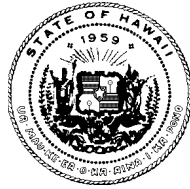


**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



**DEPT. COMM. NO. 194**

**CATHY BETTS**  
DIRECTOR  
KA LUNA HO'ŌKELE

**JOSEPH CAMPOS II**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'ŌKELE

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**  
KA 'OIHANA MĀLAMA LAWELAWE KANAKA  
Office of the Director  
P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

**TRISTA SPEER**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'ŌKELE

Dir 23.87

December 26, 2023

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, President  
and Members of the Senate  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki, Speaker  
and Members of the House of  
Representatives  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 431  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

Enclosed is the report submitted in accordance with Act 129, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, Relating to Family Resource Centers.

In accordance with section 93-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the report is available to review electronically at the Department's website, at <https://humanservices.hawaii.gov/reports/legislative-reports/>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cathy Betts".

Cathy Betts  
Director

Enclosure

- c: Governor's Office  
Lieutenant Governor's Office  
Department of Budget & Finance  
Legislative Auditor  
Legislative Reference Bureau Library (1 hard copy)  
Hawaii State Public Library, System State Publications Distribution Center (2 hard copies, 1 electronic copy)  
Hamilton Library, Serials Department, University of Hawaii (1 hard copy)

REPORT TO THE THIRTY-SECOND HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE  
2024

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ACT  
129, SESSION LAWS OF HAWAII 2022, RELATING  
TO FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
DECEMBER 2023

## Overview

Governor David Y. Ige signed Act 129, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022 (Act 129), into law on June 27, 2022. In Act 129, the Legislature "finds that many families with children in Hawaii are impacted by the continuing health and economic consequences of the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic and need an array of services."

Act 129 authorizes the Department of Human Services (DHS) to establish a five-year family resource center (FRC) pilot program and fund one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) family resource center coordinator. DHS is authorized to lead, develop, and implement a statewide network of school- and community-based family resource centers (FRCs), establish definitions, standards, and best practices for FRCs, and develop data and referral system tracking needs and protocols that comply with applicable state and federal laws.

Act 129 requires DHS to submit a report to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular sessions of 2023, **2024**, 2025, 2026, and 2027, providing an update on the pilot program's progress.

This report is the second report of the FRC pilot program.

## Introduction

The National Family Support Network (NFSN) describes Family Resource Centers as "America's best-kept secret."<sup>1</sup> Family Resource Centers (FRCs) can play a critical role in preventing child abuse and neglect, strengthening children and families, connecting families with impacting agencies and programs, creating opportunities for community-level coordination, creating connections to resources and support systems, and increasing family engagement, which all lead to greater student success in school. Additionally, various studies show that communities with family resource centers show lower rates of child abuse and neglect investigations, lower numbers of children entering foster care, and an increase in parents or custodians gaining employment within one year after participating in services provided through the centers.



<https://www.nationalfamilysupportnetwork.org/>

Additionally, FRCs align with the 2Gen movement<sup>2</sup> of helping young children and their families become economically stable. Ideally, programs are whole-family-focused and address child or parent needs

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<sup>1</sup> Family Resource Centers and Family Support and Strengthening Networks, December 13, 2023, Wednesday Webinars, Uncovering America's Best Kept Secret: Family Resource Centers and Family Resource Center Networks <https://youtu.be/llf95kvoQtw>

<sup>2</sup> <https://ascend.aspeninstitute.org/2gen-resources/>



simultaneously. 'Ohana Nui is the DHS' adaptation of the 2Gen approach to delivering human services, reflecting Hawaii's multigenerational households and addressing the social determinants of health. See [section 26-14](#), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). The chart below describes the pillars of 'Ohana Nui that align with the social determinants of health.

