Free Health Insurance for Kids

Did you know your child may get free health insurance even if you work? QUEST and Medicaid cover regular check-ups, doctor visits, emergency care, eyeglasses, immunizations, counseling, prescription medicines, and dental care. Eligibility is based on household size and income. Currently, a family of four can qualify if their income doesn’t exceed $46,008 per year. Med-QUEST’s application for children and pregnant women make it easy to apply and you don’t have to report an absent parent.

Parents and guardians can get more information, including an application, by calling 211 (free phone call from all islands) or visiting www.coveringkids.com.
Executive Director’s Monthly Message

You may have noticed that this newsletter now comes from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA). As of July 1, 2006, the Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawaii (HCDCH) separated into two agencies – the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) and the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC). HPHA will manage federal and state public housing programs and HHFDC will work to develop and finance low- and moderate-income housing.

Separating into two agencies is a difficult task but everyone involved recognizes that this separation is a golden opportunity for both agencies to redefine themselves, focus on specific goals and attack our state’s housing challenges with fresh ideas and new resolve.

A recent news report caused many residents to think that HPHA will be without a leader at this critical time. That is not true as I will remain in charge of HPHA through December 2006 or until a successor is found. Currently, the Board of Directors has formed a search committee and is moving quickly to fill the HPHA Executive Director position.

HPHA will continue to fulfill the duties and obligations to which it is bound under state and federal law. With your support, the agency can accomplish much, much more.

Stephanie Aveiro
Executive Director

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Beach Safety Tips

Summer is here so that means that many people will be gathering at the beach for some sun, surf and relaxation. If you and your children are planning some beach outings this summer, here are some beach safety tips from the American Red Cross that you should take.

1. Never swim alone
2. Check the surf conditions before you enter the water.
3. Check to see if life guards have posted any warning flags for potential hazards or severe water or beach conditions.
4. If you are caught in a current, gradually swim across the current to get out of it.
5. Protect your skin by wearing sunscreen with a UV rating of at least 15. Limit your direct contact with the sun between the hours of 10:00am and 4:00pm, when the sun’s rays are the most intense. Prolonged exposure to UV-rays can lead to skin cancer.
6. Keep hydrated by drinking plenty of water regularly and often.
7. Watch for signs of heat stroke, which include hot, red and dry skin, changes in consciousness, rapid, weak pulse and rapid shallow breathing. Heat stroke is life threatening due to the rising of body temperature, which can cause brain damage and death.
8. Wear eye and foot protection to protect from the dangerous UV rays and the hot sand.

Keep these tips in mind and it will make your outing to the beach a pleasant one.

TOLL FREE NUMBERS

Neighbor Island Residents may call

State Offices on Oahu toll free by dialing:

HAWAII - Dial 974-4000; listen for the dial tone, enter the last five (5) digits of the State number and press the # key.

MAUI - Dial 984-2400; listen for dial tone enter the last five (5) digits of the State number and press the # key.

KAUAI - Dial 274-3141; listen for dial tone, enter the last five (5) digits of the State number and press the # key.

MOLOKAI/LANAI - Dial 1-800-468-4644; listen for dial tone enter the last five (5) digits of the State number, and press the # key.
Job Seeker Services

For those looking for employment or the training needed to qualify for higher-paying jobs, Oahu WorkLinks provides a wide range of opportunities at no cost to the individual:

- **Job Search Assistance**
  - Resume writing
  - Building interview skills
  - Internet access to job leads - searchable by specific skills, personal interests, career goals or by company and industry

- **Personal Career Planning Services**
  - Self-service computerized assessments to identify skills and training needs
  - Plan development for career success

- **Training Opportunities**
  - Computer Training
  - Job Skills Training for occupations in demand

- **Complimentary Office Services**
  - Telephones and message center
  - E-mail, fax machines, copy machines
  - Use of personal computer - online labor market and career planning research, cover letter and resume writing, Internet job search using local and national job banks and additional job search engines

- **Library Resource Center**
  - Daily and Sunday newspapers
  - Books, magazines, brochures and job search/training tips
  - Reference material and education resource information

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**Needs Assessment Survey**

The Resident Services Section is working with FAQ Hawaii (FAQ) to conduct a needs assessment survey among public housing residents throughout the state of Hawaii starting in July. The purpose of the survey is to find out what types of services, such as job training, youth programs, and life skills activities, the residents feel are needed to improve their lives.

Residents will be randomly selected to participate in the survey and will be contacted by letter by HCDCH. The survey will be conducted by FAQ, who will be working closely with your resident associations and the resident managers in providing information and getting the residents to participate in this important survey. For more information, please call Resident Services at 832-5900.

**Residents Service and Satisfaction Surveys**

The U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Real Estate Assessment Center has sent a customer service and satisfaction survey to randomly selected households to evaluate the housing agency’s performance. The survey will measure your satisfaction and experience with your living conditions concerning maintenance and repair, services, communication, safety, neighborhood appearance. Remember if you received a survey, please complete and return it in the enclosed envelope. Resident participation is essential to the survey’s success. Your opinion is very important to HCDCH and HUD!

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**Ka Hale Kahaluu-Remoderization Project Update**

- Renovation start date is targeted for October 2006.
- Completion date is targeted for October 2007.
- Relocation plan for residents to be implemented between July – August 2006.
- For more information contact Earl Nakaya, Resident Services Section at (808) 832-5900 or toll free at 974-400 (listen for dial tone, enter 23837, and press # key).
The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) would like to thank the Resident Advisory Board (RAB) for their hard work in assisting with HCDCH’s 2006 5-year and Annual Public Housing Agency Plan. RAB members worked diligently and met from August 2005 to March 2006 to provide valuable input and recommendations.

