



**STATEWIDE  
RESOURCE  
ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE**

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## Wrap Services Hawai'i

By Wilma Friesema, OES  
 EPIC 'Ohana, Inc.

Many who work in the foster care system know youth like this: "David" is a teen who has frequently changed foster placements because his behavior is too difficult to manage. He lies, gets into trouble at school, runs away, steals, and has angry outbursts. He has poor grades and receives special education (SPED) services through the Department of Education (DOE). He has a mental health diagnosis, and receives mental health services through the Department of Health (DOH), his guardian is the Department of Human Services (DHS), and he may be involved with the criminal justice system's Office of Youth Services (OYS). In addition to these agencies he receives independent living services (ILP), Youth Circles (YC), has a court advocate (GAL), and lives with resource caregivers (RCGs).

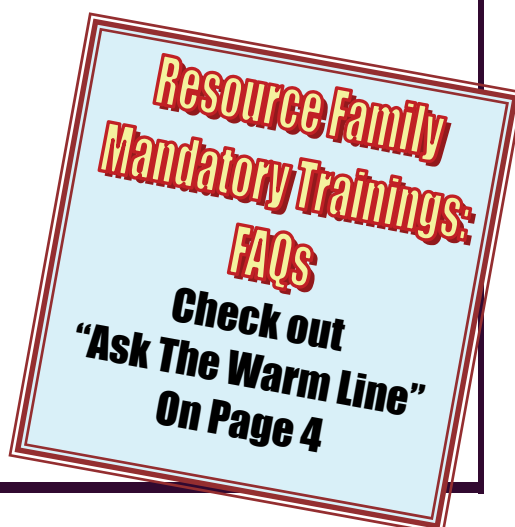
Behind all the head-spinning acronyms is a team of caring people who try to make a real difference in David's life. Every agency, every professional, has an area of expertise and is contributing towards stabilizing David's situation and helping him learn the skills he needs to succeed. Likewise, every agency and professional has limits and guidelines as to what they can and cannot do. The treatment team meets to plan and coordinate services, but often the service delivery is done piecemeal, with each agency providing one component of a complex support network. Everyone wants to help David; the challenge is they all have their differing approaches, strengths, and limitations.

David is really many youth – both young men and women – who require intensive across-the-spectrum supports. To help these youth a consortium of Hawai'i state agencies, with the financial support of the Casey Family Programs, launched a pilot project called Wrap Services Hawai'i in the Fall of 2012. Begun on the mainland in the 1980's, Wrap Services engages the various service providers, youth, his or her family, and community supporters in an on-going planning process that differs from existing team meetings in two key ways. First and foremost, instead of looking at existing services and fitting David into them, Wrap Services asks these fundamental questions: What are David's unmet needs? What does his family need so they can be more available and effective with him? What strengths in David and his family can be harnessed to help him succeed? At the Wrap meetings, participants are encouraged to "think outside of the box" when looking for ways to provide help to David and his family. Producing interventions uniquely tailored to the youth's and family's strengths and needs is foundational for the process to work.

The second key component is the commitment, on the part of all the state agencies, to blend their efforts and funding. This doesn't mean DHS, DOH, DOE, and OYS have merged into one big agency, but it does mean that the question of *What are David's unmet needs?* guides their collective responses. When the existing services are inadequate or when need responses hit barriers – such as a program's time limitation or a lack of designated funds for activities or staffing -- the Wrap Services Facilitator requests assistance from a committee made up of agency administrators to break through that limitation. By pooling their agencies' resources, the committee of administrators dismantles the systemic barriers that keep David from getting the targeted assistance he needs. Just as the Wrap team is backing and supporting David and his family, the committee of administrators is responding to, and supporting, the Wrap Services team.

At the heart of Wrap Services is the belief that once a person's unique needs are identified, clarified, and truly met, behaviors change. Its basic premise is: children don't fail, plans fail.

(Continued on page 5)



## STATEWIDE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*The Hui Ho'omalua Statewide Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) provides support to the resource family community through identifying ongoing needs, facilitating communication and by sharing resources.*

The Building Connections Newsletter is published four times a year to provide information regarding foster and adoptive care to resource families, service providers, and to the public.

