



A NEWLY-FUNDED INITIATIVE

PARTNERING WITH COMMUNITY

SHARING IN DECISION-MAKING

08.2023



earlychildhood
ACTION STRATEGY

TAKING ACTION FOR HAWAII'S CHILDREN



COMMUNITY-CENTERED
PARTNERSHIPS

Recentering Voice. Sharing
Power. Sharing Decisions.



WHAT ARE COMMUNITY-CENTERED PARTNERSHIPS (CCPS)?

Community-centered partnership is the practice of working closely with affected community members about priorities that get elevated, funded and worked on at different levels. In practice, it means placing affected communities at the center of voice and decision-making.

WHY ARE COMMUNITY-CENTERED PARTNERSHIPS IMPORTANT?

"If you're on board with the idea that the people who are closest to the issues probably have some good ideas about how to solve them—and that they are to be respected and compensated for their time to help with that process—you're probably on your way to incorporating a participatory ethos." — Caitlin Stanton, GrantCraft



WHY NOW?

A neighbor-island funder approached ECAS with this opportunity, recognizing that neighbor island communities need more resources and more voice to decisions that are made by ECAS teams, philanthropy and public partners to support early childhood development.

The ECAS Network has needed an infrastructure to facilitate meaningful partnerships in communities, with impacted families, especially in our rural areas. This has been requested numerous times by communities and partners across the islands over the years.

Funders are interested in learning directly from community members about unique systems change needs and opportunities for increased funding in rural communities.

We finally have state and county investments and momentum to move strategically to support our youngest keiki health, safety and learning. Families and community members should be guiding strategy.

We have local, national and international mentors to help with infrastructure design.

DRAFT DESIGN VALUES

Reduce	Reduce the distance between those most impacted, proposed solutions and funding
Give	Give voice and power to communities and families with the least amount of agency
Strengthen	Strengthen community leadership
Support	Support effective public and philanthropic investments
Promote	Promote social justice and equity

GOALS FOR Y1-Y4 DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS



LEARNING QUESTIONS

- Will there be organizations working in each community that can meet the expressed immediate needs? If not, will organizations outside of the community be able to expand their scope?
- Will the stories and needs from community panel members illuminate systems' barriers that can be worked on with County and State partners?
- How responsive are systems-level actors to the identified needs?
- How do community stories influence how public and private dollars are spent?
- What excites funders (government and nongovernment) about this opportunity of community-centered partnerships and sharing of decision making? What makes them fearful or cautious?
- Will we see an increase in our youngest keikis' health, safety and learning outcomes in the communities supported?

CCP DRAFT STRUCTURE

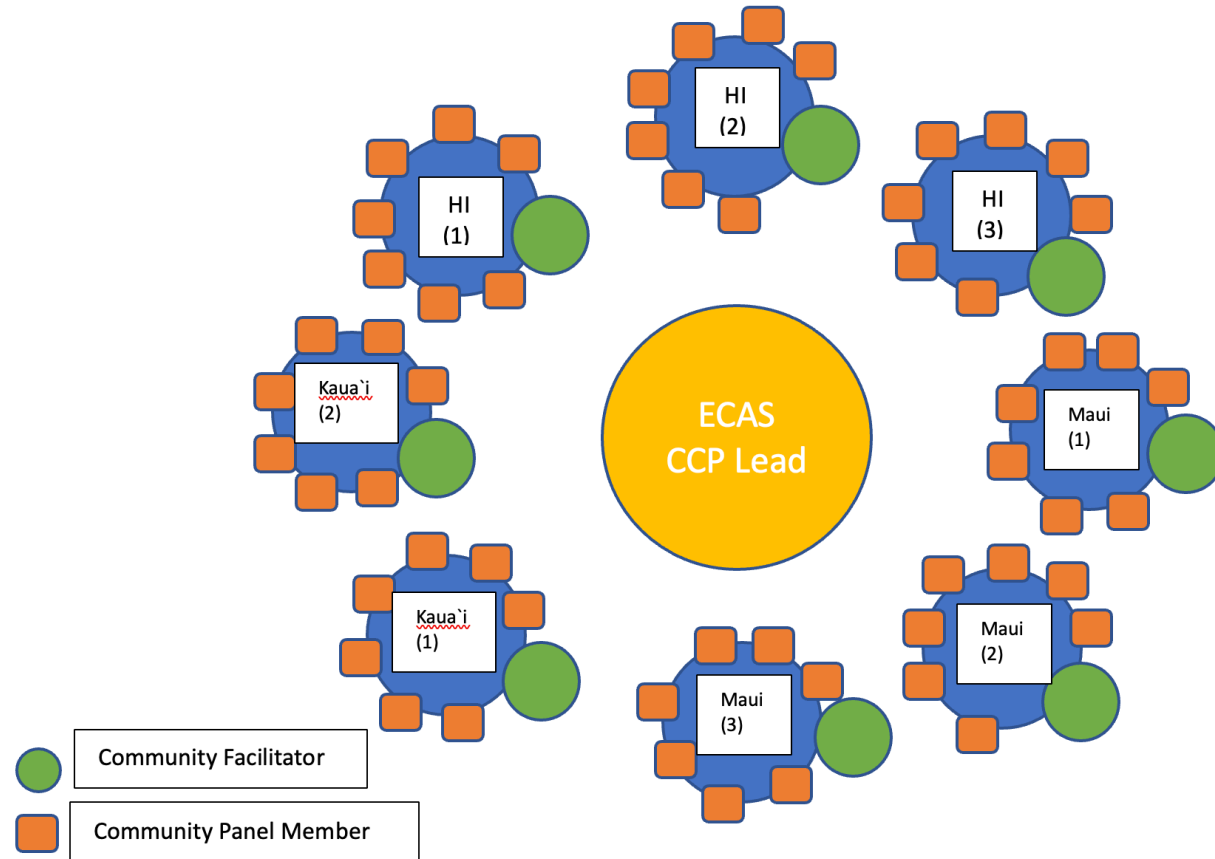
All CCP activity will support our youngest keiki's health, safety and learning.