**HONOLULU DISTRICT**
Ms. Theresa Cummings  
Mayor Wright Homes Tenant Association  
Ms. Sa Aiolupotea  
Kalihi Valley Homes Resident Association  
Mr. Libert Weatherholtz  
Kamehameha Homes Tenant Association  
Mr. David Yaw (Chair Person)  
Kaahumanu Homes Resident Association

**WINDWARD DISTRICT**
Ms. Dolly Keama  
Koolau Village Resident Association

**CENTRAL DISTRICT**
Ms. Marsha Rodrigues  
Kauhale Nani Resident Association  
Mr. Amalau Lauti  
Wahiawa Terrace Resident Association

**LEEWARD DISTRICT**
Mr. Douglas Allen (Vice Chair)  
Waimaha Sunflower Resident Association  
Ms. Monique O’Campo (Secretary)  
Puu Hale O Nanakuli Resident Association

**KAUAI DISTRICT**
Ms. Maile Cummings  
Hale Ohana O Kapaa Resident Association  
Ms. Arde Long-Yamashita  
Hui O Hanamaulu Resident Association

**MAUI DISTRICT**
Ms. Yolanda Jetnil  
Kahekili Terrace Resident Association  
Ms. Alice Lu‘u‘loa  
Kahale Mua Resident Association

**BIG ISLAND DISTRICT**
Mr. George DeMello  
Lanakila Homes Resident Association  
Ms. Rodelle Smith (Sgt-At-Arms)  
Ka Hale Kahaluu Resident Association

We would also like to extend our thanks to all the resident associations who also provided their insight and suggestion.

Listed below are two recommendations that the RAB made to the 2006 PHA Plan.

The RAB recommended that:
1. HPHA consider a site based waitlist and selection process to eliminate delays and avoid applicants from declining a unit and being pushed back to the end of the waitlist.
2. HPHA improve communication with working families on options available should hardship occur in paying their rent.
Resident Associations

Getting to Know........ Mayor Wright Homes

The reputation of Mayor Wright Homes may not be the best but for the Mayor Wright Homes Tenant Association (MWHTA), it’s this desire to “transform our image that fuels our fire”, says President Hana Eliapo. “We are all about making positive changes in the community,” echoed Secretary Saipeti Lafaele and Treasurer Theresa Cummings. Changes such as the filling of pot holes in the parking lots, interaction among the different cultures, and creating a safer environment for the residents are just a few successes that the MWHTA executive board is pleased with. “Actually seeing it happen before our very eyes is very rewarding,” says Theresa.

Events such as the annual Cultural Fair and voluntary neighborhood patrol create a positive energy that is felt throughout the community. “What makes representing Mayor Wright Homes so enjoyable is being able to learn thru interaction and listening to the residents”, says Hana. “And don’t forget the youth, adds Saipeti. The youth group has added to the upbeat atmosphere with their willingness to become involved in various events/activities sponsored by the association.

Mayor Wright Homes Resident Association would like to recognize the recent passing of Vice President Tovia Fatu. His kindness, generosity and love for the community will never be forgotten.

What’s going on with.... Hui O’Kalakaua Resident Association

The Hui O’Kalakaua Resident Association held a father’s day art activity for the children on June 14, 2006. The task at hand was to design a picture frame out of crafty material, picking from various designs, letters and shapes that were available for their use. The children let their creative juices flow as they created their own unique picture frame.

Tenant Resident Advisor, Kamalani Rodrigues, was also on hand to assist in taking and printing out pictures of the children to put in their newly created frames.

According to Association President Keahi Mamala, this is the first time that the resident association has coordinated an activity for Father’s day. She mentioned that this activity is a small way for the children to show their fathers that they are important to them. On June 16, 2006, the children also had the opportunity to spend some time with their fathers at a community movie night activity.

Congratulations to the Resident Association for coordinating a very successful Father’s Day Activity.
Kindergarten Registration

The new school year is right around the corner so if you haven’t already registered your child for kindergarten, the time to do it has arrived. For the past couple of months, public school officials have been strongly encouraging parents of children born in 2001 to register their children for kindergarten now. Parents who wait until the last minute might also find their children missing immunization or legal documents that will prevent them from starting school on time.

To find out which school your child will attend, call the elementary schools in your neighborhood to determine whether your street address falls in that district.

Documents required for registration include

1. Health Records: (Form 14) Children must have a physical examination, written documentation of required immunizations and tuberculosis clearance to enter school on the first day.
2. Birth certificate: An original or certified copy is required to verify a child’s age.
3. Legal Documents: If there were changes to the child’s name, custody arrangements or guardianship.
4. Proof of local address: a document such as an electric, telephone or cable bill, or a housing or rental agreement that shows the address of the child’s home.

For More Information, call the nearest elementary school or visit http://www.doe.k12.hi.us/parents

4th of July Word Search

BLUE
CONGRESS
ENGLAND
FLAG
FREEDOM
JULY
KING
LIBERTY
PARADE
RED
STATES
UNITED
WHITE

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority wishes you a Happy and Safe 4th of July.

Bringing People Together to make Housing Dreams Come True