**This newsletter may be viewed on the following websites:**

[www.hawaii.gov/dhs/protection/  
social\\_services/child\\_welfare/  
foster](http://www.hawaii.gov/dhs/protection/social_services/child_welfare/foster)

[www.pidfoundation.org](http://www.pidfoundation.org)

Partners in Development  
Foundation  
2040 Bachelot St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817-2433

If you would like to receive this newsletter, please call:  
441-1125 (O'ahu),  
888-879-8970 (Toll Free) or  
E-mail:  
[RAC@pidfoundation.org](mailto:RAC@pidfoundation.org)

## GO GREEN!

**Want to help our environment? Contact us today and request an electronic copy!**



# May is National Foster Care Month

**MAHALO...**

to Hawai'i's Resource Caregivers  
who have opened their hearts & homes  
for our keiki in foster care & Changed a Lifetime

## A.F.T. (A Fostering Thought)

### Who Am I: Sending The Right Signals

*By Dr. Paul Brennan*

Cloaked in traditional symbolism the Roman Catholic Papacy gathered in Rome last March to engage in nothing secretive. Cloistered in the Cistine Chapel all 115 of them dressed in their finest red robes and white hats to witness a very public spectacle: the accession of a new Pope. Pope Benedict XVI was retiring, so a successor needed to be found. The first day yielded only black smoke, but on the next day white smoke curled from the copper chimney. Once again the world could proclaim both literally and figuratively, "Holy Smoke!" The selection, Vatican believed, was pure, the smoke was white, identity was true to divine will.

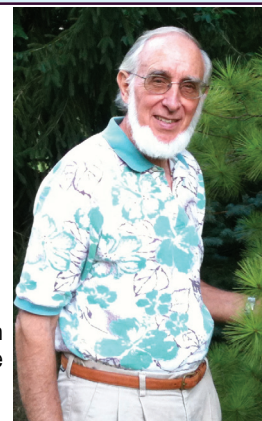
The identity of the new Pope took a little time to sort itself out. After all, Jorge Mario Bergoglio from Argentina wasn't exactly a household name, even within the family of Catholics. But quickly, as the custom is, the new Holy Father took on a new name. Shedding his Italian identity, this 76 year old chose to be known as Pope Francis. Was it his desire to perpetuate the memory of Saint Francis of Assisi, or perhaps Francis Xavier, evangelist to Asia? Only time will tell.

The challenge to personify a correct, appropriate, natural image is so common to all youth, but especially to those who were not born within our homes. As 'foster children' or 'adopted children' they know full well the struggle to identify, to bond, to lock onto a personality and a set of characteristics that truly might fit. This is not a one-time effort, nor is it an attachment to a fashion trend. It lies deeper, much deeper than a Mohawk haircut, punk dress, or rapper lingo. Our youth only wish they could have the ease and assistance afforded the new Pope, but for many of them it is a life-long struggle, often expressed in multiple, serial attempts.

The youth culture of today--whether with supportive biological parents and families, or otherwise--has bought into the media addiction so enthusiastically that teachers, parents and other authorities must continuously monitor and curtail the latest gadgets and technological innovations. In New York City, for example, cellphones and other devices, such as iPods and iPads, have been banned from all public schools. Consequently, a burgeoning industry has emerged in which entrepreneurs park trucks nearby so students drop off (for a fee, of course!) their devices before class and get them back at the end of the day. What makes these little gadgets so valuable? One answer is that a youth's feelings can quickly be expressed to someone, somewhere almost immediately. In our contemporary society this fits neatly into the pattern of many parents who have abandoned their authoritative role. Children have learned to be ruled by their feelings, devoid of disappointments, failures, embarrassments, and other basic facts of life. With elevated opinions of themselves, they often have little respect for others.

Such was the case recently when Ohio football players were taken to court over the rape of a 16 year-old cheerleader. On that night when alcohol was being generously served to minors, where were adults to stop the abuse? In that night setting when gang instincts were being played out, why could not one courageous soul have spoken against the injustice?

Today's educational priorities emphasize grades, test scores, scholarships, and getting into the right schools. That's good . . . but not enough. The finest education begins and ends with character development. It doesn't take the Pope to tell us that. We shouldn't have to wait for the next Vatican ritual to let us witness "Holy Smoke!". Our neighborhoods, our schools, and especially our homes, are the finest venues to let that miracle happen.



