home Safety; Dangers of Second Hand Smoke; The Flu-Germs and Hand Washing; Baby Bottle Tooth Decay; Emergency Preparedness Procedures; Facts on Mumps; Managing Stress; The Importance of Fatherhood Involvement; Help Finding Affordable Housing; and Stress management; COVID-19 ongoing resources.

**Families as Advocates:** Well-Baby Checkups and What to Expect at the Doctor's; Transition Information - What to look for and what to ask when looking for childcare and preschools; Parent In-kind support for the EHS program; and Parent participation in Policy Council.

**Families as Life-Long Learners:** Read Aloud America; Financial Literacy/Budgeting/Financial Stress/Building Credit, Understanding Tax Deductions & Filing Taxes, Learning How to Maintain Accounts with Financial Institutions; Vocabulary Building Techniques: Seguin Three Period Lesson/Dialogic Reading, Speech & Language Developmental Milestones; Math & Science Every Day at age One to Three; School Readiness Goals; and Positive Disciplines and Temperaments.

**Family Engagement in Transitions:** Continuing programs after 3 years of age; Preschool Subsidy Programs and Panelist; and Presentation of available Preschool Programs and Resources.

**Positive Parent & Child Relationships:** Positive Disciplining and Parenting Styles; Cultural Sharing of songs and stories; Early Learning through Routines and Children Thrive on Routines; Sensory Play; Social Emotional Development: Managing feelings; Toddlers' Brains Under Construction/ Brain Power; Age appropriate Toys; Toilet Training; Crying for Help; the Myths about "Spoiling" Infants; and How to Cultivate Emotional Intelligence in Children.

# EHS Year Three Program Goals Summary

Each year the program seeks to improve quality services to families within Maui County. The program completes a self-assessment and community assessment, which allows the program to adjust services to meet the needs of families within the community. Below are the MFSS EHS program goals and year one actions that the program has completed to accomplish each goal.

Goal	Year Three 2021-2022 Progress Efforts
Program Goal 1: Expand early childhood education services in Maui County to serve a larger percentage of children in Quality Licensed Infant/ Toddler settings.	<ul> <li>A. The program was able to fill open enrollment slots in all centers [except one in Lahaina].</li> <li>B. EHS continues to recruit participants for Home Based services.</li> <li>C. The program was able to maintain ongoing partnerships at both Maui Homeless Resource Shelters.</li> <li>D. The program was able to obtain licensing in one site for a maximum of 11 children, as opposed to just 8 enrollment slots.</li> </ul>
Program Goal 2: Increase the number of EHS children transitioning to Head Start or Community Preschool settings after aging out of EHS with facilitating seamless and well-coordinated services for families to support their children's success in education.	<ul> <li>A. Virtual Preschool Resource Fair was completed in February 2022. Preschool Resource folder created for parents.</li> <li>B. Staff training and utilizing "Preschool Here I Come" is a work in progress.</li> <li>C. Transition plans continue to be completed when child turns 2 years old to implement transition planning. 1302.47(b)</li> <li>D. The program has implemented monthly ongoing reporting and tracking of children who will be transitioning our of EHS.</li> </ul>
Program Goal 3: Integrate, and implement revised School Readiness Goals plan to ensure all children and families are receiving high quality comprehensive services.	<ul> <li>A. Staff have been trained quarterly to comprehend and articulate SRG to families in parent-teacher conferences and home visits both virtually and with face to face services.</li> <li>B. The Program continues to share ongoing monitoring with the Governing Board, Policy Council Members, Parents, Networking Meeting in Maui County and State, etc.</li> <li>C. The Program continues to work with families on SRG at the Program level and Individual Level. Continue to build activities in the classrooms to relate to the SRG. Home visiting, topic and activities are created with the families.</li> <li>D. The program continues to share SRG during Monthly Parent Meetings.</li> <li>E. Lessons Plans on SRG are monitored by Education/Disability Specialist and Program Director.</li> </ul>
Program Goal 4: To improve children and families' overall health, development and family outcomes based around planning and achieving SMART goals.	<ul> <li>A. The frequency use of the PHQ-9 screening tool has decreased since its implementation in year 1.</li> <li>B. 100% of staff continue to comply with health and safety procedures</li> <li>C. As of August 2021, 100% of services resumed face to face home visits.</li> <li>D. Family and Community Specialist monitor child/family SMART goals on a monthly basis.</li> <li>E. HB Staff have completed several Health, Trauma Informed Care trainings, that were offered.</li> <li>F. EHS program assisted all families needing electronic devices during pandemic to keep in communication with the program.</li> <li>G. Staff have been using the revised FPP form in an effort to create SMART goals</li> <li>H. Staff have identified and referred families to resources based on their needs and FPP goals</li> </ul>

- I. Staff continue Developmental screens to check child's progress and or any delays that need a referral
- J. Services to families continue via zoom, when classrooms should closed abruptly.
- K. Varieties of ongoing Staff wellness activities have been implemented during Program year.
- L. Ongoing Staff surveys with focus on Staff well-being and areas of individual need.

**Program Goal 5:** MFSS EHS services will increase compatibility with Pacific Islander cultures and other identified cultures of participants within the program. Socializations and Monthly Parent Meetings will be cultural relevant for families.