## 'Ohana Nui Pillars



## Key Elements

- 1.**  
Co-creation of programs & solutions
- 2.**  
Meeting families where they dream
- 3.**  
Leveraging of existing resources & seek new resources
- 4.**  
Investment in IT modernization
- 5.**  
Building generative & empowered partnerships.

### Background

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Hawaii applied for and took part in the National Governors Association (NGA) Child and Family Well-Being Learning Cohorts 1 (2020-2021) and 2 (2021-2022). Cohort 1 members aimed to create a one-stop shop or "No Wrong Door" to help families navigate public assistance and other resources during the pandemic. NGA connected Cohort 1 with the National Family Support Network and Family Resource Centers. Cohort 2 members continued exploring FRCs and drafted legislation, proposing a 5-year pilot project with \$350,000 for one (1) FTE, training, and strategic planning. Members reviewed Hawaii examples of earlier pilot projects, and analyzed FRC legislation of other states.

Issues discussed were:

- Standardization and networking of FRCs. In Hawaii, community-based FRCs (partially government-funded) have existed since the 1990s and have been run by community non-profit organizations with flexibility and autonomy to meet community needs. Hawaii's School-based FRCs started in 2020 during the pandemic to assist families; school-based FRCs have more government restrictions and multi-layered decision-making processes to adapt to changing

needs. There have also been efforts to create "community schools" within the Department of Education (DOE).

- Notably, during the 2022 session, Act 125 (SLH 2022) (Act 125) created a visitation program and an FRC pilot at the Waiawa Correctional Facility to assist children and families with an incarcerated parent. Act 125 appropriated funds to DHS to pilot a child visitation and family resource center and the Department of Public Safety to create and construct an outdoor play area for the child visiting and family resource center. Construction is underway and should be completed by the time of the contract start date. On November 15, 2023, DHS published a Request for Proposals (RFP) for establishing a pilot child visiting and family resource center. The submittal deadline is January 9, 2024.

With either community- or school-based models, strategies and policies are needed to:

- Maintain confidentiality of family needs.
- Streamline approaches for serving families.
- Use a universal approach to serve all based on identified needs, without judgment, and not based on income or status.
- Increase accessibility to meet families where they are, where they can get to easily, or where there is free and accessible parking.
- Ensure sustainable funding and human resources.
- Include input from youth and young adults (14 – 26 years old) and community members with lived experiences.
- Identify and work with subject matter experts.
- Develop the pilot project to standardize and network the FRCs; operationalize the program, document implementation, identify successes and roadblocks, and lessons learned for future improvements.

The Hawaii 'Ohana Support Network (HOSN) is an informal group of public agencies and private sector non-profit, community-based, and Native Hawaiian organizations that came together during the pandemic to meet the needs of children and families. Parents and caregivers needed help navigating distance learning, adjusting to unemployment or reduced hours, providing or locating alternative child and elderly adult care, and fostering health and wellness for everyone in the household. FRCs volunteered to be food distribution and donation sites where school supplies, clothing, slippers, and household items were available to children and families. The school-based FRCs were primarily organized by part-time DOE Parent-Community Networking Center staff. A (now former) DOE Kailua/Kalaheo Academic Officer provided leadership, training, and coaching to create the FRCs. The Academic Officer collaborated with the school principals for dedicated classroom space and support.

### **Updates 2023**

Since October 2021, the HOSN has held a seat on the National Family Support Networks (NFSN) Steering Committee, which meets bi-monthly. With the NFSN's new non-profit status, as of November 2023, the NFSN Steering Committee transitioned to a Board of Directors. The HOSN representative will continue participating in activities as a board member.

DHS procured a nationally recognized organization to develop a plan to meet the objectives.

