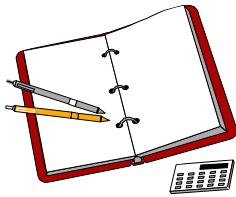




Important Information about the Annual Conference on October 3rd and 4th



We hope you are planning to join the hundreds of foster parents, social workers, educators, and others who will be at the 8th Annual HFPA Conference on October 3 and 4, 2003 at the Sheraton Waikiki from 8:15 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. The keynote will start at 9:00 a.m.

We have a great line-up of speakers, including a return by popular demand of the highly entertaining and informative Denise Goodman, who had standing room only audiences last year. There are 36 breakout sessions, over 30 different speakers, including 10 from the mainland, and a powerful panel presentation by foster youth and young adults.

Most of the following information is in the registration brochure, which you should have already received or will receive shortly. If you have NOT received your registration brochure by the third week in August, please give us a call at **263-0920** or toll free at **877-775-4400** to make sure one is on its way.

Youth Strand

For foster youth or former foster youth between the ages of 16-23, we are offering a special, all-day youth strand on Saturday, October 4. This program is fast-paced, fun, and full of information and activities of interest and use to the youth. The youth strand is free, thanks to sponsor support. Youth living along the Waianae coast can join the adults on the complimentary VIP Transportation

(Continued on page 2)

Federal Child and Family Services Review: Hawaii's Turn

Hawaii recently became the 39th state to undergo a federal Child and Family Services Review (CFSR). The on-site review was conducted the week of July 14 and a public exit



review was held on July 18th. At that review, Governor Linda Lingle stated “We definitely need help.” She noted that DHS usually only makes the news when something goes wrong; something that is serious and often tragic. She told the audience, comprised largely of social workers and social service providers, that “you know better than anyone else, we can do better.” She described the review as an incentive to do better to ensure the safety and well-being of children. From the HFPA perspective, we certainly look forward to seeing the governor’s commitment to child welfare reform play out in action and dollars.

Specifically regarding foster parents, the federal reviewers noted that there is no

(Continued on page 6)

Rights of Foster Parents



Hawaii’s Child Protective Act (Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 587) lists four rights for foster parents. First, foster parents and the child’s doctor have a right to the medical records that the Department of Human Services (DHS) has for a foster child within thirty days of placement. In other words, whatever medical records DHS has in its files need to be given to the child’s doctor and foster parents. This law does not require DHS to go out and find the child’s complete medical records and provide them within thirty days. DHS only has to give you what they have.

*Lynne Youmans
Legal Aid Society of Hawaii*

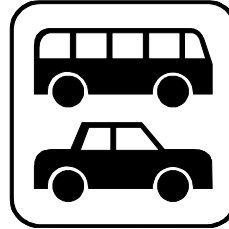
(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 1) Information about the Annual Conference

air-conditioned bus that will be leaving and returning to Leihoku St. next to the Waianae Mall. **Please make sure the youth in your home know about this opportunity and encourage them to attend.** The qualified youth can attend even if the foster parent is unable to.

Travel

Because the conference is now a two-day event, and because of travel restrictions and increased costs, there are some new travel plans for the neighbor islands. We will continue to provide bus service to and from the airport, but only on Friday morning and Saturday afternoon. If you need the free bus service, we sincerely hope that you will be able to arrange your schedule so you can take the bus.



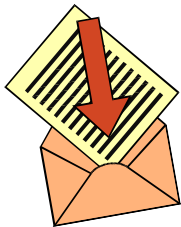
For the first time (one of our many “firsts” this year), we will be providing free bus service from Leiloku St. next to the Waianae Mall to the conference site and back both days. The bus will leave Friday morning at 6:30 a.m. and Saturday morning at 7:00 a.m. The bus will return to Waianae at the end of the conference each day.