- A. The program was able to maintain 4 Staff members, who speak 2 of the current dialects of enrolled families.
- B. The program continues to monitor the cultural practices in the classroom, during home visits and socializations based on lesson plans.
- C. The programs agency has a contract with a language interpreter agency and this service is available to all Staff and families.
- D. The program has explored options for interpreting department enrollment forms, health handouts and other documents.
- E. The program continues to purchase books, and materials that reflect enrolled families.



# Hale Hi'ipoi - Hāna Infant and Toddler Center

### Since 2015

In May 2015, MFSS officially opened Hale Hi'ipoi, the first licensed Infant and Toddler Center in the Hāna Community. Located on the campus of Hāna Elementary and High School, the Center offers quality childcare to children ages 6 weeks-3 years. The creation and opening of Hale Hi'ipoi have been a long-planned effort between MFSS, the County of Maui, Kamehameha Schools, and the Hāna community. Hāna previously had no licensed infant-toddler care, which often made it difficult for Hāna High and Elementary to retain staff and ensure a safe environment for the young children of teen parents, keeping them in school. The opening of Hale Hi'ipoi has not only provided children with a safe and developmentally-appropriate place to learn and grow but has provided the opportunity for their parents to work or attend school and has created four new jobs in the Hāna community. Hale Hi'ipoi became an EHS partner program in August 2022.



Kaylee "Aní" Kaíwí Lead Teacher 8 Years



Tea Pua Teacher Aíde 5 Years



Kushaiah Scott Teacher Aide 5Years



LaraeBalag
Dir. of EarlyChildhoodEducation
6Years



Rachel Lee Scott Substitute Teacher Aide 1 Year



Rose Onate

Education/Disabilities Specialist

8 Years



Tricia Gouveia Health Specialist 8 Years





- nine (9) children from nine (9) families served
- 100% of all children enrolled are at age-appropriate developmental levels
- 100% of all enrolled families have received Home/School Connection activities
- 100% of all enrolled children have completed an active transition plan by age 2
- Hale Hi'ipoi instills Hawaiian language and values into daily routines with the children

# Early Literacy

# E Heluhelu Pu (Let's Read Together)



Maui Family Support Services (MFSS) received a grant for their Early Literacy Project to provide training and support in early literacy evidence-based practices for families of Maui County with children in the birth through 5 age group.

The grant is from the US DOE, through the Hawaii DOE, and is administered by Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education at the University of Hawaii. The three primary initiatives of the grant are: 1) child literacy, 2) family literacy, and 3) culture-based education. Early Literacy is using three evidence-based practices - SHELLS bookmaking, Dialogic Reading, and Phonological Awareness.





MFSS Early Literacy Lending Library with bookmarkers.

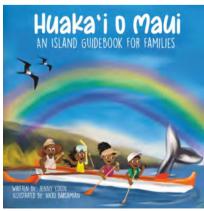
# Talk, Sing, Read, Play Every Day

Front row: Charis-Ann Sole (Data Coordinator), Patty Paranada (Program Assistant), Traci Robello (Project Director).

Back row: Lisa Boyce, PhD (Trainer/Evaluator),
Kim Guieb (P-20 Grant Coordinator)







Waikapu Publishing Company, author Jenny Coon (left) and illustrator Nicki Barsamian (right), with Traci Robello (center).

# Early Literacy (continued)

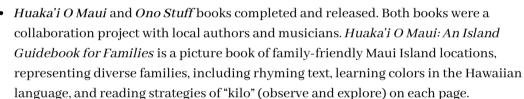
# E Heluhelu Pu (Let's Read Together)

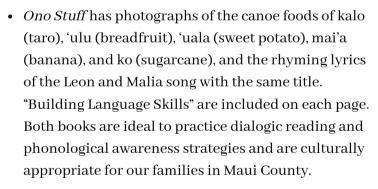
# In Fiscal Year 2022 (October 2020 to October 2022)

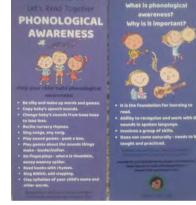
- Early Literacy has 11 partners including: MFSS programs, MEO Head Start, Tutu & Me Maui.
- Early Literacy Data System developed and ready for data.
- Early Literacy Retreat in July 2022. Partner program participation with hands-on activities and learning opportunities for the three evidence-based practices -SHELLS bookmaking, Dialogic Reading, Phonological Awareness.
- Early Literacy Family Website open for public access.









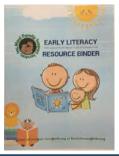


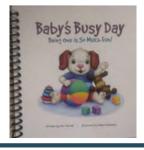




Musicians Leon Siu and Malia Elliott, and Tiana Kamen (author) of *Ono Stuff*.

• MFSS Lending Library: Ready to be used by MFSS staff and Early Literacy partners. Many books that support dialogic reading, phonological awareness, culture, diversity, equity, inclusion. We continue to add books such as bilingual Hawaiian/English books, social-emotional learning picture books, and wordless books.





- Early Literacy Resource Binders provided to 15 partners and/or community organizations.
- *Baby's Busy Day* book being given out at Maui Memorial Hospital to all families having new babies. Books are provided to families by the MFSS Outreach and Support Specialist team.