**Dr. Paul Brennan**

# 6th Annual Conference for Resource Families

**Free!**

*Pathways to Healing: Understanding the Trauma Behind the Behavior*

Guest Speaker: Tia Roberts, MSCJA, MSW of Project Kealahou

**Free!**

Family Programs Hawai'i—Resource Families Support Services program, in collaboration with the Department of Human Services, Partners in Development Foundation—Hui Ho'omalulu program, and the Department of Health are pleased to present "Pathways to Healing: Understanding the Trauma Behind the Behavior". This conference will provide an opportunity for participants to learn how to better care for the children in foster care who have experienced traumatic events in their lives. Participants will learn about trauma-informed care practices and how trauma histories have an impact on behaviors. Caregivers will identify action steps to enhance their supports as well as learn about national and local resources in providing trauma-informed services and supports. Participants will also learn how to provide a safe and nurturing environment for trauma survivors.

Conference and childcare are **FREE** to all resource, adoptive, guardianship, & kinship families!

Registration forms will be mailed in April and May

Receive 6 DHS approved training credit hours

## CONFERENCE DATES

**KONA: May 17, 2013 (Friday)**

**HILO: May 23, 2013 (Thursday)**

**MAUI: May 30, 2013 (Thursday)**

**KAUA'I: June 6, 2013 (Thursday)**

**O'AHU: June 22, 2013 (Saturday)**

**MOLOKA'I & LĀNA'I FAMILIES:**

Airfare reimbursements are available. Call the Warm Line for details and arrangements.

**Each Conference is a full day**

Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided.



Each family will receive a **gift** & a chance To win a **staycation** in honor of National Foster Care Month!

Win other **door prizes** Including **gift cards**

For more information, please contact the Warm Line: 545-1130 (O'ahu)  
1-866-545-0882 (Toll free for Neighbor Islands)  
[warmline@familyprogramshi.org](mailto:warmline@familyprogramshi.org)

Presented by:  
Department of Human Services, Family Programs Hawai'i,  
Hui Ho'omalulu, and Department of Health

## June is National Reunification Month

This year, the State of Hawai'i, Department of Human Services (DHS), and various other community stakeholder groups in the child welfare field have come together to plan the first ever National Reunification Month event in Hawai'i. National Reunification Month, recognized by the American Bar Association, Center on Children and the Law, and other national organizations, celebrates both the importance of and successful reunifications of families involved with child welfare services. The national movement recognizes that reunification is achievable through collaborative partnerships between the family, child welfare service providers such as social workers, attorneys guardian ad litem, etc., and other community supporters. The State of Hawai'i takes this a step further and emphasizes a "team" effort among not only the family, child welfare services and the family court, but also community services providers and resource caregivers (formerly known as foster families).

Hawai'i's event will honor all families and those supporting reunification. In keeping with the theme of "team collaboration," however, a special tribute will be paid not only to a Maui family who was reunified and the Maui Child Welfare Services, but also other key support team members. Such team members include a social worker from Waiawa Correctional Facilities; resource caregivers, and other service providers, without whose support the family's reunification may not have occurred. This by invitation only event taking place on Maui is significant as it not only honors families, child welfare services, and support persons and organizations, but is also an example of DHS' progress in achieving its mission to strengthen families and safely reunify children with their families.

A heartfelt Mahalo to all DHS staff, 'Ohana, Resource Caregivers, Guardian Ad Litem, Service Providers, and all who support Hawai'i's families in helping to reunify children in foster care with their families. Reunification is a team effort...everyone working to best meet the needs of every child in foster care.

# Welcome to FPH's Resource Family Support Services Corner

By Lorie Naftel, FPH RFSS Family Resource Specialist

Resource Family Support Services (RFSS) is funded by the Department of Human Services



FAMILY PROGRAMS HAWAII

## Ask the Warm Line



Lorie Naftel

As Forrest Gump says, "Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get." Such is the case with answering the Warm Line. It's always fun and exciting to answer the Warm Line because of the many kinds of questions families call about. These past two months, I have received many calls Statewide regarding DHS Mandatory Trainings for Resource Caregivers. I thought it might be helpful to share some of the questions and answers our families have been calling about because you may have had the same questions.