Information for DHS Foster Parents

DHS foster parents and social workers represent the majority of those who attend the conference, so we are providing information here that applies specifically to DHS folks. Since our first conference eight years ago, DHS has generously covered the registration fees and airline coupons for all DHS foster parents and social workers who wanted to attend the conference. Unfortunately, DHS has found it necessary this year to limit the number of people they will be able to cover. Therefore, **it is important that you send in your registration form and airline request right away.** Airline coupon requests must be received by **September 5** along with registration form. Even then, these are being provided on a first-come, first-served basis, so they may be gone before the 5th. Scholarships are also being provided on a first-come, first-served basis and may be gone before the September 12 early registration deadline.

DHS Child Specific Foster Parents

A new feature this year is the DHS Child Specific foster parent track. If you sign up for and attend the two Child Specific workshops on Friday and the one on Saturday morning, you will receive your training certification. You will also be able to select a workshop of your choice on Saturday afternoon. Your meals, training materials, and registration will be covered by DHS. If you are from the neighbor islands, you can also request airline coupons. Again, it is important to send in your information right away, as there is a limit to how many people can be covered.



Other Funding

We are exploring other funding options in hopes of finding additional money to cover more registration fees. If you work for a company that would be interested in a request from us, please let us know right away. We can provide statistics, budget, etc. We can advertise their support in the conference program and the newsletter.

The mission of HFPA is to educate, support and nurture caregivers, empowering them to provide quality care to children in Hawaii affected by foster care.

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The HFPA Bulletin is published quarterly by HFPA for foster parents, friends, and supporters of HFPA. It is made possible through grants and donations. Please send comments and change of address to:

HFPA
PMB #261

111 Hekili Street, Suite A
Kailua, HI 96734

(808) 263-0920

Toll-Free (877) 775-4400

Fax. (808) 263-0921

E-mail:

info@hawaiiifosterparent.org

Sarah T. Casken, *Editor*
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The comments of individuals are not necessarily those of HFPA.

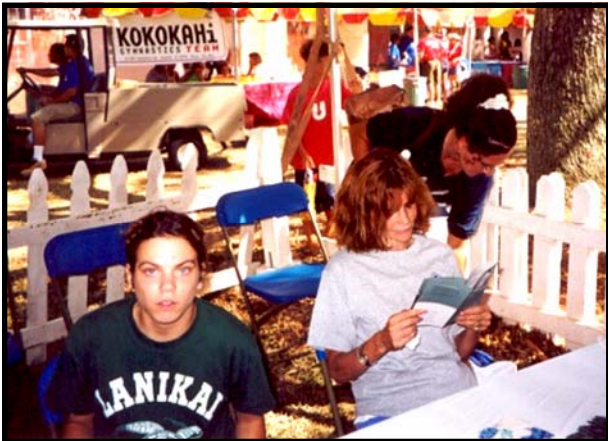
HFPA is a non-profit organization registered with the Hawaii State Dept. of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Taste of Honolulu

Thanks to all our wonderful volunteers and board members who assisted at the Hawaii Foster Parent Association booth at the Weinberg Family Tent at the Taste of Honolulu. It was a fun two-day event and we were able to talk to a lot of people about foster care. Thanks to the following people for work before or during the event: *Shana Giron, Luz Alvarez, Annie Green, Dan Ziegler, Alan Nebrija, Crystal, Josh Monster, Chris Gonzales, Juan Arrendondo, Jeremy Theas, Rebecca Glavan, Ruth Baldino, Michael Troy, John Casken, Judith Wilhoite, Michael Stott, the youth of Windward Unity Church, Rex and Alexis Sappenfield, Robin Pignataro, Elizabeth Casken, Janice Wolf, Sherri Giron, Mike Uno, Dale Vermeer, the Giron Family, Gay Tsukamaki, Joe and Chickie Guillaume, Sara Walsh, Beryl Smith, and Domino's Pizza.*



Youth from Windward Unity Church devote their Sunday to running the HFPA booth.



