A “LIFESAVER” FOR FAMILIES

Gratitude Report 2020

Quality of Our Tomorrows
Rests in the Hands of
the Keiki of Today!

Fund Pre-K
Programs!

Kamalii Academy PCS
As soon as it became clear that COVID-19 would have dramatic impacts on the health, safety, and education of our keiki, Hawai‘i Children’s Action Network pivoted and took action.

**Urgent advocacy:** Since the beginning of the crisis, HCAN has been a leading voice for child care and working families. We successfully pushed the legislature to allocate $15 million of federal CARES Act funds toward child care assistance, urged business groups to support working families, surveyed hundreds of parents about their concerns, and protected seven public pre-K classrooms from budget cuts.

These achievements reflect the impact of HCAN’s network leadership. Some of our key partners in this effort include the Working Families Coalition, the Hawai‘i Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance, Hawai‘i Public Health Institute (HIPHI), and Hawai‘i Afterschool Alliance. HCAN and HIPHI also convened one of the earliest efforts urging Governor David Ige to impose social distancing measures in March.

**Public education:** HCAN put together an interactive map to help families find food, child care, and financial assistance, which has become one of the state’s most comprehensive resources. We informed tens of thousands of families about their right to emergency paid leave under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. We also helped double applications for state child care subsidies by spreading the word about revised eligibility rules.

**Digital organizing:** In March, HCAN and HIPHI launched a new collaboration hub on Slack, which now has over 200 members representing social services, education, labor, small businesses, and other sectors. This community effort also mobilized volunteers to assemble 12,000 face shields for essential workers, as pictured above.

**HCAN’s COVID-19 response changed lives**

“The map was a lifesaver for families. It’s a fantastic resource for parents. Having your information to share was one of the best things I could do.”
— Rosa Stone, Maui

“Children and families are our future. Getting involved and active helps to keep me abreast of current events and what role I can play now and in the future. Sharing resources helps all of us and the people we serve.”
— Annie Au Hoon, O'ahu

**A landmark win for keiki**

Despite the interrupted legislative session, three major bills from the Children’s Policy Agenda passed and were signed into law. One of the bills, HB2543, establishes a state goal of ensuring all 3- and 4-year-olds are enrolled in a preschool program by 2032, and will expand the Preschool Open Doors program eligibility.

**In Memoriam: Dr. Calvin Sia**

Dr. Sia, a pediatrician and lifelong advocate for children in Hawai‘i and across the world, passed away on August 19, 2020 at the age of 93. Dr. Sia was one of the founders of Good Beginnings Alliance — which later became HCAN — and changed the lives of countless children through his tireless advocacy.
Hawaiʻi Children’s Action Network Speaks! is a nonpartisan 501(c)4 nonprofit. Although it’s a separate organization from HCAN, the two have a shared mission of ensuring all keiki are healthy, safe, and ready to learn.

This year, HCAN Speaks! supported HCAN’s policy priorities and submitted testimony during the legislative session. Through a new discussion group, HCAN Speaks Up!, we also started building a grassroots base of advocates.

During the 2020 election, the HCAN Speaks! board chose to endorse nine state house and senate candidates. They decided on this select group after a thorough vetting process to identify the candidates who would be the strongest champions for keiki. Seven candidates were ultimately elected, and they will take office in a pivotal legislative session for Hawaiʻi’s children.

Mahalo to the superheroes who make this mission possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Champion members</th>
<th>New community leaders</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>37 members contributed to the 5th annual Children’s Policy Agenda in 2020</td>
<td>through our free, 6-month Parent Leadership Training Institute</td>
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<tr>
<th>Hawaiʻi residents</th>
<th>Advocates</th>
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<tr>
<td>100,000+ residents were informed about the importance of counting all children in the 2020 census</td>
<td>took part in the annual Early Childhood Day at the Capitol, including six preschools</td>
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<tr>
<th>People joined our community events</th>
<th>Online testimonies</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>160 including two Keiki Talks, two film screenings, and two talk story sessions</td>
<td>were submitted by grassroots advocates in support of HCAN’s legislative policy priorities</td>
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100,000+ Hawaiʻi residents were informed about the importance of counting all children in the 2020 census.

Expenses

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
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<tr>
<td>$969,779</td>
<td>$1,068,965</td>
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- 15% Coalition building and non-profit advocacy training
- 13% Administration and fund development
- 14% Data and research
- 47% Community engagement and advocacy

Your impact by the numbers

Holding leaders accountable and electing legislative champions

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Creativity Corner

Have fun coloring in these illustrations, specially made for HCAN by local artist Jamie Yamashita. Take a picture and tag us on Instagram, @HCAN_HI!

On the right, try to find HCAN’s coalitions!

HECAA (Hawai‘i Early Childhood Action Alliance)

TRUSTFUND (Hawai‘i Children’s Trust Fund Coalition)

ORALHEALTH (Hawai‘i Oral Health Coalition)

WORKINGFAMILIES (Hawai‘i Working Families Coalition)

Read the digital extended report

For more detail about your impact in the 2020 fiscal year, scan the QR code below or visit: www.hawaii-can.org/2020report

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