The Hawai'i Children's Action Network (HCAN) awarded MFSS the **2022 Family Friendly Employer Award**. Shelly Brown and Kathi Jones traveled to Oahu to receive the award on behalf of MFSS from Deb Zysman, HCAN Executive Director (far left) and Tracy Nakashima, HCAN Board Treasurer (far right).

Celebrating the Family Friendly Employer Award with MFSS Team members in front of the agency's main office.

### Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect on Maui

Mayor's Proclamation April 6th, 2022 END CAN Hawai'i







MFSS, a core member of Ho'oikaika Partnership, helped in coordinating the Prevent Child Abuse Awareness activities in April 2022.







MFSS was nominated for Outstanding Nonprofit Business of the Year by the the County of Maui Mayor's Small Business Awards, a partnership between the Maui Chamber of Commerce and the Mayor's Office of Economic Development. Mayor and Mrs. Michael Victorino (center) graced the awards ceremony on October 6, 2022. Attending the awarding ceremonies are (L-R) Daphne Ladia, Debbie Butay, Larae Balag, and Edel Baguio-Larena. Mahalo to Sylvia Ho, Hawaii USA Federal Credit Union Senior Business Development Officer, for nominating MFSS.



15th Annual Celebration of Fathers drive-thru outreach event on June 4, 2022, at Baldwin High School parking lots - aimed at promoting the importance of fathers and other male caregivers in children's lives; 150 cars came through who received food boxes from the Maui Food Bank, COVID test kits, activity kits and other supplies for children, and informational brochures from 24 community service providers. Mahalo to our community partners and DJ Z who provided sound and music at no cost to MFSS.



MFSS staff conducted outreach in different parts of the county, including Moloka'i, Lānai, and Hāna, to raise the community's awareness about our services and other available resources for families.



During the summer break, MFSS Youth Services Program provided Hawaiian-based experiential activities built on Life Skills Training learned in the classroom setting and applied them within the community. Teens also had th opportunity to give back to the community through various activities that taught them to leave the land in a better state than when they entered it.



MFSS sponsored the 27th Annual Maui Stand for Children Rally on September 17, 2022, a free event open to the public and offered information regarding community programs, activities for keiki, and entertainment featuring the talents of children and teens. Mayor and Mrs. Michael Victorino graced the event by reading the proclamation. Baldwin High School Drumline shared their talent on percussions.



# **Community Building With Core Partner Collaboration**

The Ho'oikaika Partnership is a coalition of more than 60 Maui County agencies and individuals committed to preventing child abuse and neglect in Maui County. The symbol of the Ho'oikaika Partnership is the hukilau, or net, which serves to remind us that our strength is in our working together to make sure our network of social services has no pukas (holes).

### Ho'oikaika Partnership Mission:

Strengthen and expand the system of supports in Maui County by building a strong prevention and provider network that supports collaboration, shares knowledge and resources, and shapes policy to prevent child maltreatment.

### Vision:

Our 'ohana are healthy, safe, and supported.

### **Our Values:**

- > ALOHA: All partners have strengths and are valued. All persons within the Partnership have an equal voice working together in relationships based on equality and respect.
- > LAULIMA: Together we are stronger in spirit and action than we are alone. We embrace opportunities to collaborate to improve the safety and well-being of our 'ohana.
- > HA'AHA'A: We recognize and acknowledge the contributions of all partners. We foster a learning culture and remain open to new ideas. We do not bring attention to oneself; instead, we act as a whole.
- > MĀLAMA: We honor primary caregivers and recognize that they are their children's first teachers. We act with confidence knowing that strengthening protective factors are in the best interest of our 'ohana.
- > **KULEANA**: Our responsibility is to keep our children safe. We are privileged to work together, educating the community, and embracing promising, emerging, and best practices.
- > **PONO**: We act with purpose. We are sensitive and respectful in our approach, recognizing the wide range of culturally diverse needs of our community. We take risks together to do what is right for our 'ohana.

'A'OHE HANA NUI KE ALU 'IA. #142\* No task is too big when done together by all.



# Ho'oikaika Partnership: Navigation Services



Ho'oikaika System Navigation Services help families access services and supports in Maui County. The social services system can be overwhelming and confusing, and families may feel intimidated or embarrassed – which makes reaching out for help or following through on referrals very challenging. Our navigator acts as a "guide by the side" to coach families and provides a "warm hand off" so children and their caregivers actually connect with program services. The Navigator helps weave a seamless safety net by coordinating, communicating, and collaborating across agencies.

- Navigator Assisted <u>120</u> families this fiscal year
- Participated in <u>10</u> Community Outreach Events including coordinating with Community Leader Claire "Kamalu" Carroll in the first ever Hana Youth Fest event where 350 keiki registered
- Through outreach, Navigator shared information and resources to <u>1168</u> community members





From the beginning, Hooikaika Partnership's mission has focused on educating providers and the broader community about protective factors as a fundamental strategy to prevent child maltreatment and strengthen families.

The Ho'oikaika Annual Conference was held on September 29, 2022, and we had 289 providers from across Hawai'i attend virtually. The conference is a way for providers to fill up their cups while receiving professional development about trauma-informed practices, protective factors, and Hawaiian values and knowledge.