DHS awarded a contract to the National Family Support Network (NFSN) from December 2022 to November 2023 for consultative services based on multi-state networks of family support and strengthening and standards of quality (family centeredness, family strengthening, diversity-cultural traditions, languages, values, socio-economic status, family structures, gender identity, religion, individuality, etc.) community building, and evaluation. The resulting report recommended a statewide network of school- and community-based FRC structures, based on interviews with key stakeholders and feedback from the larger community, to develop an implementation plan. NFSN provided ongoing technical support and coaching to Hawaii stakeholders to execute the implementation plan as needed or for up to six (6) months. NFSN facilitated the adoption of three documents - HOSN structure, operations, roles, and membership agreement based on the recommendations report and in agreement with the HOSN Steering Committee in December 2023.

Pilot child visiting and family resource center. The Family Reunification working group, DHS, and the Department of Public Safety, Division of Corrections started developing a Child Visiting /Family Resource Center at the Waiawa Correctional Facility as a result of Act 125, SLH 2022 (Act 125) Children and Family of Incarcerated Individuals. Act 125 is integrated with the FRCs.

- On January 12, 2023, DHS convened the Family Reunification Group and HOSN members to participate in a conversation with the New Hampshire Prisons Family Connection Centers on their prison premises. We learned valuable lessons about prison staff working with a non-profit organization to conduct parent education classes and braid funding to help parents in prisons connect with their minor children.
- January – May 2023, DHS testified in support of HB 451 to extend the time to expend appropriation for the establishment of a pilot visitation and family resource center at Waiawa Correctional Facility on Oahu and makes conforming amendments related to the establishment of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (effective January 2024). Governor Josh Green, MD, signed Act 133, SLH 2023, on June 29, 2023.
- In May - June 2023, DHS posted a Request for Information (RFI) to establish a pilot child visiting and family resource center at Waiawa Correctional Facility on Oahu. Only one response was received specifically for the women’s community correctional center.
- On June 7, 2023, a DHS representative attended the Institute for Education Leadership (IEL) 2023 National Community Schools & Family Engagement Conference: Spreading Love & Supporting All Children. The trip also included a site visit with the Office of Family and Community Engagement, School District of Philadelphia National and Community School to the SCI Phoenix, Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, Fathers and Children Together (F.A.C.T.) Program. The objectives of F.A.C.T. are reconnecting fathers with their children's lives, educating mothers about trauma and the importance of co-parenting, and making communities safer by getting fathers involved in their children’s lives. The program was developed “by incarcerated fathers, for incarcerated fathers.”
- On November 15, 2023, DHS published a Request for Proposals (RFP) for establishing a pilot child visiting and family resource center. The submittal deadline is January 9, 2024. After evaluation, the award will be posted for a contract period of approximately from February 2024 to January 2025. The Department of Public Safety (PSD) collaborated on the RFP, as services would be provided on the Waiawa Correctional Facility campus.

Curate a Cohort of child and family serving state agencies and community-based organizations to build a more trusted government program.

DHS curated Cohort 9 with One Shared Future (OSF) to strengthen connections for Hawaii families. Professionals from family resource centers (FRCs), non-profits, public sector agencies, and partners came together to support the FRC principles and values that people live by and how they want their families to grow. The OSF *Accelerating Impact* series is a job-embedded, cohort-based professional development opportunity that provides participants with safe space, tools, and experiences in strengths-based, collaborative approaches around a shared theme. The cohort comprised individuals (who were also parents), school-based FRCs, community-based FRCs, Hawaii's Ohana Support Network leaders, and representatives from the Departments of Education, Health, and Human Services. The cohort met from March – May 2023. This cohort aligns with the [Aloha Spirit statute](#) and 'Ohana Nui. First Lady Jaime Green gave the commencement speech. OSF Cohort 9 continued to meet bimonthly to strengthen connections for Hawaii's families through FRCs.

DHS attended the Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL) National Community Schools & Family Engagement Conference in Philadelphia, PA, on June 7-9, 2023. DHS co-hosted the Hawaii State Reception with Hawaii Afterschool Alliance, DOE, Kamehameha Schools, and HOSN on June 7, 2023.

