“I like my class because I learn letters and numbers”
Nohea Walker, the mom of a middle-schooler, wanted to learn how she could make a difference in the community. But she couldn’t find any classes to learn about advocacy until a co-worker emailed her about a program run by Hawaiʻi Children’s Action Network: the Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI).

PLTI started in 2015, and now has 38 alumni actively engaging and changing their communities through grassroots advocacy and community programs.

Nohea hoped the class would help her professionally — but she didn’t expect it to impact her personally as well. Her daughter attended many of the classes and got to see the importance of being active in the community.

PLTI requires participants to complete a community project. For her project, Nohea realized one of her personal needs could be useful to the wider community. “The newer issues around cell phone and social media usage were very real in our home,” Nohea said. “I needed strategies to support those conversations in my home, and I quickly realized that those strategies did not exist.”

Through the 20 weeks of workshops, PLTI give Nohea the skills she needed to become a leader for her community. “The greatest lesson that I walked away with is advocacy — the need to be a vocal advocate for keiki and our ‘ohana in our communities,” Nohea said.

Since her graduation, Nohea has become a dedicated community advocate. She has started attending neighborhood board meetings and testified before legislative hearings. “As a parent, we really just want to do our best,” she said. “Sometimes we feel like we hit a brick wall with things, like that pothole that keeps reappearing. The class gave me tools to know where to direct my comments so that things can get done.”

“PLTI is critical in our communities.”

Opposite: Nohea and her daughter both learned about community advocacy through PLTI.
Above: Nohea, third from left, and fellow PLTI participants at their graduation ceremony.
HCAN’s Activities

Research & analysis
HCAN's publications — including an early learning needs assessment, a paid family leave study, and ongoing oral health research — ensure that policies are based on sound data.

Building coalitions
The Children’s Policy Agenda, Working Families Coalition, and Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance strategize successful solutions and train organizations on systems change.

Grassroots movement
Through a wide range of public education, outreach, training, and leadership programs, HCAN empowers families and community leaders to be strong advocates for keiki.

HCAN’s Priority Issues

Safety & security
Children should be free from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence. Families should have economic security and be able to afford to live in Hawai‘i.

Health
Children should have affordable, comprehensive, quality healthcare — including oral healthcare — from the moment they’re born and throughout childhood.

Education
Children should have access to affordable, high-quality education and childcare, and their families should understand the importance of early brain development.
43
Members collaborated on the agenda

25
Initiatives in agenda from members

71
Bills introduced from the policy agenda

39
Action alerts sent to advocates

172
Online testimonies submitted

2
Community rallies in support of early childhood

Children’s Policy Agenda

The Children’s Policy Agenda encompasses early childhood issues and invites other children’s advocates into to coordinate efforts. The effort was coordinated with the legislative Keiki Caucus. The January 2019 launch had more than 20 community partners and 4 lawmakers in attendance.

- Secured $19 million in new funding to support 10 new public Pre-K classrooms and continued funding for 18 charter school Pre-K classrooms.
- SNAP recipients receive double credit when using their benefits to buy locally grown fresh produce.
- Funding for the telehealth portal within the Hawai’i State Department of Health.
- Eliminating the Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) tax loophole to increase revenue for affordable housing, schools, roads, or other community needs.

Unfortunately, this measure was vetoed by Governor Ige.

“I’m doing a puzzle.
We need to learn.”

View the agenda at www.hawaii-can.org.
Hawai‘i Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance

HCAN convenes an influential network of 30 social service providers, educators, academics, business leaders, and government agencies through the Hawai‘i Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance (HECAA). With a guiding mission of ensuring all children have “equitable access to affordable, culturally reflective, high-quality care and education,” HECAA identified policy priorities to begin addressing some of Hawai‘i’s most critical early childhood education gaps.

HECAA’s policy priorities include changing DHS administrative rules to make childcare more affordable for families and pay childcare providers a living wage, funding to grow high-quality public Pre-K, and increasing the child and dependent care tax credit.

Oral Health For All Hawai‘i

HCAN convenes the Oral Health For All Hawai‘i Children’s Oral Health Workgroup to assess the complex reasons for poor oral health among children in Hawai‘i and identify potential solutions. The group has met multiple times throughout the year, with over 40 people attending in person and via video conference. This group has instituted a strong foundation, establishing its values, mission, and goals to guide the future work of the coalition and improve oral health for Hawai‘i’s children.

Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention

Using its experience in community education and outreach, HCAN in 2019 began working on child abuse and neglect prevention (CANP) initiatives. For this work, HCAN partnered with the Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Family Hui Hawai‘i, and the Hawai‘i State Public Library System. HCAN implemented multiple events statewide (seven on O‘ahu and one on Maui, Kaua‘i, Moloka‘i, and Lana‘i) to bring together key stakeholders in both the professional and community realms. The events included facilitated discussions on societal impacts of child abuse and neglect, free community resources to promote family strengthening, and discussions on how Hawai‘i can strengthen statewide resources and programs to advance CANP efforts.
Little Minds Matter

A public education campaign on the importance of early brain development

HCAN leads the Little Minds Matter (LMM) campaign, a public awareness and education campaign targeted at families with children from birth-5 who don't currently use childcare or preschool services. LMM aims to educate these families about the importance of early brain development, show them how they can foster their kids’ brain development in their everyday lives, and connect them with community resources. LMM partnered with the evidence-based platform Vroom for messaging and parent tips and tools.

Engagement results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Radio ads on 12 stations</th>
<th>Print ads in 4 magazines</th>
<th>45,000 Copies of Parent magazine distributed monthly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>292,000 Audience reached by Midweek on O‘ahu and Kaua‘i</td>
<td>138,000 Quarterly distribution of Family magazine</td>
<td>25,000 Quarterly distribution of Maui Family magazine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>287 Facebook followers</td>
<td>342 Instagram followers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97,000 Number of video views on Facebook + Instagram</td>
<td>401,000 Total number of times LMM content was shown</td>
<td>145,000 Total number of people reached by LMM content</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HCAN’s affiliated organization, Hawai‘i Children’s Action Network Speaks! (HCAN Speaks!), is a non-partisan 501(c)4 nonprofit that lobbies and endorses candidates who work to pass legislation on behalf of Hawai‘i’s children and families. HCAN Speaks! gives voters the tools they need to make informed decisions when voting for Hawai‘i’s leaders.

**Voter education**

For the 2018 election, HCAN Speaks! put together a concise voter education guide, encouraging voters to ask these key questions of candidates:

- **Will you fight to increase the minimum wage?**
- **What is your plan to make childcare safer & more affordable?**
- **How will you fight for our most vulnerable children?**
- **How will you pass paid family leave for our state’s workforce?**
- **How will you improve children’s health?**
- **How will you increase funding for public schools?**
- **How will you improve the most vulnerable children’s health?**
- **How will you pass paid family leave for our state’s workforce?**
- **How will you improve children’s health?**
- **How will you increase funding for public schools?**

The survey required candidates to state their positions on pro-child policies, such as increasing funding to services for infants and toddlers with developmental delays, paid family leave, and sexual abuse prevention programs. HCAN Speaks! also considered voting records as they were available.

**2018 candidate endorsements**

“Who’s for kids… and who’s just kidding?”

HCAN Speaks! sent surveys to candidates running for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, the State House of Representatives, and the State Senate. The organization used these responses to evaluate candidates’ knowledge of and dedication to children’s issues.

The survey required candidates to state their positions on pro-child policies, such as increasing funding to services for infants and toddlers with developmental delays, paid family leave, and sexual abuse prevention programs. HCAN Speaks! also considered voting records as they were available.

40% of candidates responded to the HCAN Speaks! survey

60% of candidates endorsed by HCAN Speaks! won their races

Through an interactive website, voters could view their candidates’ survey responses.
Civic engagement

Founding partner of KĀKOU App

HCAN was a founding partner in the development of KĀKOU. This free app enables users to easily engage with elected officials and participate in the democratic process by:

- Instantly connecting with elected federal, state and county officials
- Weighing in on hot button issues
- Sending e-mails to committees
- Tracking issues and important bills in the legislature

HCAN has already engaged 247 advocates through KĀKOU.

Early Childhood Day at the State Capitol

HCAN held its annual Early Childhood Day in March, partnering with 22 organizations, including seven preschools, to make this day possible. 70 children attended — draped in superhero capes — and four speakers talked about the importance of investing in early childhood. These advocates of all ages visited 78 lawmakers.

“We should lead by example. We should be the progressive pioneers across the state.”

— 2019 HCAN Board President Dean Wong

KĀKOU launched at an event at the State Art Museum.
Community Champion Members

HCAN’s Community Champion members form a movement that shares one goal: to make Hawai’i a great place to be a kid. This group engages with families, policymakers, business leaders, preschools, and nonprofit agencies to ensure Hawai’i’s children are healthy, safe and ready to learn. Community Champion members come together each year to create a Children’s Policy Agenda, speaking with a unified voice for Hawai’i’s future.