# Our theme was "E Holomua i ka I ke Kūpuna, Moving Forward in the Wisdom of Our Ancestors"







Mahalo Nui Loa to our funders













# **Healthy Families America**

# Since 1992 (formerly Healthy Start)

Serving Lāna'i, Healthy Families America (HFA) is a nationally-accredited evidence-based home visiting program model designed to help families build protective factors. Our Family Support Worker works with the parent/caregiver prenatally or soon after birth to cultivate and strengthen nurturing parent-child relationships and promote healthy childhood development. We provide services virtually and in-person to help support families in need. The HFA Family Support Worker is supported by the Clinical Specialist and Program Director/Child Development Specialist. HFA-Lāna'i is funded by Hawaii State Department of Health.



Elizabeth Osborn
Program Director/
Child Development
Specialist



Krissy Garcia Clinical Specialist 10 Years



Glenda Miguel Family Support Worker 7 Years

# In Fiscal Year 2022:

 14families servedwith243 home visits (all visitswere completed virtually through Doxy.me due to thepandemic)







Healthy Families America services on Lāna'i are provided Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH), Maternal and Ch Health Branch and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under ASO 21-057 for grant amount \$428,300,00. This information, content, and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by DOH, HRSA, HHS or Government.



# Ho' owaiwai Kaiāulu Home Visiting

# Since 1988 (formerly Healthy Families America Maui & Moloka'i)

Serving Maui and Moloka'i Ho'owaiwai Kaiāulu Home Visiting (HKHV) services families via the nationally-recognized evidence-based home visiting program model Parents As Teachers (PAT). PAT staff work with families to strengthen their parental resilience, increase their knowledge of parenting and child development, and the social emotional competence of their children. Services are provided to help parents decrease stress, increase motivation to learn new parenting skills and gain understanding of their child's health and development.



Daphne Ladia Program Director 21 Years



Trícia Mynar-Cramer Associate Program Director 1 Year



Karen Cooper Child Development Specialist 3 Years



Konane de la Nux Hawaiian Cultural/Clinical Specialist 2Years



Leinaala Bailey Cosma Maui-Parent Educator 1 Year



Willow Feeley
Maui-Parent Educator
3/2022



Zelia Wills Moloka'i-Parent Educator 2/2022



- 38 families were served on Maui and Moloka'i
- Over 500 home visits completed







# Ho'owaiwai Kaiāulu - Pilipa'a Ka 'Ohana

### **Since 2022**

Serving families on Maui, Pilipa'a Ka 'Ohana (PKO) serves families via the nationally-recognized evidencebased home visiting program model Parents As Teachers (PAT). Families have the opportunity to participate in a three-hour program that provides activities ranging from art, math, science, fine and gross motor, social studies, and literacy to exploring nature. PKO staff travel to different Upcountry Maui, Central Maui, and South Maui locations to set up preschool-like settings for families to engage in learning through play with their children.



Daphne Ladia Program Director 21 Years



Tricia Mynar-Cramer Associate Program Director 1 Year



Karen Cooper Child Development Specialist 3 Years



Konane de la Nux Hawaiian Cultural/Clinical Specialist 2Years



Sarah Wong 'Ohana Group Facilitator 7/2022



7/2022



Michelle Romero 'Ohana Group Facilitator



# Since May 2022:

- 51 families served
- 60 children served
- 28 groups held







# Kāne Connections

### Since 2005

Times have changed how men, fathers, and male caregivers live in today's society. While almost any man can father a child, there are much more essential roles today of being a dad in a child's life. The MFSS Kāne Connections (KC) program began in 2005 and has evolved over a decade of services for men and male caregivers in Maui County. KC's services include men's groups and one-on-one (1:1) support, facilitating and teaching various male topics and lessons. In 2019, the KC program also began to implement the Kamalama - Parenting through Hawaiian Values program, which conducts parenting classes rooted in the understanding that parents are their children's first teachers.

Not only does our KC Team provide 1:1 and group sessions, they are also active in various community events, which include hosting the Annual MFSS Celebration of Fathers event. Our KC Program Supervisor is also the current Chairperson of the Hawaii State -Commission on Fatherhood.



David "Kawika"Mattos ProgramSupervisor 7 Years



CCordy RRacadio Parent Support Specialist 3 Years



Samuel Holi
Parent Support Specialist

1 Year



Wilfred ""Willie" Orine ParentSupportSpecialist 2/2022

- Funded by County of Maui, KC also received additional funding through the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) and the National Hawaiian Education Program (NHEP).
   Three full-time staff were added to the KC Team.
- 195 men were served, of which 105 were fathers and grandfathers.
- 70 parents (fathers and mothers) participated in the Kamalama Parenting Program; 43 completed the 12-week Kamalama Program (25 fathers and 18 mothers). The program exceeded the County Grant goals by 79%.
- 27 additional parents began the program and received the knowledge of healthier parenting but did not complete the program for various reasons.
- Over \$2500 value in donations received towards the MFSS Annual Celebration of Fathers.
- Community clothes drives completed several times to support men and women in need.