In August 2023 – DHS procured services to facilitate meetings and training with the school-based FRCs, assist with program self-assessment and evaluation, develop a diversity, equity, and inclusion slide deck, and work with potential school-based FRCs. The award went to O'Dell Education Services for services from August 2023 – July 2024.

Also, on August 8, 2023, the Maui Wildfires devastated the communities of Lahaina and Kula. DHS worked with state agencies and non-profit organizations to assist as needed. The Neighborhood Place of Wailuku (a DHS-funded community-based FRC) conducted outreach to the community and held resource fairs at the non-congregate shelters. In addition, Maui residents took the initiative and organized themselves and served as their own pop-up family resource centers in parks and parking lots. We hope to learn more from the communities' response to develop resources and strengthen relationships for grassroots-level operations based on community needs.

#### Site visits:

- Virtual New Hampshire Department of Corrections Family Connection Centers – January 12, 2023
- University of Pennsylvania FRC – June 6, 2023
- State Correctional Institution (SCI) Phoenix, Pennsylvania Department of Corrections – June 7, 2023
- FRCs Waimanalo Elementary and Intermediate School – December 1, 2023
- FRC Nashville, Tennessee – November 2023
- FRC Blanche Pope Elementary School – December 1, 2023
- Neighborhood Place of Waianae – December 8, 2023

#### Collaborations:

- Drafted an FRC Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to memorialize Act 129 with DHS, DOE, and DOH. This document will serve as a foundation MOU for future MOUs to distribute funds directly to the school-based FRCs.
- Partnered with the Hawaii Afterschool Alliance:

- Co-sponsored the Institute for Education Leadership (IEL) National Community Schools and Family Engagement Conference Hawaii State Reception
- Assisted in grant writing for Community Schools and FRCs on DOE Title 1 campuses.
- Participated in the Preliminary MOU for Full-Service Community Schools grant application.
- Met with DOE program staff throughout the year – School Transformation Branch, Family Engagement Branch, and Education for Homeless Youth and Children Office.
- Met with DOH program staff throughout the year – Family Health Services Division, Maternal and Family Health Branch, Children with Special Health Needs Program, and Community-based Child Abuse and Prevention (CBCAP) Program office.

As of December 1, 2023 – accomplishments as set forth in Act 129:

- (1) Criteria that the departments intend to use to evaluate potential family resource centers. With the Hawaii ‘Ohana Support Network (HOSN), the group agreed to the school-based FRC self-assessments utilizing the Framework in the figure below.