**Q: I received a letter in the mail from DHS requiring me to attend mandatory trainings. I live on the Big Island. I cannot make evening trainings because I work. What trainings can I attend?**

**A:** There are a few ways you can obtain DHS training credit hours. First, there will be annual conferences in Kona & Hilo held in May. The conferences will be held on a weekday during the day. Look for your registration flyer in the mail in April. Also, since you cannot attend evening trainings, you can fulfill training hours in a variety of ways by viewing DVD's of past trainings, reading books that are relative to children in your care, completing on-line training with Foster Parent College or webinars, etc. If you have access to the internet go to: <http://familyprogramshawaii.org/resource/flyers/>, scroll down to 2013 DHS Mandatory Training Requirements, and click on DHS Approved Ongoing Training List for Resource Caregivers. Another option is to call the Warm Line at 1-866-545-0882.

**Q: My social worker told me that if I attend the annual conference I can get 6 DHS training hours. Is that true? I'd prefer to get my training hours done at one time instead of doing it in increments. If my husband attends does he get six hours too and can that be carried over until next year when we are up for recertification?**

**A:** If you both attend the annual conference you will receive 12 DHS credit hours (6 hours each). If you are up for recertification next year you will have fulfilled the training requirements. However, families are always encouraged to attend trainings to keep up with current information, network with other families, and to learn more about caring for the children in your home. \*Note: If you exceed the mandatory training hours required, you cannot roll them into the following year. These are some of the questions we've been receiving on the Warm Line regarding training. As we transition towards mandatory trainings for resource caregivers we continue to work on ways to make training information available Statewide. We will be posting a monthly *Upcoming Events for Resource Families* flyer on the FPH Website. Find it under "Resources," "Flyers and Other Resources." You can also call me on the Warm Line so I can assist you in getting trainings via DVD, books or simply directing you to training in your area that might be helpful to you. I can be reached at 545-1130 (O'ahu) and 1-866-545-0882 (toll free for neighbor islands), or by email: [warmline@familyprogramshi.org](mailto:warmline@familyprogramshi.org).

## Care to Share

There have been many requests for beds on all islands. If you or anyone you know has bed(s) in good, clean, and usable condition and would like to donate them to a resource, guardianship or adoptive family, please call the Warm Line at 545-1130.

You could really be helping a family in need to lessen some extra expenses. Also, should you need any items please don't hesitate to call the Warm Line.

**For an up-to-date list of items by island,  
check out Care to Share at**

**[www.FamilyProgramsHawaii.org](http://www.FamilyProgramsHawaii.org), under "Resources"**

*This program, brought to you by FPH's Resource Family Support Services (RFSS),  
is funded by the Department of Human Services*



## Maui Event For Foster Youth & Their Caregivers

On Presidents Day, Maui had a wonderful event for foster youth and their caregivers organized by the Hanai Coalition!

Donations were received from the Roling Foundation and this provided a movie day for 65 people.

All enjoyed the movie, *Wreck-it Ralph*, including a snack pack of popcorn, candy and a drink. Each youth was also presented with a backpack filled with school supplies.



**It Was A Fun Filled Day  
For Everyone!**

## Summer Fun Program—Waived Registration Fees for Foster Children!

The City Department of Parks and Recreation will be conducting its Summer Fun Program for children ages 5 (before Jan. 1, 2013) through 13 years (who have not yet entered the seventh grade). Summer Fun starts on June 12, and ends on July 24, 2013 (starting/ending dates may vary – check with playground). The program will be held Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at many recreation centers throughout O'ahu. A completed waiver letter, signed by DHS, will waive the \$25 registration fee if you present it to the Recreation Director at the time of registration. This waiver does not apply to any other fee (activity fee, bus fare, or other incidental fees).

There are some requirements:

1. Bring the waiver letter and a picture ID to registration.
2. Only the children listed on the letter are eligible.
3. The waiver must be surrendered to the Recreation Director at the time of registration. Copies are not valid.
4. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration is limited, and waiting lists may be established.
5. The waiver is not transferable.



Registration for Summer Fun will be: District I (Hawai'i Kai to McCully) and II (Makiki to Aiea) – May 11, 2013, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon, May 13 and 14, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; District III (Pearl City to Wai'anae and Wahiawa) and District IV (Waialua to Waimanalo) - May 4, 2013, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon, May 6 and 7, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Look on the parks website ([www.honoluluparks.com](http://www.honoluluparks.com)) for the Summer Program 2013 or call the Department of Parks and Recreation at 768-3755.