ORGANIZATIONS

- ALICE Policy Hui
- AlohaCare
- American Academy of Pediatrics, Hawaii Chapter Blueprint for Change
- Early Childhood Action Strategy
- Easter Seals Hawaii
- EPIC ‘Ohana, Inc.
- Family Hui Hawaii
- Family Programs Hawaii
- Family Support Hawaii
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Action Group Hawaii
- Afterschool Alliance
- Hawaii Alliance for Progressive Action
- Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice
- Hawaii Association of School Psychologists
- Hawaii Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance
- Hawai’i Keiki: Healthy & Ready to Learn
- Hawaii Maternal & Infant Health Collaborative
- Hawai’i Pacific Health
- Hawaii PTSA
- Hawaii Public Charter Schools Network
- Hawai’i Public Health Institute
- Hawaii State Teachers Association
- Hawaii Youth Services Network
- Hawai’i Women in Filmmaking
- Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Hawaii
- Imua Family Services
- Kamehameha Schools
- Midwives Alliance of Hawaii
- Parents And Children Together (PACT)
- Parents for Public Schools Hawai’i
- PATCH Hawaii
- PHOCUSED
- Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii Project Vision Hawaii
- Raise Up Hawai’i
- The Learning Coalition/He’e Coalition
- The Sex Abuse Treatment Center
- University of Hawaii - Center on the Family
- Waianae Coast Early Childhood Services

INDIVIDUALS

- Stephanie Batzer
- Katie Bennett
- Liz Chun
- JoAnn Farnsworth
- Elizabeth McFarlane
- Quin Ogawa
- David Okumura
- Robert Peters
- Jeannine Souki
- Erica Yamauchi
Donors

Superheroes like you make this work possible. Mahalo for your gifts that are improving the lives of Hawai’i’s children and families.

LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY SUPERHEROES

Major Donors (gifts of $1,000 or more)

David Attanasio
Michael Fahey
Levani Lipton
Lindsay Young

LEAGION OF SUPERHEROES

Monthly Donors

Kuulani Keohokalole
Erica Yamauchi

LEAGUE OF SUPERHEROES

Piia Aarma
Justina Acevedo Cross
Marla Acosta
Paula Adams
Joseph and Vivien Alemani
Manu Anana
Aya Aoki
Jayne Arasaki
Pat Arizo
Eryn Asato
Claire Bailey
Daintry Bartoldus
Cheryl Bellisario
Chris Van Bergeijk
Donna Blanchard
Susan Brown
Michelle Bumanglag
Lynn Cabato
Elisabeth Chun
Gordon Ciano
Gordon D. Ciano
Heather Conahan
Barbara DeBaryshe
Steven DeMaggio
Esto Desas

Patricia Dong
Ian Evans
Joseph Evans
JoAnn Farnsworth
Ann Freed
David Gaudi
Marilyn Gemma
Lynn Gluck
Benjamin Godsey
Michelle Gray
Clare Hanusz
Maxine Haun
Marisa Hayase
Mitzie Higa
Donna Stewart Ho
Travis Hong
Jan i
Joyce Lee Ilibarra
Louise Iwasishi, MD
Chris Jackson
Jean Johnson
Roma Johnson
Tina Porras Jones
John A. Julian
Amanda Kaahaneui

Gregg Kishaba
Benjamin Konshak
Keith Kuboyma
Rie Kuboyma
Jeff Larson
Carolyn Lee
Jadayanne Lee
Theresa Luke
Kilikina Mahi
Gail Masui
Diane Matsuura
Makana McClellan
Elizabeth McFarlane
Annette Mente
Angelina Mercado
Douglas Mersberg
Jacee Mikulane
Connie Mitchell
Amy Monk
Lauren Moriguchi
Sarah Morihara
Jaylen Murakami
Traci Murakami
Cassin Muramoto
Kathy Murphy
Tracy Nakashima
Amy Ng
Emily Nip
Sheryl B. Nolte
Cynthia Okazaki
David Okumura
Daphne Tong Pave
Robert Peters
David Randall
Janine Rasmussen
Kathleen Reinhardt
Janis Reischmann
Blaine Rogers
Becky Rosenberg
Rebecca Rosenberg
Cathy Ross
Iris Saito

Margaret N. Sakoeki
Marc-Rose Sarsona
Waialaele Sarsona
Mandy Westfall Senda
Lisa Shigemura
Cherilyn Shinoki
Kerry Shiroma
Calvin Sia, MD
Kathleen Stanley
Ivette Stern
Thomas Stirling
Carrie Shoda Sutherland
Jan Tateishi
Gavin Thornton
Stacey Tighe
Robert Toyofuku
Lynn and Jeff Watanabe
Mary Weir
Nicole Woo
Dean Wong
Ann Yabusaki
Lynn Yamashita
Jessica Yamauchi
Gloria Yoshikawa
Bernard Zysman
Deborah Zysman

We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of this list. If you see an error, please contact Ryan Catalani at rcatalani@hawaii-can.org.

