

  
**earlychildhood**   
**ACTION STRATEGY**  
TAKING ACTION FOR HAWAII'S CHILDREN



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# Healthy & Welcomed Births



Hawai'i Maternal and Infant Health Collaborative (HMIHC)

## 2024 PRIORITIES

•Participating in STRETCH (Strategies To Repair Equity and Transform Community Health) 2.0 Initiative with CDC Foundation/Michigan Public Health Institute/Association of State and Territorial Health Officers. HMIHC was selected as one of seven collaboratives nationwide for this 15-month cohort program. STRETCH strategies include: capacity building/technical assistance, relationships and connections, power building, community building, leadership development, and shifting resource flows.

•Considering HMIHC structure and partnerships in the context of Hawai'i's evolving maternal health landscape, e.g., Maternal Health Innovation/Maternal Health Task Force (MHI/MHTF).

## MAJOR EFFORTS

- Stand up the Maternal Health Innovation (MHI) Steering Committee in collaboration with: Healthcare Association of Hawai'i; government, non-government, and community partners, and in alignment with STRETCH 2.0 Initiative.
- Pilot a Lactation "Fast Pass" program as part of the LATCH project, to remove barriers to lactation support for Med-QUEST members.
- Develop a hospital support and recognition program for evidence-based maternity care, focused on breastfeeding, including implementation plan and offering related training.
- Launch a mini-grant program for local community breastfeeding organizations to implement policy, systems, and environment (PSE) interventions.
- Investigate and resolve barriers that prevent (same-day) access to contraception of choice in multiple health care settings.
- Develop and implement strategies related to prenatal care access and congenital syphilis prevention/treatment, focusing on most affected populations.
- Support the development of sustainable funding for and evaluation of the Makua Allies Program (perinatal substance use peer support).
- Create additional modules of a web-based, inter-disciplinary training module system for providers across Hawai'i on how to better address the needs of people with perinatal substance use disorder.

## ASKS OF THE NETWORK

- If any of the above is interesting to you, please reach out.
- We are always looking for partners with understanding and mana'o on insurance billing, coding, and systems.

## Safe & Nurturing Families



### 2024 PRIORITIES

- Team 2 continues to spread Aloha at Home in the community. This year we will be focusing on supporting Maui families impacted by the wildfires and building out the Aloha at Home messaging framework.

### MAJOR EFFORTS

- Collaboration with Keiki O Ka 'Aina to distribute 'Ohana toolkits at their community events for families.
- Developing and deploying content via our website and social media accounts about the "Breakdown of Serve and Return" (Theme 2 of our 5-year sequence of themes), and "Positive Family Problem Solving" (Theme 3).
- Supporting family strengthening efforts and professional development of community service providers through the dissemination of Aloha at Home resource materials and training on the Aloha at Home framework with implementation partners.

### ASKS OF THE NETWORK

- We ask the network to share **Aloha at Home** with families and communities through collaborations and support identifying and securing sustainable funding for the initiative.

# On-Track Health & Development



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## 2024 PRIORITIES

- Strengthen capacity and coordination of providers within the **screening-referral-support** cycle
- Embed evidence-based and culturally appropriate **physical activity and nutrition** practices and supports into the early childhood system
- Promote and advance supports for the **social and emotional health** of infants and toddlers
- Increase and improve **family engagement/ support/ partnership** practices in early childhood systems

## MAJOR EFFORTS

### SCREENING-REFERRAL-SUPPORT

- Trainings for providers on conversations with families about screening and referral
- Communities of practice for service providers about working with families on screening and referral
- Increasing families' understanding of developmental milestones (e.g., media campaign, informational resources, etc.)

### PHYSICAL ACTIVITY & NUTRITION

- Strengthen community partnerships to extend knowledge to families (e.g., nutrition, gardening, etc.)
- Explore opportunities to increase access to federal nutrition programs that serve families with young children
- Promote and support opportunities to advance the work of Healthy Keiki, Healthy Future project partners

### FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

- Embed engagement efforts across Team 3 priorities and activities to make them more meaningful and valuable for families
- Map partners across the network who are willing and able to serve as conduits/facilitators in engaging families (i.e., resources for going out to families and inviting them in)

## ASKS OF THE NETWORK

- Please Complete this survey!