If you are interested in taking advantage of this great opportunity and have not already received a letter, please contact your child's worker or assistant.

## Wrap Services Hawai'i (cont.)

By continually assessing how the strategies to meet David's needs are working, and thinking of alternatives when they're not, Wrap Services is a dynamic, fluid, collaborative process that induces power sharing, trust building, and having a "we're all in this together" attitude within its participants.

As a pilot project, Wrap Services Hawai'i is already showing promising results. The facilitators from EPIC 'Ohana, Inc. (the agency contracted to provide facilitators for the ten pilot cases) report an increasing level of enthusiasm for the process on the part of participants. Because of Wrap Services, the father of an incarcerated youth is flown to O'ahu from a neighbor island for weekly visits with his son. Their goal is reunification. For another team and another youth, reunification with family isn't an option, but because of the team's efforts (and the willingness of a judge to try Wrap Services), the young teen will not be sent to a program at a locked treatment facility on the mainland.

Another incarcerated youth, who is soon to be released, struggles with his self-esteem but lights up when he tinkers with machines. As one creative element in his treatment plan, his Wrap Services team is prepared to enroll him in a robotics program to help build his confidence.



Currently, Wrap Services are not available beyond the ten pilot cases; however, legislation and budget requests have been made to start the program in earnest. If you would like Wrap Services to become an option for youth who are served by multiple state and non-profit agencies, please contact your state legislature and voice your support. Breaking through systemic barriers, having service providers and families collaborate, tailoring interventions and services to respond to the youth's needs rather than the other way around, and having the re-

sources and encouragement to do so are what Wrap is all about. It's a service that puts the needs of the youth and his or her family at the center and wraps them in layers of support. In doing so, participants are freed to respond with creativity and compassion, knowing they are truly "all in this together" as they collectively care for the "Davids" of our island 'ohana.

## Who is the It Takes An 'Ohana's Advisory Committee?

*By Judith Wilhoite, ITAO Family Advocate*

In September, 2011, Family Programs Hawai'i's (FPH) *It Takes An 'Ohana* Program (ITAO) brought together a group of experienced resource caregivers and adoptive parents who have a passion for creating the best outcomes possible for Hawai'i's children affected by foster care. The ITAO Advisory Committee (IAC) was trained by author and consultant, Shanah Trevenna, on how to find effective solutions to their issues and how to create "bridges" between all stakeholders in the child's life including resource caregivers, families and the Department of Human Services (DHS). In 2012, representatives from DHS and the Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) joined us in our work.

We identified focus areas we believed to be most pressing for resource families and started work on them. The first issue identified was *"How to assist resource caregivers to help foster youth transition into adulthood positively."* The result of this work has been the creation of a check list for the transition process for use by both resource caregivers and foster youth, a resource guide for resource caregivers, and a video that can be accessed on the ITAO website that explains the resources available for, and the special needs of, foster youth who will transition out of care.

Another focus area for IAC is *"Facilitating resource family's participation in an organized advocacy process at the legislature."* We have been very active in this area during the current legislative session with House Bill 986, increasing the reimbursement rate for foster care and Senate Bill 1340, extending foster care in Hawai'i from age 18 to 21. Please contact us if you would like to become involved.

Our next area to look into is *"How we can best help resource families statewide?"* Please help us do that by taking this very short survey.

1. Legislation is moving forward this year to raise the \$529 foster care reimbursement rate and to extend foster care to age 21. Are you interested in becoming involved in advocating for these issues at the legislature?

☐ Yes, count me in! Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ No thanks

2. Would an organization of resource families be helpful to you as you provide care for children affected by out-of-home care?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If answer to # 2 is yes, in what ways could an organization help? (Check all that apply.)

- ☐ Link you with community resources
- ☐ Help you in supporting birth parents and relatives to reunify and maintain family connections
- ☐ Provide a forum for you to voice your concerns and to support continuance of what is working
- ☐ Provide information on helping children/youth & families maintain their cultural connections
- ☐ Provide benefits such as discounts to stores, museums, etc.
- ☐ Act as a bridge between you and the Department of Human Services
- ☐ Other idea(s): \_\_\_\_\_

If answer to # 2 is yes, how would you like to participate in an organized group of resource caregivers?