Youth helper Elizabeth Casken, HFPA board member Janice Wolf, and HFPA staff member Judith Wilhoite await visitors to the HFPA booth.



Youth assistant Shana Giron helps a toddler play the HFPA bean bag toss at the Taste of Honolulu.

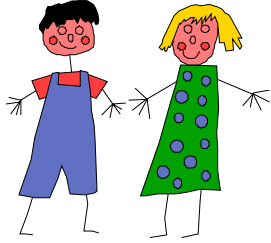


Three Little Words

Ashley Marie Rhodes-Courter
Junior, Crystal River High School
Crystal River, Florida

After years without a family to call my own, I was adopted. That day should have been bliss, right?

I never thought three little words would have such an important impact on my life, even though they weren't the words I was supposed to say. Every time I see the videotape, I cringe. It was one of those memorable occasions that families treasure, but this is one "treasure" I would rather bury.



It was July 28, 1998, my adoption day. I had spent almost 10 of my 12 years in foster care; I was now living in my 14th placement. Some homes had lasted less than a week; few more than a year. So why would this one be any different? Before this placement, I had been in residential care (the politically correct name for an orphanage). Do you remember the movie "The Cider House Rules," when the orphans try to smile in just the right way so they will be picked by the couple shopping for a child? While it wasn't supposed to be so obvious at the Children's Home of Tampa, prospective parents did act as though they were looking at puppies in a pet shop. For more than two and a half years I watched the few lucky dogs pack up their belongings, wave goodbye and exit the gate. I also saw them return – even after being placed with a family – with their tails between their legs. People made promises about "forever families," but often something went wrong. I don't know what families expected. Nobody is perfect, and children who have already been rejected by their parents – or at least feel they've been – are hoping that someone will love them no matter how they behave. I had been living with my family for eight months. Everything seemed to be going well, but would that change after the papers were signed? And just because it was "official," did that mean they would not send me back if I didn't live up to their expectations?

My parents have two biological kids who are grown; they thought raising a daughter might fill their empty nest. I loved my new waterfront house, with my own room and a bathroom I didn't have to share. For the first time, I could have friends over, and my all-star softball team came to swim after our games. Overnights are forbidden in foster care, but now I had and went to slumber parties. I could use the phone anytime I wanted, and lots of the calls were for me. I had my first pet, a kitten named Catchew that slept on my bed. There were no locks on the refrigerator or scheduled mealtimes. I could help myself to as many boxes of macaroni and cheese, bowls of ramen noodles or grilled-cheese sandwiches as I wanted.

When I did something wrong, my pre-adoptive parents docked my allowance or cut back on TV or telephone time. In one foster home, I was beaten with a paddle, denied food, forced to stand in awkward positions, swallow hot sauce and run laps in the blistering sun. Other times, I was removed to a new home with a new set of rules and promises. Nobody really lives happily ever after, do they? So when was this picture-perfect story going to fall apart? Before or after the "finalization"?

You can see how terrified I am on the videotape as we enter the courthouse. My eyes seem to be searching for a way out as I am led into Judge Florence Foster's chambers. On one side of the conference table are the people from my old life; on the other, those who represent my new one. I am placed between Gay and Phil, who are about to become my new parents. Across the way are two representatives from the Children's Home, both therapists. They are happy for me, but that is their job. Mary Miller is smiling and holding a bouquet. She had been my volunteer guardian ad litem for four years and did the most to help me get a family.

"Our" side is also represented by Gay's father, Grampy Weisman; one of my new brothers, Josh, who is home from college and acting as the cameraman; and my new godparents, the Weiners, who have brought their three small daughters. The proceedings are delayed because the Department of Children and Families representative is late. He also held up the adoption by neglecting the paperwork for months. While the others chat, I am biting my lip and

(Continued on page 5)



How to Dress and Behave at Court Review Hearings

Realizing the important role you have as the foster parent at the court hearings, here are some tips for appearing in court:

Dress/Apparel

- Don't wear shorts, tank or sleeveless tops, or slippers. Try to avoid wearing sneakers and very casual clothing. Dress as you would for a job interview. It will tell the judge that you consider the courtroom a place where serious business is conducted and conveys your respect of the judge's position.
- Don't wear baseball caps or hats into the courtroom.
- If you have a beeper or cell phone, make sure it is turned off or turned to silent mode prior to entering the courtroom.