# Ka Pu 'uwai O Nā Keiki

### Since 2005

Ka Pu'uwai O Nā Keiki/DHS Home Visiting Services has successfully transitioned to a brand new model, Parents as Teachers (PAT), which is an evidence-based home visiting model. Hawai'i is the first state to begin to execute a contract that is funded with Family First Hawai'i allocations. PAT allows direct service staff to continue to empower families to stick together through skill-building focused on school readiness. Direct service staff, including six Parent Educators, one Clinical Specialist, a Registered Nurse, and a doctorate level Program/Clinical Supervisor, have worked hard this past year to stay strength-based, partner with parents, and recognize that parents are their children's first teachers. There have been some challenging cases to work on within the past year, heartbreaking, and sometimes feeling hopeless. Still, the staff on this team get to witness amazing people who work hard and turn their lives around just by having someone believe in them and walk beside them. The team revitalizes through daily team-building activities, debriefs, collaborations, agency support, partner agency support, community, and the families served.



Shelly Brown
Program Supervisor
5 Years



Kathi Jones
Parent Educator-Nurse
17 Years



Sher McBee Clinical Specialist 5 Years



Mia Dadiz-Gaspar
Parent Educator
3 Years



Jolina Bocobo Parent Educator 1 Year



Brandi Mawae Parent Educator 1 Year



Florence Van Kleef
Parent Educator
1 Year



Jayme Galase
Parent Educator
1/2022

- 64 families and a total of 290 individuals served in Maui County
- 99% of families were NOT reconfirmed for Abuse or Neglect
- 78% of children Served had a Medical Home
- 78% of children were up-to-date on immunizations
- Conducted 1,536 home visits including virtual visits
- Completed 896 screenings and assessments
- 10 families reunited during the fiscal year



# Maui County Early Childhood Resource Center

# Since 2002

The Maui County Early Childhood Resource Center (MCECRC), located at 2099 Wells Street in Wailuku, has promoted accessibility to high quality early childhood learning and care for young children and their families.



Melanie Padgett Program Supervisor 16 Years



Lisa Nitta
Program Specialist
1 Vear



Frances "Nita" Helgeson Program Specialist 1 Year

- Over 800 families received information about accessing quality childcare services at the Resource Center or Community Events.
- 56 children received tuition subsidies from the County of Maui, and another 58 were assisted to qualify for state, federal, and private programs enabling parents to afford the cost of safe, high-quality child care for their children while they work or attend school/job training.
- As part of the Early Childhood Family Literacy Project, the MCECRC Early Childhood Lending Library expanded to include over 6000 children's books, professional development texts, and periodicals that have been digitally-catalogued and are available to family child care providers, infant toddler centers, and preschools to read with the children they care for.
- MCECRC became a Reach Out and Read Program Partner and purchased 8,000 quality children's books to distribute to pediatricians who will give them to children at their Well-Baby/Child Visits and engage parents in the importance of reading with their children. Four Maui Clinics have registered, and more will be recruited to participate in FY2023.
- Began distributing 12,000 home COVID test kits to childcare providers and the families they work with and continued to provide personal protective equipment (PPE), cleaning, and sanitation supplies to family childcare providers, preschools, and infanttoddler centers.



# Outreach and Resource Specialists

# Since 1983 (formerly Early Identification Team)

Families benefit from meeting with the Outreach and Resource Specialists (OARS) to identify needs and concerns early on, helping families to best meet their children's needs from an early age and throughout their lives. Since 1983, MFSS has visited new mothers at Maui Memorial Medical Center, providing community resources for all, and referrals to home visiting services for qualifying families. Early identification by the OARS team is essential. In terms of brain development, quality early relationships and experiences can positively affect gene function, neural connections, and the organization of the mind, having lifelong positive effects.

Our dedicated team connects with families to ascertain their needs and interests. Team members have extensive knowledge of the services MFSS provides and can make appropriate intra-organization referrals when indicated. If the participant's needs are best served elsewhere, OARS personnel assist the family in locating appropriate services. OARS services are provided on Maui and Moloka'i.



Daphne Ladia Program Director 21 Years



Tricia Mynar-Cramer Associate Program Director 1 Year



Cindy Coleman-Jakubczak
Outreach & Resource Specialist
2 Years



Shawni Mendoza Outreach & Resource Specialist 3 Years



Suliana Aki Moloka'i-Outreach & Resource Specialist 10 Years

- Over 1200 families screened and provided with resource information and appropriate referrals
- Over 1600 community resource packets provided via local food distribution sites
- Over 500 agency flyers distributed to local doctors' offices







# Quality Care for Hawaiian Keiki

### Since 2016

Quality Care for Hawaiian Keiki (QCHK) provides child care subsidy assistance to families of Native Hawaiian Children. Services are provided to families who are working, in school or in training (or need child care to start work, school or training) and who are within 85% of the State Median Income. In addition to child care subsidy assistance for families, the QCHK program provides funding to child care providers both licensed and unlicensed, to improve the quality of their programs through health and safety improvements, and professional development. Services are provided on Maui, Moloka'i, and Lana'i.



