



RSS Newsletter



Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawaii

Volume 2, Section 2

February 2005

Bright Stars at Work

Aloha! The Resident Services Section of the Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawaii (HCDCH) welcome the opportunity of serving the residents of our communities. We trust that you will find the information in this newsletter useful. We work towards bettering the community by addressing issues such as crime, safety and self-sufficiency. Listed below are the names of our staff members serving your community. Feel free to call the area representative at the numbers shown below. Mahalo.



Resident Services Phone Directory

Administrator

Barbara Arashiro 832-5900

Program Specialist

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The Ka Hale Kahauluu Youth Group has been very busy in the past year addressing community issues and sponsoring family and youth activities. Led by President Rochelle Rodrigues, the Youth Group has created ways for the youth at Ka Hale Kahaluu to involve themselves in alcohol and drug free activities, as well as addressing issues of the community at large.



Some of the activities they have participated in included sign waving to increase awareness on child and drug abuse, conducting patrol walks, securing benches at the local bus stop and hosting the Community Police Officers at their youth meetings. With the support of Ka Hale Kahaluu Resident Association President Rodelle Smith, the group successfully applied for grants from the Hawaii Community Foundation - The Moe Bettah Together Program & Paulama Ini O'pio Program. The grant monies from the Moe Bettah Together Program have supported activities such as family bingo and movie nites, a drug and alcohol free youth dance and Halloween celebration for the children and youth of the site.

The grant monies from the Paulama Ina O'pio are helping to provide some of the supplies for youth's current project the "Family Picnic Grounds". Armed with picks, shovels and tons of energy, the Youth Group have been coming together chopping, cutting and clearing away trees, shrubbery and debris to begin the landscaping for this project. Once the state building inspector approves the disabled access, the foundation for the path will be laid. Congratulations on the commitment to improving the life at Ka Hale Kahaluu and for all your leadership. Stay tuned for news on the grand opening of the picnic grounds.





April 2005 tax season is just around the corner so here's a useful that you may eligible for

Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)

It's a tax credit for people who don't work, have earned income and meet the Earned Income Tax Credit rules. Even if you did not earn enough to owe any tax, you may get a refund of the EITC and any withheld Federal taxes from your paycheck by filing a Federal income tax return.

The EITC has no effect on certain welfare benefits. In most cases, EITC payments will not be used to determine eligibility for Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), food stamps, low income housing or most Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) payments.

EITC information and forms are available at www.irs.gov/eitc, a part of the IRS Web site dedicated to EITC issues. Details about the credit can be found in the IRS publication 596, Earned Income Credit.

Category of Workers	Single or Head of Households Earned Income Under	Married Filing Jointly with earned income under	Maximum Credit
Worker 25-64 with NO qualifying child	\$11,490	\$12,490	\$390.00
Worker (no age requirement) with 1 qualifying child.	\$30,338	\$31,338	\$2,604
Worker (no age requirement) with two or more qualifying children	\$34,458	\$35,458	\$4,300

One of the many programs that Child and Family Services on Maui offers is the Developing Options to Violence or DOV. This program provides a full spectrum of services to women, men, adolescents, and children in the intervention and prevention of domestic violence. Services consist of groups for offenders and survivors of domestic violence, support and advocacy in preparing and obtaining restraining orders, anger management groups for men and women, adolescent anger management seminars, groups for children who have witnessed domestic violence and Parenting groups.

The primary goal of the DOV program is to break the cycle of violence by providing educational, process, and support groups to individuals involved in domestic violence.

Child and Family Services works closely with a number of agencies to provide assistance in the area of domestic violence. Some of these agencies are the Maui Police Department, Women helping Women shelter, Legal Aid, Domestic Violence Clearinghouse, and the Maui Coalition to End Abuse and Neglect.

There is no charge for the Women's or Children Support Groups. Individuals not court mandated are assessed program fees according to sliding fee scale.

Child and Family Services is located at 333 Dairy Road in Kahului, Maui. Their hours of operation are Monday through Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm. Phone them at (808) 877-6888 if you have any questions or are interested in the Developing Options to Violence program.



Copies of the PHA 5-Year and Annual Plans may also be viewed at the following HCDCH locations after February 7, 2005 between 7:45am and 4:30 pm.