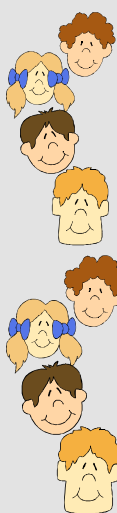


Demeanor

- Keep in mind that before you speak one word, people in the courtroom – judge, attorneys, bailiff – will have gotten some impression about you from your appearance and behavior.
- Always rise from your seat to a standing position when the judge enters or leaves the room. Wait to be told to sit down when you enter the courtroom.
- Don't chew gum, eat or drink anything in the courtroom.
- Don't have side conversations with other people in the courtroom when the case is before the judge.
- Address the judge as "Your Honor" when speaking to him or her.
- If you wish to ask a question or make a statement, and you are not sure when to speak, make sure the judge and the other parties are not in the middle of speaking, stand up or raise your hand to be acknowledged, and ask. For instance, "Excuse me, Your Honor, I don't mean to speak out of turn, but I have a question I would like to ask."
- When you hear statements being made by other parties in the case that you do not agree with, don't respond to the person making the statement. Don't make faces, sigh, or otherwise comment on the actions or testimony of others in the courtroom. Be patient until your time to speak comes. It may well detract from your own presentation later on. Judges hate it when people before them argue with one another, respond personally, and speak with one another instead of addressing the court.

Please feel free to call HFGA at **263-0920** or toll-free at **877-775-4400** to comment on your experiences with the court process on your island.

(Continued from page 4) Three Little Words



biding my time. Finally the representative arrives, and my attorney, Neil Spector, who is also Gay's cousin, begins the proceedings. I wait for my cue. But what am I supposed to do? Act as if this is the happiest day of my life? How can it be, when I am petrified that everything is a big fat lie?

After some legal jargon, the judge turns to me. "Nothing in life comes easy," she begins. "If it does, you should be suspicious." She may be trying to comfort me by saying that she knows I've overcome many hardships to get where I am. Instead, she just reinforces my fears that life with my new family is too good to be true. Because of my age, I have to consent to the adoption. After talking to my parents, the judge asks me, "Do you want me to sign the papers and make it official, Ashley?"

On the tape, it looks as if I am trapped center stage in the spotlight. Do I have a choice? I stare straight ahead, shrug my shoulder and mumble, "I guess so." In three words, it is done.

P.S. Almost five years later, I am still with my family. I didn't know then what I know now: some people can be trusted.

Reprinted with permission of the author. Copyright 2003 Ashley Marie Rhodes-Courter

(Continued from page 1) *Federal Child and Family Review: Hawaii's Turn* on-going training for workers or foster parents and that



there should be mandated training. They said that the philosophy of “teamwork” taught in Foster Pride is often not embraced by the social workers and that everyone across the board needs to understand the role of foster parents. In addition, they stressed the need for a

shift in philosophy so that foster parents are treated with dignity and respect. As the reviewers pointed out, “You can recruit 1,000 new homes a year but what good does it do if you lose them by the way you treat them?”

According to an article in the National Center for Youth Law (NYCL) Journal, the federal government spends nearly \$10 billion a year in reimbursements to the states for a portion of the \$20 billion states spent to provide children protection, foster care, and adoption services to families. Hawaii spends about \$47 million, of which 54% comes from the federal government.

For years, there was little federal oversight of how these billions of dollars were being spent. However, beginning in 2001, the federal U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) began a series of Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSR). If a state is not found in “substantial conformity,” they must create a Program Improvement Plan (PIP) and show the necessary improvement; otherwise, the state will be required to pay a substantial penalty.