- ☐ Attend meetings:
  - ☐ In person
  - ☐ Via Teleconference Call
  - ☐ Electronically
- ☐ Participate in legislative action
- ☐ Provide support to other Resource Families
- ☐ Participate in Facebook, Twitter and other Social Media campaigns
- ☐ Other idea(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Please return survey to ITAO, Family Programs Hawai'i, 250 Vineyard St., Honolulu, HI. 96813  
or complete the survey on-line at [www.itakesanohana.org](http://www.itakesanohana.org)

Resource families give children and their birth families a chance to heal and feel supported through a very difficult time in their lives. It is challenging work, but this guidance and love can make a big difference in a young person and their family's life while benefiting the whole community. And that is why IAC is committed to helping all resource families have the resources and information needed to be the best caregivers and support system they can be to the children and youth in their home.

Questions? Please contact me at (808) 540-2543 or email [jwilhoite@familyprogramshi.org](mailto:jwilhoite@familyprogramshi.org).

***Mahalo for your time and for all you do to create a better world for Hawai'i's keiki and youth!***

## JOURNEY TO SUCCESS PROGRAM

**Journey to Success** is a new program on O'ahu that offers support to youth in or formerly in foster care. If you are a resource family with native Hawaiian youth 14 and older, we can provide educational mentoring for those youth.

### What is Journey to Success?

Free Educational Mentoring and support services for Native Hawaiian foster and former foster youth ages 14 to 20 designed to:

- Help them graduate on-time, prepare for college, technical training or employment;
- Model and teach problem-solving skills that can be applied in real life situations;
- Level the playing field between foster youth and those with intact families;
- Ease the burden on youth, schools, families, and agencies;
- Produce better outcomes; and
- Maximize potential.

### How do we do it?

An Educational Mentor meets individually with the youth and persons who are important in the youth's life and:

- Helps the youth develop their Youth Success Plan;
- Provides support services either in-house or through referrals;
- Meets with the youth as often as necessary to build success;
- Checks in with the youth and others to ensure accountability;
- Monitors follow-through by the youth and providers;
- Provides detailed and customized information on educational choices; and
- Does what it takes to help the youth succeed.

### Is this just for struggling students?

No. We provide services to youth of all academic abilities and achievement levels.

### How does a youth enter the program?

- Voluntarily by self-referral, with appropriate consents; or
- Referral by school personnel, social workers, resource families, parents, the Court or others involved in the youth's life.
- Resource families can talk with the social worker, or contact Journey to Success directly at 941-7070 or email to [p\\_brewer@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:p_brewer@hawaiiantel.net).
- The youth's social worker or legal guardian will need to sign the consents. Youth 18 and over can register for the program, and sign the consents.



## OUTSTANDING DHS WORKER!

Do you know a DHS-CWS worker(s) that you would like to acknowledge for his/her exceptional work?

Share their name(s) with us and what makes them so special so we can let others know how wonderful they are!



## Help! Looking For Stories!

Would you like to share some helpful tips? Got an inspirational story to tell? Know of some useful resources in your community?

These are just some of the many possibilities that you can contribute to this newsletter. Please send them over so we can all benefit from each other's wisdom!

We would also appreciate any feedback, comments and suggestions on ways that we can improve this newsletter so that it is useful to you. What would you like to see in it? Topics of interest?

We look forward to hearing from you!



## Adoptive Families Needed Through Wendy's Wonderful Kids

Charlie is a 15 year-old boy in need of an adoptive home that can embrace his unique qualities. He is of Caucasian-Puerto Rican descent and experiences symptoms of concrete, rigid thinking, opposition, and defiance and lack of age appropriate social skills interactions. He has difficulty with emotional regulation and can be impulsive, inattentive, unfocused, and often lacks appropriate boundaries with others.

Charlie is shy, polite, charming and compliant when you first meet him. He is not readily comfortable in group situations, has difficulty making friends, and can be immature and socially awkward. He has some memory lapses. His interests include trail, beach and cross-country running, soccer, video games, reading fantasy stories like Harry Potter and comic books. He has artistic talent and enjoys freehand sketching often of super heroes like Spiderman. His artwork is very detailed.