Daphne Ladia Program Director 21 Years



Darlyn Kin Choy Provider Specialist 21 Years



Jenifer Fernandez Family & Community Specialist 6 Years



Jackie Tateyama Intake Specialist 3/2022

- 156 families served
- 205 children received subsidy assistance
- 100 participating child care providers
- 39 workshops/activities for 64 teachers/caregivers and 764 parents/community members
- Distributed over 30,000 informational handouts on Choosing Quality Childcare
- Distributed over 3,000 informational handouts on education and job training resources
- 100% of child care providers meet QCHK quality, health and safety standards
- 98% of families felt that they were supported in identifying and achieving their education and employment goals.
- Over \$200,000 distributed to promote Quality Childcare in Maui County





# **Youth Services**

### Since 1998

Our youth are strong, passionate, and motivated. With the right inspiration, tools, and guidance, they can confidently meet the challenges before them, enabling them to set and achieve their goals. MFSS Youth Services Program provides these opportunities to youth through the facilitation of Botvin's Life Skills Training (LST).

LST is a research-validated substance abuse prevention program proven to reduce the risks of alcohol, tobacco, drug abuse, and violence by targeting the major social and psychological factors that promote the initiation of substance use and other risky behaviors. MFSS Youth Services program has provided this service since 2009 in DOE schools on Maui and Moloka'i. We currently serve the following high schools: Baldwin High, King Kekaulike High, and Moloka'i High. We also serve the following middle schools: Lokelani Intermediate, Kalama Intermediate, Iao Intermediate, and Moloka'i Middle School.



Momi Medeiros Program Supervisor 10 Years



Suliana Aki Facilitator 10 Years



Shaye Sison Facilitator 3/2022



Julee Ann Kidder Facilitator 8/2022

- 923 students were served in five schools on Maui and two schools on Molokai (Intermediate Schools: Kalama, lokelani, Iao, and Moloka'i; High Schools: Baldwin, King Kekaulike, and Moloka'i)
- Of the 923 students served, on average, there was a 12% increase in knowledge on drug/alcohol abuse prevention









<sup>\*</sup>Each student completes a pre-survey before any lessons are taught and a postsurvey after all classes are taught. The results provide a means to measure the increase in knowledge per student.

## Administrative Team



Zina Andrade Administrative Supervisor 30 Years



Bridget Chang Program/Admin Assistant 7 Years



Shelley De Contreras Program/Admin Assistant 1 Year



## **Finance Team**



Debbie Butay Chief Financial Officer 16 Years



Lyka Reed Accounting Specialist 6 Years



Ane Miller Accounting Specialist 4 Years

### For MFSS, SUSTAINABILITY means

- providing equitable, inclusive, high-quality, and empowering services; and
- expanding partnerships and collaborations to continue to achieve long-term positive outcomes for future generations.

# 5 Years



Kristen Agarpao Teacher



Shelly Brown Program Supervisor



SherMcBee Clinical Specialist



Elizabeth Osborn Program Director/ Child Devt. Specialist



Tea Pua Teacher Aíde



Kushaíah Scott Teacher Aíde

# 10 Years



Suliana Aki Facilitator/Outreach & Resource Specialist



Krissy Garcia Clinical Specialist



Momi Medeiros Program Supervisor



Madelyn Quemado Teacher

# 15 Years



PattyParanada Program Assistant

# 21 Years



Edel Baguio-Larena Chief Executive Officer



Darlyn Kin Choy Provider Specialist



Daphne Ladia Program Director



Tammy Ruiz Home Visitor

# 22 Years



Ku'uipo Gonsalves Alonzo Home-Based Supervisor

# 25 Years



Cindy Coleman-Jakubczak Family Resource Specialist

# 30 Years



Zína Andrade Administrative Supervisor

# Awards & Recognition

## Irene "Cookie" Chong Kee Memorial Award



#### **KU'UIPO GONSALVES ALONZO**

Ku'uipo has worked with MFSS for over 22 years. The parents we talked to love her, and she goes out of her way to ask for participants for EHS. She steps up for her team when needed and takes on many roles. She works as a supervisor but also has been carrying a caseload, which helps keep her program afloat. She is a good listener, and staffs feel comfortable talking and connecting with her. She is always on time regarding her work deadlines in her team and with agency deadlines. She's a people person. It shows when families request to work with her.

### Team of the Year Award



### **EARLY LITERACY TEAM**

In a short period, Early Literacy has reached so many partners, promoting early literacy, including partnering with local authors. The team has done a great job of turning the Literacy Grant into a tangible program supporting our other agency programs and community partners. Traci's leadership and persistence and the follow through by her team had been excellent. Traci's vision to create the Huaka'o O Maui, 'Ono stuff, and CDC books resulted in exceptional items available to our community. The program had a challenging start, with only one team member working hard to meet its goals for almost two years. From a one-person team to 3, this team has come a long way!

## Team Members of the Year



### KAREN COOPER

Karen is an amazing, kind, generous, and helpful team member, not just to her Ho'owaiwai Home Visiting and Pilipa'a Ka 'Ohana teams but also at the agency level. She is always willing to lend a hand and provide ideas to improve or strengthen our services on the program and agency levels.

She never judges and is always willing to help.

Karen is always so POSITIVE, helpful, cheering team member who is always there with a helping hand for families and staff. She never says NO when we need help and always there supporting each team member that needs help.