“"We learn to read the book and to write something."
Joy Bliss  
In honor of Jordan and Jared Caputy
Deborah Bond-Upson  
In honor of Deborah Zysman
Elisabeth Chun  
In honor of Deborah Zysman
Ashley Edwards  
In honor of Deborah Zysman
Michael Fahey  
In honor of HCAN
Amanda Finlay  
In honor of Clara Sabas
Licia Haynie  
In honor of Hunter Haynie
Michael D. Jones  
In honor of Susan B. Jones
Puni Kekauoha  
In honor of Brenda Kekauoha
Leilani Kahoana  
In honor of all nurses caring for babies
Jason Maga  
In honor of Anya, Michelle and Jason Maga
Kelly McDonald  
In honor of Barbara McDonald
Dawn Morais Webster  
In honor of Goldie Webster and Gladys Morais
Claudia Wright  
In honor of our granddaughter Nai’a

Jonathan Yim  
In honor of Smitty Q. Wong
Suzanne Young  
In honor of Shylar Young

In Honor of Mike Fahey’s Retirement
David-Jimmy Ambrose-Ballesteros
Sher Arima
June Callan
Elisabeth Chun
Darrell Chun
Charles and Elaine Fahey
Roella Foronda
Robert Gluck
Deanne Goya
Michelle Gray
Maggie Hanohano
Jan I’i
Troy Jarrell
Gloria Kishi
Elila and Josh Levinson
Elise Matsumoto
Jacee Mikulanec
Margaret Morris
Luanna H. Meyer
Jennifer Schember-Lang
Maggie Hanohano
Jan I’i
Troy Jarrell
Gloria Kishi
Elila and Josh Levinson
Elise Matsumoto
Jacee Mikulanec
Margaret Morris
Luanna H. Meyer
Jennifer Schember-Lang

Corporate, Community, and Foundation Support
It takes the entire community to build a strong foundation for children’s well-being. Mahalo to these partners for helping to ensure that all children in Hawai‘i are healthy, safe, and ready to learn.

• aio Foundation
• Aloha United Way ALICE
• AlohaCare
• Annie Sinclair Knudsen Memorial Fund
• Atherton Family Foundation
• City and County of Honolulu
• DentaQuest Foundation
• Early Childhood Action Strategy
• Family Values @ Work
• First Focus
• First Insurance Company of Hawaii Charitable Foundation
• Friends of Hawaii Charities
• Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation
• Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice
• Hawaii’i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice
• Hawaii’i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice
• Hawaii’i Community Foundation
• Hawaii’i Hotel Industry Foundation
• Hawaii State Department of Health
• Hawaii’i State Public Charter School Commission
• Harry A. Zuberano Early Education Fund
• Imua Family Services
• Jhamandas Watumull Fund
• Kamehameha Schools
• Kosasa Family Fund
• League of Women Voters of Honolulu Education Fund
• McInerny Foundation
• Partnership for America’s Children
• Rev. Takie Okumura Family Fund
• Robert Emens Black Fund
• Samuel N. & Mary Castle Foundation
• University of Hawaii Center on the Family

Your support improves the lives of Hawaii’s children and families. Mahalo!
Budget Overview

$1,004,722
REVENUE

$962,539
EXPENSES

These unaudited figures show the percentage of funding received for each of HCAN’s initiatives. Mahalo to all of our partners that made this work possible.

Revenue Sources

- 58% Foundation Grants
- 36% Government Contracts
- 4% Individual Gifts
- 2% Other

Board of Directors
- President
  - Erica Yamauchi
- Vice President
  - Dean Wong
- Secretary
  - David Randall
- Treasurer
  - Tracy Nakashima
- Nick Kacprowski
- David Gaudi
- Travis Hong, MD
- David Okumura
- Cathy Ross
- Sione Thompson
- Daphne Tong-Pave

Advisory Council
- Sen. Susie Chun Oakland
- Dee Jay Mailer
- Jeff Watanabe
- Lynn Watanabe

Staff
- Executive Director & Board VP
  - Deborah Zysman
- Director of Public Policy & Research
  - Kathleen Algire
- Director of Advancement
  - Ryan Catalani
- Director of Community Engagement & Training
  - Laura Nevitt
- Communications & Development Coordinator
  - Jackalyn Carione
- Policy, Training, and Community Engagement Coordinator
  - Heather Lavoie
- Office Manager
  - Jan Iʻi

“Takin' a book,
We can play and read,
We read to learn.”
“I like to paint.
I like talking to new friends.”

About the Drawings
The drawings throughout this report were made by preschoolers at Kamalani Academy and Waiʻalae Elementary Public Charter School. The accompanying quotes describe what they like about their pre-K program. Courtesy of the Hawaiʻi State Public Charter School Commission.