# Equitable Access To Programs & Services

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## 2024 PRIORITIES

- Support for the Infant/Toddler (I/T) workforce
- Increased/enhanced public funding for I/T care
- Capacity-building of I/T providers
- Community profiles
- Community Centered Partnerships (CCP)
- Alignment of state programs/initiatives with county priorities
- Employer-supported child care
- Expansion and promotion of Keiki Central

## MAJOR EFFORTS

### Infant/Toddler Subgroup

- Continue advocacy for wage supplements and other compensation initiatives
- Track and give feedback on the I/T staff-qualifications waiver guidelines and demonstration project process
- Explore and make recommendations for improved alignment and leveraging of available public funds for I/T care (e.g., PDG, EHS, CCDF, etc.)
- Explore other state models and blueprints for increasing public funding
- Help address barriers to Family Child Care growth, including land use, zoning and landlord/rental issues

### Neighbor-Island Networking Subgroup

- Support the release of Oahu and Kauai Community Profiles; Update & dive deeper into relevant sections of the Maui and Hawaii profiles; Continue sharing Profile data to inform policy decisions as well as change outcomes for children
- Engage in CCP implementation, including selection of communities from Hawaii & Maui counties
- Facilitate alignment of state programs/initiatives with county priorities (e.g., Ready Keiki, PDG, Maui fire recovery efforts, etc.)
- Work to inform business leaders why EC is important to both their current work force as well as the impact early childhood development has on their future workforce; Engage employer community in strategizing and implementing EC/child care workforce solutions (e.g., Making EC "good jobs")

### Keiki Central Subgroup

- Expansion and improvement of listed resources, including outreach to United Ways statewide
- Promotion of platform, and value of engagement, to families and service-providers

## ASKS OF THE NETWORK

- Advocacy support for child care and early learning bills still alive this legislative session (particularly workforce bill HB1964)
- Invitation to others to join the I/T subcommittee, especially direct service providers and advocates for our Birth-3 keiki and their families

# High Quality Early Learning Programs



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## 2024 PRIORITIES

Our priorities include:

- Job and Pathways Document & Presentation
- Crosswalking the new Policy Statement on Inclusion into our work
- Family Engagement- Parent Perceptions
- Following our “North Star”

## MAJOR EFFORTS

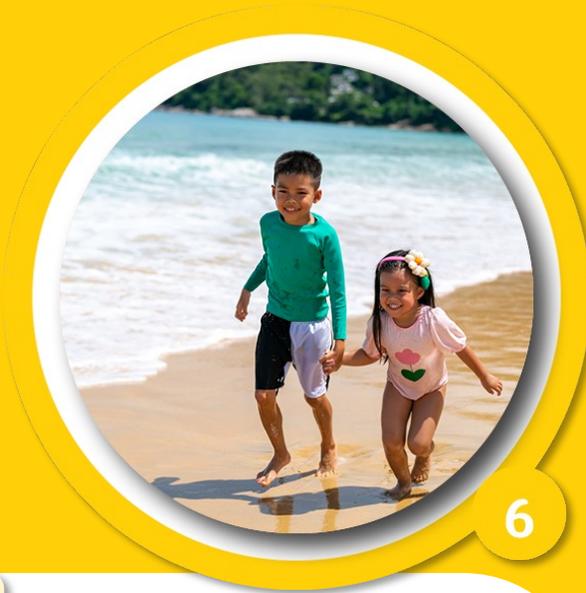
Major work plan elements involve:

- Create EI Certificate programs
- CTE Programs
- Family Partnerships (Train the Trainer)
- Pursue grant opportunities
- Determining our metrics for evaluation

## ASKS OF THE NETWORK

If you are excited about creating high quality early learning programs and helping those we love the most, our keiki, please join us!

# Successful Early Childhood Transitions



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## 2024 PRIORITIES

- Strengthen the Community of Practice surrounding Early Language and Literacy Development
- Identify opportunities to expand early childhood language and literacy offerings targeted to areas of greatest need.
  - Identify representatives/partners to meet with the team
  - Identify new funding sources and grants to apply for as a team

## MAJOR EFFORTS

- Continue to strengthen partnerships with other organizations working on early language and literacy development
- Seek support for a State Early Literacy Coordinator
- Continue to strengthen the Pāhoia Promise and Waimānalo 'Upena early childhood continuum efforts
  - Including the new *Pahoa Reads* initiative

## ASKS OF THE NETWORK

- Please join us if your work is focused on supporting early language and literacy development
- Please share any thoughts on possible resources that might support the work of the team (including funding opportunities, parallel initiatives, interested parties ...)

# Infant and Early Childhood Behavioral Health



IECBH

## 2024 PRIORITIES

- Priorities of the IECBH Plan team are primarily Workforce Development and sustained Financing-related. This next year we will be building our partnerships across the state to ensure we identify a broad set of funding sources to support a continuum of IECMH services (promotion, prevention, assessment and diagnosis, treatment) in Hawaii and develop a financing strategy document with a plan to comprehensively and sustainably fund these services.

## MAJOR EFFORT

- Two areas of particular activity are in 1) Building IECMH expertise into the workforce serving young children and families, and 2) Working closely with MedQuest to possibly introduce and invite professionals to learn about and use the DC:0-5 Framework. This framework is a way to take family, culture, SDOH, child's signs and symptoms into consideration when helping them. It will also be used to guide billing for services with MedQuest.

## ASK OF THE NETWORK

- If anyone is interested in working with us on these projects please let Christina know so you can become a Friend of the Plan.