Charlie is a healthy, handsome, and athletic looking teenager. He reports he is a vegan or a vegetarian and is particular about what he eats. He prefers to make his own meals and tends to "graze eat" throughout the day (every 60 minutes or so). He will occasionally have a hankering for a burger or other sandwich and sometimes changes his mind about sticking to a no meat diet. He has occasionally enjoyed tuna and chicken.

Charlie has had inconsistent success in school and academics and requires a small group and 1:1 instruction preferably in an alternative academic setting. Charlie reports his hardest subject is Math and feels he needs special education help only in this subject. Presently Charlie is doing well in a fully self-contained classroom at a local high school and beginning to transition out to resource room academics for a few subjects. He is also doing some credit recovery on the computer at school using the Plato Program.

Charlie has an interest in athletic endeavors like soccer and track, yet cannot handle the team concept. He has a vision of being a star soccer player, yet does not grasp the idea of teamwork or being coached. Charlie loves to run.

If Charlie could participate in a ropes course or individually taught backpacking, rock rappelling, obstacle courses, hiking where he is physically challenged by "something" rather than "someone," he would excel. Peer relationships are very difficult for Charlie, as he does not filter what is ok and not ok to say to peers (boys and girls), and can be easily targeted as weird.

Charlie is a high needs teenager. He needs a family that is able to give him 1:1 attention and who will support him through present and future decisions that need to be made in his life. A male single parent or family with few or no children that can provide extreme patience, structure, consistency, predictability, calm mannerisms and role modeling would best meet his needs.

If you are interested in learning more about Charlie, please contact Katie Joosse at Family Programs Hawai'i at 808-540-2552.

## Happy Anniversary!

How long have you been a resource caregiver? We would like to honor you by printing your name and current years of service in our newsletter. We know you are out there but we need your help.

Please send your name and years of service to:

RAC@pidfoundation.org  
(O'ahu) 441-1125  
(Toll Free) 1-888-879-8970



## 'OHANA REWARDS

Want to know how you could receive a **\$200.00 gift card**?

Would you like your name to appear in a future RAC newsletter?

**All you need to do is help us find more homes for Hawai'i's keiki in foster care!**

If you can refer, help, cheer, and see your referral to the finish line to become licensed, you could earn a **\$200 gift card** of your choice and join this list of folks who have received their 'Ohana Rewards:



Sandy McAulton & Glenn Chong  
Tiare Gonsalves  
Abi Ka'awa  
Charlene Liusa  
Sonya Ricketts  
Donni Sheather  
Myrna & Owen Tango



Call Hui Ho'omalu today at 441-1117 or 1-888-879-8970 (toll free) for more information!

## Advertise in the Newsletter—Promote Your Business

100% of the proceeds will be used towards supporting our resource families

**Display advertisements with borders:** business card size = \$30; 1/4 page = \$50; 1/2 page = \$75; full page = \$115.

Send information to: Hui Ho'omalu—RAC, 680 Iwilei Rd., Ste. 500, Honolulu, HI 96817

Phone: 441-1125 (O'ahu) ★ 888-879-8970 (Toll Free) ★ Fax: 441-1122 ★ E-mail: RAC@pidfoundation.org

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### O'AHU:

- ★ **National Foster Care Appreciation—Family Event at Secret Island.** May 4 (Sat). Priority will be given to current resource caregivers. More info - TBA.
- ★ **Waianae Resource Families Support Group.** May 16 (Thurs) @ 5:30pm-8pm. RSVP to FPH at 521-9531 x245.
- ★ **Annual Conference—Pathways to Healing: Understanding the Trauma Behind the Behavior.** June 22 (Sat) @ 8:30am-2:30pm. Must register online at [www.familyprogramshi.org](http://www.familyprogramshi.org), or by mail or fax. See page 3 for details.
- ★ **Central O'ahu Resource Families Support Group.** June 28 (Fri) @ 5:30pm-8pm. O'ahu Veterans Center, Honolulu. RSVP to FPH at 521-9531 x245.

### MAUI:

- ★ **Sign Waving for NFCM.** May 7 (Tues) @ 7am-9am. Corner of Kane and Ka'ahumanu Ave. For more info, call Ethan Aronson at 268-5122.
- ★ **Annual Conference—Pathways to Healing: Understanding the Trauma Behind the Behavior.** May 30 (Thurs) @ 9am-3pm. Must register online at [www.familyprogramshi.org](http://www.familyprogramshi.org), or by mail or fax. See page 3 for details.
- ★ **Maui Resource Families Support Group.** June 20 (Thurs) @ 5:30pm-8pm. Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center. RSVP to the Warm Line at 1-866-545-0882.