There are two parts to the review. The first part is a review done by the state – a “statewide assessment” utilizing much of the data the state is required to collect every year. A copy of this assessment can be obtained from DHS. The second part of the review is an on-site case review as well as stakeholder reviews, held over the course of one week.

During the week of July 14, over 36 federal and local reviewers examined specific case records on Oahu, East Hawaii, and Maui. Two of the local reviewers were foster parents, including an HFPA staff member. Interestingly enough, Hawaii may be one of the few states utilizing foster parents as members of the review team.



The goal of the reviews is to help states improve their child welfare services and achieve the following outcomes:

Safety

- Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.
- Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.

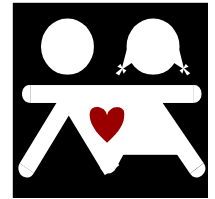
Permanency

- Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.
- The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.

Family and Child Well-Being

- Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children’s needs.
- Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.
- Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

Two-member review teams looked at specific case files. They reviewed the records, then interviewed the child, child’s parents, foster parents, case-worker and service providers. It took approximately twelve hours to complete each on-site review case. A total of 50 cases were to be reviewed.



The federal government has set national standards for what they believe are “acceptable” levels of achievement. As part of the CSFR, the state must meet the national standard in the statewide data submitted and in 90 percent of the cases reviewed on site in order to be found in substantial conformity. These standards look at 1) *recurrence of maltreatment*, 2) *incidence of abuse/neglect in foster care*, 3) *foster care re-entries*, 4) *stability of foster care placements*, 5) *length of time to achieve reunification*, and 6) *length of time to achieve adoption*.

A final report will be written by HHS to the state by the end of August, identifying areas of strength and areas that did not meet the national standards. The state then has 90 days to develop and implement a Program Improvement Plan (PIP) and submit quarterly reports to HHS. Those states that fail to improve are subject to financial penalties and withholding of federal funds. We hope DHS will involve community stakeholders in the development and implementation of the PIP, due November 2003.

Resources:

- U.S. Department of Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children’s Bureau: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/cfsr.htm>
- Journal of the National Center for Youth Law, *Youth Law News*, Vol. XXIV, No. 1, January – March 2003. Website: www.youthlaw.org

Reimbursement for Mileage and School Expenses

The following information is from the DHS Procedures Manual, Part V, Section 2 and Section 4. This article has been reviewed by the DHS Program Development Office.

School related payments:

Q: *My foster child catches the city bus to and from school. Can I receive reimbursement for the bus pass?*

A: If free public transportation is not available (i.e. school bus), DHS will reimburse for the cost of a bus pass for months school is in session. Submit the receipt to the child's social worker for reimbursement (keep a copy for your files). *It is a good practice to obtain and provide receipts for all services. This provides documentation of the purchase and supports claims for reimbursement.*

Q: *I drive my foster child to and from school and to various school activities (i.e. band practice, student government or sports). Can I receive payment for mileage expenses?*

A: Foster parents can receive actual car mileage reimbursement for transportation to and from school or various school activities at the current state rate of \$.37 cents per mile. Provide the following to the social worker when submitting your request: name of child, date of transportation, reason for trip, origin & destination, and total mileage for that trip. Be sure to include your name and date on the form. Also, write legibly. To insure timely reimbursement, it is a good idea to submit your requests on a monthly basis. And remember to always keep a copy for your files.