## Family Resource Center Framework

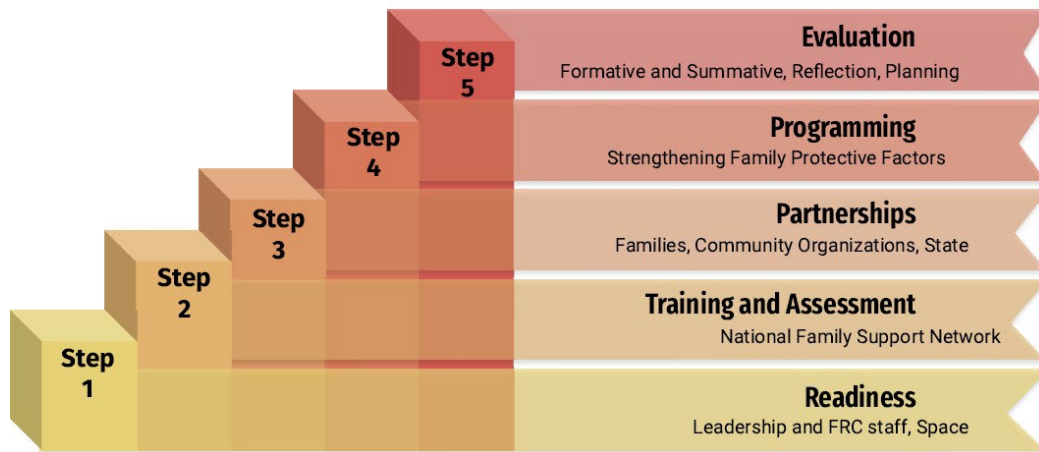


Figure 1 - Family Resource Center Framework

- (2) Milestones that the departments expect to meet in establishing one or more family resource centers throughout the five-year pilot program. The departments are members of the HOSN Steering Committee and are collectively working on the methodology for establishing more family resource centers. Hale Kipa established Hale Ku Ola in Ewa Beach with federal funds. This community-based FRC was modeled after the Neighborhood Places in policy, operations, and program evaluation. Blueprint for Change provided consultation and guidance over one year. Hale Ku Ola opened in October 2023. There are several emerging school-based FRCs.



The primary issue is finding sustainable funding to operate them. DOE schools rarely have a designated position such as a part-time (17 -19 hours a week) Parent Community Networking Center (PCNC) Coordinator or any other position in their budget. Schools must budget these positions and expenses into their budget. The HOSN Coordinator works with the schools, principals, and faculty to find an appropriate DOE position, connect to community resources (such as the Hawaii Foodbank), and find grant opportunities. The departments drafted a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to memorialize Act 129 relating to family resource centers and pending reviewing of the respective deputy attorney generals' offices. In SFY 24-25, we hope to draft an MOA to get start-up funds for new school-based FRCs and curriculum development funding for existing school-based FRCs. HOSN applied for the Congressional Directed Spending grant for FFY24 and is pending federal government budget approval. Other grants and funding opportunities are being explored for sustainability through the Community-Based Child Abuse and Neglect (CBCAP) funds and local foundations.

- (3) Specific, measurable, attainable, reasonable, and time-based performance measures that the departments expect to meet by the end of each fiscal year. These measures are in the developmental stages. Community-based FRCs that Blueprint for Change manages have specific measurements and outputs in their contract with the DHS Social Services Division. The school-based FRCs emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic. The schools faced operational issues as they responded to the concrete needs of parents and students who needed help with the practicalities of "distance learning," additional family stressors created by social distancing, including parenting and child care needs, securing extra meals, taking care of elderly parents, disabled adult siblings, or other family members.

Parents were not allowed on school campuses during the shutdown and before vaccines became available. Once social distancing rules were eased, FRCs helped welcome parents and families back to school campuses. FRCs aimed to help parents feel more empowered and encouraged parent participation in their child's school. At one school, truant notices are no longer issued through the principal's office and instead come through the FRC. This shift intended to build relationships and to hear family stories to identify how the school can support the family's needs and increase student attendance and participation. Blanche Pope Elementary School hosted an Open House a day before school started to encourage children, parents, and families back onto campus. Live entertainment, food trucks, community resources, a donation center, and free school supplies made returning to school a joyous event. At Waimanalo Elementary and Intermediate School, the FRC Director welcomed families onto campus that kupuna in the area (most are school alumni) now call themselves the "Kupuna Crew." These kupuna are on the campus and organize activities, including "Kupuna Storytime" and "Kupuna Singalong."

- (4) Controls the departments intend to use to monitor and oversee family resource centers. Individuals are trained in the NFSN Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening & Support. For the two-year certification, individuals are requested to complete a program self-assessment. Those program self-assessments and evaluations are being compiled and analyzed from SFY 23 and 24. The HOSN Steering Committee will review and make recommendations for further monitoring and oversight of the FRCs.

(5) Data and referral system tracking needs and protocols that comply with applicable state and federal laws. The departments are gathering data on the current protocols implemented by community- and school-based FRCs. The departments will review for compliance and make recommendations.

FRCs are welcoming hubs of community services and opportunities designed to support and strengthen families. The added goal of school-based FRCs is to keep a child’s educational needs. The outcomes in other communities with FRCs are stronger, more resilient families, fewer child abuse and neglect reports, increased family voice, parent leadership development, and workforce/professional development. FRCs are responsive to the needs, cultures, native languages, and interests of the children and families in communities.