HCDCH
677 Queen Street Suite 300
Honolulu, HI 96813

HCDCH
1002 N. School St. Bldg G
Honolulu, HI 96817

Ka Hale Kahaluu
78-6735 Makolea St.
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

Kapaa
4726 Malu Road
Kapaa, HI 96746

Kahakili Terrace
2015 Holowai Place
Wailuku, HI 96793

The public hearings will be held on Wednesday, March 23, 2005 at 6:00pm at the following locations

HCDCH
677 Queen Street, Suite 300
Honolulu, HI 96813

Kealakehe Elementary School
74-5118 Kealakaa Street
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

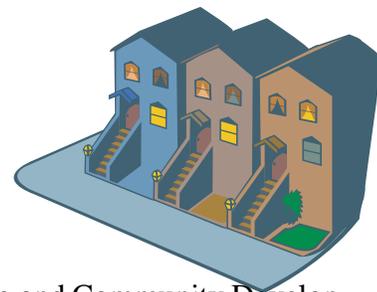
Lanakila Homes Comm Center
600 Wailoa St
Hilo, HI 96720

Makani Kai Hale Comm Hall
35 Koapaka Lane
Waiehu, HI 96793

Kawailehua Community Hall
5220 Paanau Road
Koloa, HI 96756



PHA 5-Year and Annual Plan



Pursuant to 24 CFR Part. 903.17, the Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawaii (HCDCH) will hold public hearings as listed on the columns on the left, on the Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plans.

Background: The HCDCH is currently developing its Fiscal Year 2005 PHA 5-Year and Annual Plans as required by the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act (QHWRA) of 1998. The 5-Year Plan states the HCDCH's mission, goals and objectives for serving the needs of the low-income and very low-income families during the next five years. The Annual Plan details the operation and management of federal public housing and Section 8 tenant-based assistance programs. Through these plans, HCDCH will advise the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), its residents, and members of the public, on its strategy in addressing the needs of residents in federal public housing and recipients of Section 8 tenant-based services.

Copies of the 5-Year plan are available for public viewing at regional libraries throughout the state. Copies may also be viewed at the locations listed in the column on the left side of this page.

The draft of the 5-Year and Annual Plans will be posted on the HCDCH website at <http://www.hcdch.hawaii.gov>.



All interested persons are invited to provide comments relating to the FY 2005 PHA 5-Year and Annual Plans either orally or in writing at the public hearings. All written comments may also be mailed to HCDCH, Attention PEO at 677 Queen Street, Suite 300, Honolulu, HI 96813 or faxed to (808) 587-0600 by 4:30pm on Monday, March 22, 2005. Comments can be sent by electronic mail to hcdch@hcdch.hawaii.gov, but **must arrive by Monday, March 22, 2005**. All comments and testimony will be considered in preparing the final PHA Plan.



RSS would like to recognize some of the associations who took the time and worked hard in planning their holiday celebrations.

Kalihi Valley Homes Resident Association

Saturday, December 17, 2004

Activities included a community clean-up by youth and adults, entertainment-live band, toys and gifts for keiki and adults, food.

Kamehameha Homes Resident Association

Saturday December 17, 2004

Activities included entertainment with keiki polynesian dancers from Mayor Wright Homes, Kaahumanu Homes, Kuhio Park Terrace and Kamehameha Homes, food, goodie bag for keiki, and lucky number door prizes.

Puuwai Momi Resident Association

Saturday, December 17, 2004

Arts and Crafts for the Keiki, appearance by Santa Claus, food and lots of toys for the keiki.

Kahale Mua Tenant Association

Saturday, December 22, 2004

Activities included gingerbread house contest, letter writing to Santa and potluck dinner

Be My Valentine~Did You Know?

Esther Howland, the woman who produced the first commercial American valentine in the 1840's sold a then mind-boggling \$5,000 in cards during her first year. Early valentines were made by hand, using colored paper, watercolors and colored inks.

How about an "X" for a Kiss? This tradition started with the medieval practice of allowing those who could not write to sign documents with an "X". This was done before witnesses, and the signer placed a kiss upon the "X" to show sincerity. This is how the kiss came to be synonymous with the letter "X", and how the "X" came to be commonly used at the end of letters as kiss symbols.

February 14th will soon be upon us, don't forget to arm yourself with a card and lots of X's for your Valentines!

Kaahumanu Homes Resident Association

Wednesday, December 22, 2004

Activities include entertainment-keiki polynesian dancers from Mayor Wright Homes, Kaahumanu Homes, Kuhio Park Terrace and Kamehameha Homes, food, goodie bag for keiki, and lucky number door prizes.

Pu'u Hale O Nanakuli (Nanakuli Homes)

Monday, December 20, 2004

Activities included live music, keiki polynesian dancers from Nanakuli Homes, gingerbread house contest and food.

Hui O Hanamaulu Resident Association

Wednesday, December 22, 2004

Activities Potluck dinner, included games and gifts donated by the Salvation Army

La'iola Senior Residents Community Association

Wednesday, December 22, 2004

Activities included food, bingo, karaoke and talent show.



Resident Service and Satisfaction Surveys

Keep your eyes open! Tentatively scheduled for May 2005, the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development's Real Estate Assessment Center will be sending 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 your household is selected, please take the time to complete it. Resident participation is essential to the survey's success. Your opinion is very important to HCDCH and HUD!