Example of a mileage reimbursement request by foster parent:

Submitted by: **Suzie Foster Mother**

Child's name: **Kalani DaKine**

Date	Reason	From	To	Back To	Mileage
10/4/02	Visit w/ parents	Foster Home (FH)	WBC	FH	26
10/15/02	Therapist	FH	Dr. Know King Street	FH	26
10/4-8 10/11-15 10/18-22 10/25-29	School	FH	School (location) (miles per trip-5 total trips-20)	FH 20 <u>x5</u> 100	100
		Total mileage for October, 2002			152

Q: *I drive two children to the elementary school. Do I receive mileage reimbursement for each of them, even though I drive them at the same time and really only make one trip?*

A: No. If you are driving two (or more) children to the same school (or two schools near each other), you claim for one trip, not two. If you perform one service, then no matter how many people benefit from the service, i.e. one physical trip with two or more children, then you can only claim for one trip. To do otherwise is dishonest. You can process the claim through either child's social worker. For example, you can bill the morning trip on behalf of one child and the afternoon trip on behalf of the other child, but you cannot claim for both as though you made the trip twice.

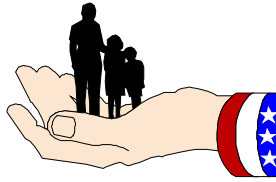
Q: *Do foster parents receive mileage reimbursement for attending school functions/meetings?*

A: You may submit for mileage reimbursement for attendance at meetings that will enhance your care of the children, such as PTA, Open House, IEP or parent/teacher meetings.

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 1) *Rights of Foster Parents*

In addition to the child's medical records, DHS is obligated to provide foster parents with the child's "relevant social history." This is a somewhat ambiguous term and different social workers might interpret it differently. The statute does not provide any guidance about what the Legislature considered "relevant." However, it should be assumed that history of drug exposure, history of childhood behavioral problems or history of sexual abuse should all be considered "relevant social history." As with the medical records, foster parents are entitled to disclosure of the relevant social history that DHS has on file. DHS will, most likely, not have a full social history for a child and therefore the social history provided to the foster parent will be incomplete.



Second, foster parents have the right to get ordinary medical treatment, immunizations and well-baby checkups for a foster child. That means that foster parents are not required to have the DHS social worker sign a consent form for any routine medical appointments and treatment. However, if your foster child needs extraordinary medical treatment, like surgery, make sure that the DHS social worker has signed the necessary consents for the doctor and the hospital prior to the surgery. If you have questions about whether the care is "ordinary" or "extra-ordinary," ask the treating physician. If the treating physician is in doubt, contact the DHS social worker and get the necessary consent just in case.

Third, foster parents have the right to give consent for their foster child to participate in routine educational and recreational activities. The easiest example of this right is the ability to sign field trip consents. There is one big category of consents that are not considered "routine educational activities" and that is special education paperwork for children participating in those services. For example, foster parents do not have the right to sign individualized educational plans (IEPs) for students eligible for special education. (If foster parents become guardians or adoptive parents, the law is different. I am only talking about foster parents). If a foster child is eligible for special education and the school conducts regular individual education plan meetings, remind the school that a foster child needs a "surrogate parent" to participate in all of those meetings. Surrogate parents are advocates specially appointed to protect the educational rights of foster

children in special education.

Finally, foster parents have a right to participate in Family Court review hearings on the case involving the foster children in their care. For those of you who are not familiar with the court process, review hearings are court hearings set by the Family Court at least every six months while the child is in foster custody, more often if needed. These review hearings allow the Court to check on the progress of the parents and the child. DHS is required by state law to provide written notification of the review hearings to foster parents and foster parents are entitled to attend, listen to the proceedings and speak to the Court if they wish. Foster parents are not required to attend (the Court will not be angry if the foster parent is not there) but they should feel welcomed and encouraged to attend.

Before these hearings, DHS and the child's guardian *ad litem* (GAL) are required to submit reports to the court with information regarding the current situation of the parents and the child. In addition, foster parents can submit their own court report for the Court to review prior to the court hearing. It is particularly important to submit a written report if you have important concerns that you would like to bring to the Court's attention. Review hearings tend to be short, approximately ten minutes, which is not enough time to explain concerns or challenges in detail. For example, a foster parent in a case where I was GAL wrote a letter to the Court describing the unusual and concerning behaviors of the foster child. During the review hearing, the judge was able to refer to the letter and address the specific concerns.