**School-based FRCs**

- Kailua Elementary School
- Kailua High School
- Blanche Pope Elementary School
- Waimanalo Elementary and Intermediate School

**Community-based contracted to Blueprint for Change**

- O’ahu:
  - Neighborhood Place of Kalihi
  - Waianae Neighborhood Place
- Hawai’i Island:
  - Neighborhood Place of Puna
  - Neighborhood Place of Kona
- Maui:
  - Neighborhood Place of Wailuku
- Kaua’i:
  - Hale Ho’omalua (Kapa’a)
  - Nana’s House (Waimea)

**New FRCs:**

Community-based FRC, managed by Hale Kipa – Hale Kū Ola in Ewa Beach, Oahu - November 2023

School-based FRC - Keolu Elementary School - August 2023

Emerging school-based FRCs:

- O’ahu: Waianae Elementary School, Waiāhole Elementary School
- Hawai’i Island: Waikoloa Elementary School

## Future FRC:

- Family resource center at Waiawa Correctional Facility (spring 2024).



Other Activities: Presented on FRCs to multiple national and local organizations.

- 03/07/23 Pacific Rim International Conference - Engaging All Families,
- 04/19/23 21st Century Learning Lokahi Meeting Presenter - Family Engagement,
- 06/07/2023 – Institute for Education Leadership (IEL) National Community Schools & Family Engagement Conference: Spreading Love & Supporting All Children Hawaii State Reception in Philadelphia, PA,
- 06/08/23 Read to Me International - Family Engagement in Early Childhood,
- 08/07/23 Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance Conference - Engaging Families,
- 09/14/23 Virtual NFSN Congressional Briefing,
- 09/14/23 Hawai'i Statewide Family Engagement Center 'Ohana Conference - Family Resource Centers,
- 10/23/23 Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance Conference – Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in Family Engagement,
- 11/06/23 Hawai'i Children's Trust Fund Alliance, Engaging Families through Family Resource Centers,
- 11/08/23 Guest Lecturer at University of Hawai'i Manoa's Family Engagement in Education course Fall Semester,
- 11/15/23 National Family Support Network Webinar Wednesday - Standards Implementation in Hawai'i,
- 2023 Statewide Family Resource Center Quarterly Informational Meetings (1/19, 4/6, 8/7, 11/7/23), and
- 12/15/23 California Family Resource Center Network Panel Presentation.

## Maintains HOSN contact lists.

- Produces and sends monthly e-newsletter.
- Participation in the National Family Support Network (NFSN) Monthly Calls:
  - Hawaii continues to participate in the New FRC Network Hub, launched in October 2022,
  - NFSN Winter Virtual Member Event: Focus on Evaluation on February 13, 2023,
  - Participated in the NFSN National Briefing on May 31, 2023,
  - HOSN Executive Committee members attended the Summer Virtual NFSN Member Event on July 10, 2023, and
  - Hosted the Hawaii Congressional Delegates at the NFSN Virtual Congressional Briefing on September 14, 2023.

## Plan

- Review other state outcomes/outputs/annual surveys and program assessments for quality improvement. In progress.
- Explore a data tracking and referral system to assist children and families with all public assistance programs (i.e., housing, rental assistance, food and nutrition, kupuna needs, child care, work/career opportunities, education/training, etc.). DHS and HOSN met with the DOH, Executive Office on Aging, to explore their No Wrong Door system. The Waianae Neighborhood

Place presented to the “Doors” (existing members). The Application to be a “door” is in progress. Met with other vendors to assist FRCs. Exploration of opportunities continues.