### **CORDY RACADIO**

Cordy is THE example of Team-Player and someone who always takes the initiative. She is not only willing to accomplish the Kamalama program's goals that she's a part of, but she also helps recruit, support, and advocate for the men and fathers of the Kane Connections program. Her effective people skills and communication skills are an asset to the program. She also represents our agency well in our community and helps to advocate and recruit for all MFSS programs.

Cordy is such an amazing passionate person. She goes above and beyond for her participants. During outreach, she assists families and engages them to sign up for Kane Connections. You can hear her voice's passion and put her heart into it, making participants feel understood and not judged.

## Community Partner Awards





### Child Welfare Services Maui County Branch

For the daily complex and challenging cases they deal with to keep our keiki safe. This team has had a tough year. They have gone through a lot of change and complicated cases. While recognition only scratches the surface of the emotional challenges they have endured, it cannot hurt.

Special recognition to Christina "Satyo" Dosland, one of the most valuable Social Workers there, who will be retiring this year.



#### Hui No Ke Ola Pono - Denise Carvalho

Hui No Ke Ola Pono works hard in supporting the community in getting out food boxes to those in need, providing dental and health services, and being open to providing COVID vaccinations.

Special recognition to **Denise Carvalho**, who participates in multiple community partnership groups strengthening the relationships between agencies providing services on Maui. Denise readily shares information about services provided by Hui No Ke Ola Pono and other community partners that are available to strengthen families.

## Community Partner Awards





# Christine "Chris" Jackson Hawai'i Head Start Collaboration Director

Chris goes above and beyond to ensure she is actively participating and engaging with the Early Head Start programs and other early childhood programs that serve children 0-5. She continues to provide resources to programs focused on professional development, community awareness, and child development. She actively assists programs in gaining partnerships that could enrich services for families at the community level as well as the state level. She takes time at least quarterly, if not monthly, to chat with program personnel to gain insight on highlights, challenges and areas that she could possible connect a resource too. Chris is one of those pioneers in our state, in which she has experienced the ups and downs in the social services field. She is also a great Cheerleader for many programs.





### Sylvia Ho, CCUFC Senior Business Development Officer

Sylvia Ho is always on the lookout for supporting MFSS. In addition to securing donations for our agency, she unselfishly shares her valuable time by training our staff and participants on financial literacy. She is very kind, knowledgeable, bright, and on point. She can talk about finances in practical ways. She shares concepts and can apply them to herself. She is frank while still holding her professional status. She is funny and keeps us all engaged, informative, and humorous.

### Volunteer Awards



### Fred Aki III

Fred has helped MFSS's Moloka' i staff for many years. He has helped with community events, preparing and carrying supplies, cleaning and moving heavy things around the office, working on information technology tasks, when possible and whatever is needed to get job done to serve the youth or families over all these years. All the little tasks he does has made a wonderful impact to the agency's services on Moloka' i.



### Jairo and Janessa Baguio-Larena

As students of Baldwin High School with a busy academic schedule, Jairo and Janessa take the time to help at MFSS events and help create our Annual Agency Newsletter. This duo is an amazing team. From day one, when they could volunteer, they are always there helping with a smile on their face. They are very respectful, kind, and pleasant to be around. They are helpful and supportive.

### Volunteer Awards



### **Tessa Coulter**

Tessa is a female pilot, no small task already. She has been there for the community of Maui in such a unique way. Tessa has delivered food to remote areas throgh COVID and beyond, delivered period supplies all over the island of Ma`i Movement. She helps anyone who asks, families, staff, and organizations of all kinds! She even done animal rescue using her plane.



### Leina'ala Kealoha

Leina'ala takes time out of her busy day with a full-time job and assist Ho'oikaika Partnership, especially the Navigator and Coordinator, with organizing and putting together supplies that are needed for community outreach events.

## Messages from Stakeholders

Maui Family Support Services staff constantly seeks to improve their services and their knowledge, especially in mental health. I have done several trainings with them in the past in this regard especially with our Youth Suicide and Bullying Prevention training and Youth Mental Health First Aid.

- Danielle M. Bergan, Community Coordinator Mental Health America of Hawaii-Maui Office

You are very important to us....You will do well (with COA accreditation)!

- Alfred L. Castle, Chief Executive Officer, Samuel N. and Mary Castle Foundation

Programs like these being navigated by the right hearts are a huge blessing to 'ohana that needs the assistance and may not know how to ask. With a Grateful Heart, Thank you!!

**Navigation Services Participant** 

# Messages from Stakeholders

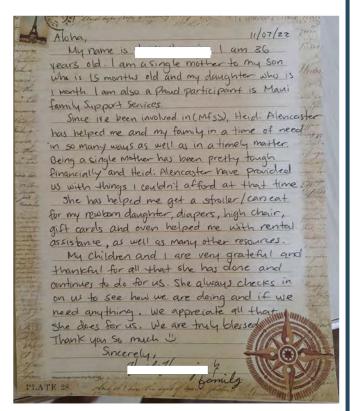
Pilipa'a Ka Ohana has been the most helpful resource and community since I became a first time mom 6 months ago. My daughter and I started to attend the group sessions at the beginning of August when she was three months old. From the first moment we walked up to the Pilipa'a Ka Ohana, I felt welcomed and experienced an overwhelming amount of care from each of the staff members. Karen, Sarah, and Michelle are an amazing team. Their individual strengths of intuitiveness, understanding, and genuineness are complementary to each other and create the foundation for the perfect team.