### WEST HAWAI'I:

- ★ **Sign Waving for NFCM.** May 4 (Sat) @ 4pm—5pm. Queen K and Makala Blvd, near Kona International Market Place. For more info, call Kaulana Iokia at 896-3829 or Shawn Humphers at 557-2588.
- ★ **Training: Positive Supports for Challenging Behaviors.** May 14 (Tues) @ 9am—1pm. West Hawai'i Civic Center. Speaker: Alison Bratton, Hawai'i Families as Allies. For more info, call Kaulana Iokia at 896-3829 or Shawn Humphers at 557-2588.
- ★ **Annual Conference—Pathways to Healing: Understanding the Trauma Behind the Behavior.** May 17 (Fri) @ 9am-3pm. Must register online at [www.familyprogramshi.org](http://www.familyprogramshi.org), or by mail or fax. See page 3 for details.

### EAST HAWAI'I:

- ★ **Resource Caregiver Appreciation Dinner.** May 10 (Fri). Sponsored by East Hawai'i Friends of Foster Families. More information to come.
- ★ **Hilo Resource Families Support Group.** May 11 (Sat) @ 12pm—2:30pm. RSVP to Michele Carvalho at 987-5988.
- ★ **Annual Conference—Pathways to Healing: Understanding the Trauma Behind the Behavior.** May 23 (Thurs) @ 9am-3pm. Must register online at [www.familyprogramshi.org](http://www.familyprogramshi.org), or by mail or fax. See page 3 for details.

### KAUAI:

- ★ **Sign Waving for National Foster Care Month.** May 10 (Fri) & May 17 (Fri). Līhu'e area. More details to come. For more information, call Monica Kaauwai at 346-8184.
- ★ **Annual Conference—Pathways to Healing: Understanding the Trauma Behind the Behavior.** June 6 (Thurs) @ 9am-3pm. Must register online at [www.familyprogramshi.org](http://www.familyprogramshi.org), or by mail or fax. See page 3 for details.



**PATCH publishes a quarterly newsletter, Training Tracks, to inform the community of our upcoming trainings around town, and provide the latest child care news and information to professionals and the public. PATCH offers over 100 FREE child care workshops open to all caregivers such as family child care, preschool and infant and toddler staff, before and after school care programs, parents, resource caregivers, medical professionals, babysitters and informal child care. Please visit our website for the latest news and training schedule:**



[www.PatchHawaii.org](http://www.PatchHawaii.org)

or contact your local PATCH office  
 O'ahu: 808-839-1988  
 Maui: 808-242-9232  
 Lāna'i & Moloka'i: 1-800-498-4145  
 Kaua'i: 808-246-0622  
 Hilo: 808-961-3169



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## STATEWIDE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2040 Bachelot St.  
Honolulu, HI 96817-2433  
441-1125 (O'ahu)  
888-879-8970 (Toll Free)  
Fax: 441-1122  
E-mail: [RAC@pidfoundation.org](mailto:RAC@pidfoundation.org)

The concept for the Statewide Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) was created by the Department of Human Services (DHS) as a means to support the resource family community. Hui Ho'omalua facilitates this committee comprised of adoptive parents, resource caregivers and various community agencies, all dedicated to providing services and support to Hawai'i's keiki and the resource families who care for them. The purpose of the RAC is to identify ongoing needs, facilitate communication, share resources, provide information through a statewide calendar of events and a quarterly newsletter and report on local projects and other topics of interest to benefit Hawai'i's resource families.

***This committee, the newsletter and many of the represented agencies are supported and funded by Department of Human Services contracts.***

### RAC Committee Members:

Catholic Charities Hawai'i—Hui Ho'omalua  
Department of Human Services  
EPIC, Inc. 'Ohana Conferencing  
Family Court  
Family Programs Hawai'i—Hui Ho'omalua & It Takes An 'Ohana  
Resource Caregivers  
Adoptive Parents  
Hawai'i Foster Youth Coalition  
HOPE INC, Inc.  
Partners in Development Foundation—Hui Ho'omalua  
University of Hawai'i, School of Social Work