- Co-locate DHS Benefit, Employment & Support Services (BESSD) Processing Centers at FRCs with video-conferencing technology. These tech-supported pods or “hales” are being tested in state buildings for privacy and confidentiality, WiFi connection, and audio and video quality.
- Develop the public and private sector structure to include member and affiliate criteria, FRC guidelines, emerging FRC tool kit, start-up funding, learning forums, speaker series, and coaching and consultation. In progress.
- Increase training available on the Protective Factors and Parent Leadership – HOSN will offer more training on the Protective Factors and Parent Leadership in addition to the NFSN Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening and Support. It is helpful to have local presenters train individuals to be in the same time zone and for networking purposes.
- Increase professional workforce development for FRC staff on finding and writing grants, goal setting, and outcome measurements. In the planning stages.
- Program effectiveness will be measured by the number of individuals/organizations who are certified in the National Family Support Network (NFSN) Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening and Support, the creation and training of Parent Advisory Councils (PACs), and participation in the Hawaii ‘Ohana Support Network (HOSN) training sessions, forums, and learning cohorts.

### **Funding**

The DHS budget includes funds to develop and implement a statewide network of school- and community-based FRCs consultative services, establish definitions, standards, and best practices, identify and align available services, goals, and outcomes, and develop referral and data tracking protocols. To continue the maintenance and furtherance of FRCs, the state will procure services to support existing FRCs and cultivate new FRCs, including start-ups with technical assistance, training, coaching, and cohort forums as appropriate, support workforce development training sessions and follow-up, and expand the FRC network.

DHS will continue working with the public and private sectors on blending and braiding funds. Because FRCs seem to be agile and able to respond to the community's needs quickly, there is willingness from both sectors to collaborate and fund them. FRCs play a critical role in preventing child abuse and neglect, strengthening children and families, connecting families to agencies and programs, creating opportunities for community-level coordination, creating connections to resources and support systems, and increasing family engagement, leading to greater student success in school. Additionally, studies show that communities with family resource centers show lower rates of child abuse and neglect investigations, lower numbers of children entering foster care, and an increase in parents or custodians gaining employment within one year after taking part in services provided through the centers.

The Oahu, Windward District, Kailua/Kalaheo Complex applied for and received the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund grant in 2021. Each of the four schools in the complex received approximately \$20,000 to create a child and family-friendly space in a classroom. Another \$5,000 went towards programming. That amount does not include an overhead cost to hire and pay staff, rent, utilities, daily supplies, or communications/messaging to families. Currently, FRCs are open on weekdays and during school hours. The goal is to have FRCs available evenings, weekends, and holidays when families need extra help or have time to participate in family-strengthening activities. The start-up cost may be upwards of \$200,000 for each one.

FRC received funding for training and services from the Hawai'i Children's Action Network, Casey Family Programs, DOH Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) grant, and the Hawaii Statewide Family Engagement Center. Applications for funding or additional grants were submitted to the Congressional Directed Spending through Senator Mazie Hirono's office (awaiting budget approval), US DOE Full-Service Community School grant as a partner agency (pending). We applied for, though we did not receive the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools grant.

Return on investment of an FRC to the child welfare system is documented by OMNI Institute<sup>3</sup> and Casey Family Programs Outcome and Cost-Savings Data for Selected Types of Family Support Services – A Summary for Orange County Social Services.<sup>4</sup>



Figure 2 - Blanche Pope Elementary School Open House August 2023 prior to the first day of school. The FRC Director organized the event with food trucks, entertainment, community resources, donation center, and free school supplies.



Figure 3 - Waimanalo Elementary and Intermediate School Kupuna Day included the Kupuna Crew and FRC Director (standing left) shown above. Kupuna Day included story time and singalong with the students.

<sup>3</sup> [Community+Partnership+Family+Resource+Center+Child+Welfare+Return+on+Investment+Technical+Appendix.pdf \(familyfirstact.org\)](https://familyfirstact.org)

<sup>4</sup> [Microsoft Word - Outcome Table for Family Support Programs Pecora Dilorenzo 7-30-19.docx \(nationalfamilysupportnetwork.org\)](https://nationalfamilysupportnetwork.org)