There will be a full-time ECAS staff member who is coordinating the CCP on all islands, housed on a neighbor island.

Y1 will be spent establishing the basic infrastructure and hiring a CCP Lead. In Y2, two communities will be selected- one on Hawai'i Island and one in Maui County. We add three communities in Y3, including Kaua'i and three communities in Y4.

Each community has a contracted facilitator and a community panel of seven members from that community.

Communities are selected based on the number of keiki under 5 who live in poverty and levels of access to programs and services.



CCP DRAFT STRUCTURE CONTINUED....

On an annual basis, facilitators take the community panels through a full-day process to determine needs/priorities for supporting young children's health, safety and learning in their particular community.

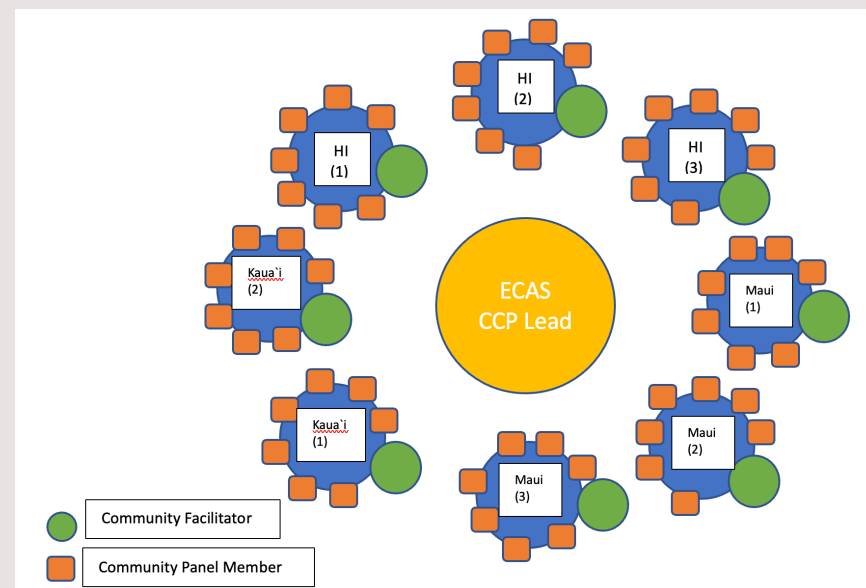
Needs and priorities are then reviewed by ECAS Conveners or identified team and sorted based on the following questions. 1. Which needs can be met with programmatic dollars that could be allocated in their community? 2. Which needs need to be addressed at the systems-level?

For needs that can be met with programmatic dollars, community programs can pitch solutions to the identified needs.

Pitches from local programs are heard by the community panel who then provide recommendations on how the funds get allocated.

For needs that need to be addressed at the systems-level, ECAS backbone or contracted staff will draft briefs identifying the need and will work with systems-level stakeholders on needed changes.

The CCP Lead will be responsible for training and supporting the facilitators and community panel members and advertising the opportunities for funding.



4-YEAR BUDGET, SUPPORTING 8 COMMUNITIES

Total: \$5,142,044

\$4,647,000 in community investment (facilitation
and community priorities)

\$527,042 in infrastructure (staff, meeting costs,
evaluation and storytelling)

Secured: \$3,192,263 (Stupski, Hawai`i Leadership
Forum and Omidyar)

To raise: \$1,949,781





TIMELINE

Y1- September-December 2023

Hire CCP Lead, contract with two community facilitators and establish Community Panels

Y2- Y4 January-December 2024-2026

Facilitate one-round of funding per community. Y2- One community on Hawai`i Island and one community in Maui County. Y3- Two communities on Hawai`i Island, two communities in Maui County and one community on Kaua`i. Y4- Three communities on Hawai`i Island, three communities in Maui County and two communities on Kaua`i.

ESTIMATED ALLOCATIONS

Hawai`i Island- \$350,000 per community

Maui County- \$250,000 per community

Kaua`i- \$150,000 per community

*Estimates based on # of keiki 5 and under who live at or below the poverty line and who have limited access to programs, services and resources. Allocations will be finalized as the program progresses.

QUESTIONS?



Please contact Kerrie Urosevich @
kerrie@ecashawaii.org or (808) 381-9635.