The staff members have always provided the most friendly, flexible, and welcoming environment, which enabled a community of caregivers to come together to learn from the staff's resources and from each other. The centers, toys, and activities are always well set up, prepared, organized, and ready to be enjoyed by all. Also, a central location is always arranged for all to gather during circle time, so that all can participate equally and easily. The information from the Parents as Teachers resources are shared clearly each time, and so it motivates and empowers me to try different activities at home. Sometimes, I feel frustrated at home and unsure what to do next with my daughter, but then I think back to the lesson of the day and incorporate it into our home life. Also, after the activities and discussions during circle time, the environment gives the caregivers the perfect opportunity to ask each other questions and share best tips. Because of the friendly and flexible environment, families are able to share freely in a safe space. I have gotten such helpful advice from staff members and fellow parents and guardians. Also, hearing families' experiences helps new mothers build confidence and help moms normalize their feelings. I am so grateful for the community that I have found within Pilipa'a Ka Ohana. Also, I know that my daughter is thankful for her new friends and for all of the love that she receives.

During group sessions, she squeals and kicks her feet with delight to be around other children. Also, on the other hand, when we're not by children during group sessions, she fusses at me until I carry her over to other children that are playing, so she can interact with them. I am so grateful that she has a place to create a social foundation at such a young age. Also, during storytime and music time, she fully engages and gives her complete attention. She listens for the voices of the staff members and attentively watches their actions. Lastly, I know that she loves Pilipa'a Ka Ohana because when she is upset at home the only songs that calm her down are the songs that we sing during circle time. It is so amazing that she and I can build our own communities at Pilipa'a Ka Ohana.

My husband and I moved to Maui 7 years ago, and we do not have family on island. However, now that my daughter and I attend group sessions regularly, I truly feel that we found our village. Thank you so much Pilipa'a Ka Ohana and Maui Family Support Services for all of your support!

- From Cecelia, Pilipa'a Ka 'Ohana participant



I was a stay at home mom with no "drive" to do much and challenged with slight depression. Meeting with my Home Visitor regularly helped me to become emotionally stable and take myself out of depression, and now I have a job. My family is now financially stable, and no longer needing financial support from the State. Me and my family are doing so well, that we recently were able to achieve one of our goals, to travel to the mainland to visit with family.

Home Visitors slowly break down barriers with families by building trusting relationships with families. Prior to opening my home, I would request for home visits to take place in the garage, or in a location away from my home. Now I can share my hopes and dreams with my Parent Educator. I am now in a college internship program at Hale Makua and working on my Associate's Degree in Human Services.

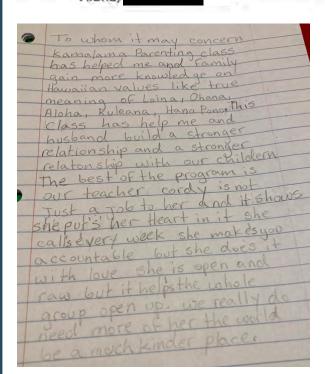
- EHS Home-Based Participant

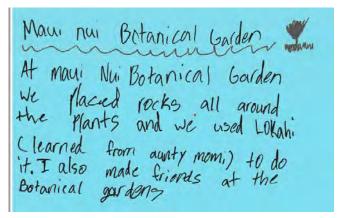
# Messages from Stakeholders

I think the best way to describe my experience was almost like talking to a relative. I felt empathy and relatability from my caseworker. I felt like she was speaking to me on my level and not above me.

- Navigator Participant

"So first off before I heard about this classes I thought I was a good husband/father to my kids but I was way off I was a bad parent straight up an was in denial .... After attending this classes and learning the Hawaiian values of life on how to parent I was amazing it teaches me so much that I thought I knew but I was wrong.... This classes save my life an change me a whole lot the way I do thing and the ways how to teach my kids without hitting or swearing at them ... To me at the end of this classes it's well worth the changes in my life and I know for a fact it will help anyone I mean anyone you just have to take the chance an try something different promise you will look at life/parenting different special thanks to all the mentors that help me to change Uncle Willie, Cordy, Uncle Sam and Uncle Kawika ..."





This support came at a critical time. I find a lot of assistance doesn't help until you're already in crisis and I was so relieved to be able to avoid that. This gave me a much needed break and took a huge wait off my shoulders and allowed me to get things in order. I am so grateful for my caseworker and for this program.

- Navigator participant

I've learned that thru teaching my children I'm also teaching my grand children to come and also that keikis are like the Kalo plant if you nurture and care for it or them no matter the inviorment or surcomstances they'll be alright being loving and caring is a big factor in playing apart of who they may be come in the future

Hui Kane Participant

Maui Family Support Services, Inc. has been a great support program for not only myself but my little one as well!! They create fun activities for us to participate in and to see the smiles on the kids' faces is priceless. They have impacted my life in many ways, helped with financial burdens, always having someone to talk to, and always trying their best to help in any way they can. - EHS Home-Based participant

## Maui Family Support Services, Inc.

would like to give a huge MAHALO to the following donors, friends and community partners for their continued support!

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