If you are submitting a court report, make sure that copies of the report are provided to DHS's attorney from the Department of the Attorney General and the parents' attorneys. You cannot send a report and mark it "confidential-for the judge only." In order for the judge to read it, all parties must be allowed to read it.

At the hearing, the Court can make orders to assure that the case is moving forward in a way that protects the rights of the parents and the safety of the child. Please note that the foster parents are entitled to attend review hearings under Hawaii's Child Protective Act. That means that the law does not directly entitle foster parents to attend trials to terminate parental rights or pre-trials or other non-review hearings. Whether or not a foster parent can attend those proceedings is at the discretion of the judge sitting at those proceedings.



Your Donation Helps HFPA Provide Services to Foster Parents

**Help Us Reach Our "Give Aloha" Goal
of \$1,600**

Foodland is again sponsoring the *Give Aloha* program September 1-30, 2003. You may donate up to \$249 at the checkout to the Hawaii Foster Parent Association during the month of September. Foodland will match a percentage of your donation. Last year, we raised \$1,128 with a match from Foodland of \$283. Help us reach this year's goal of \$1,600. At the checkout line, show your Maika'i card and tell the cashier you want to make a donation to HFPA. Your donation amount will be added to your purchase total. Save your receipt for tax purposes, as your contributions are tax deductible. The funds raised are used to maintain the training, website, newsletter and support services provided to foster parents by HFPA.



Aloha United Way Campaign Soon Underway

When your employee asks you to participate in this year's Aloha United Way campaign, we hope you will:



Street, #A

- ❖ Ask for a **Donor Choice Form**
- ❖ Select **Option E, Alternative Care**
- ❖ Write in: Hawaii Foster Parent Association,
PMB #261, 111 Hekili
Kailua, HI 96734

Double Your Financial Gift to HFPA through your Company's Matching Gift Program

Many companies will match their employees' contributions to their favorite non-profit organizations. By having your gift matched, you can double or triple the value of your donation to HFPA. Match gifts are a great way for you to make your charitable dollars stretch further at no cost to yourself.



Participating in your company's Matching Gift Program is easy:

1. **CONTACT** your Personnel Office for eligibility requirements and to obtain a Matching Gift form. Many companies match the gifts of retirees, spouses, surviving spouses, and outside directors.
2. **FILL OUT** the employee portion of the form. Mail the form, along with your donation, to Hawaii Foster Parent Association, PMB #261, 111 Hekili St., Suite A, Kailua, Hawaii 96734.

Is It Time to Trade in Your Car?



Your unwanted or non-working vehicle could be worth more to you by donating it to HFPA through Kokua-in-Kind, who will even pick up the vehicle for you. It will be sold and the Association will receive the proceeds, less a processing fee. In exchange for donating your car (or boat, etc.), you will receive a deduction on your income tax. The process is very simple, quick and easy. Please call Patricia at Kokua-in-Kind at **834-6603** for more information.

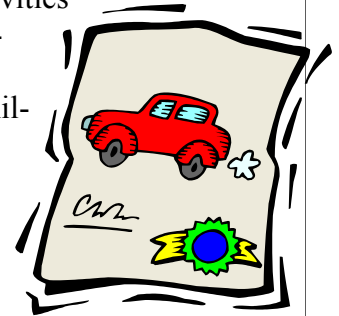
(Continued from page 7) Reimbursements for Mileage and School Expenses

Q: *My foster child is interested in joining various school clubs/sports. Can I receive assistance to help pay for uniform, membership fee or other cost related expenses?*

A: Yes, you may request reimbursement for uniforms, membership fees or other related expenses for sports and other group activities. The social worker may issue a purchase order to the vendor for the uniform or you may submit the receipt for reimbursement.

Q: *Do foster parents receive financial assistance for school related activities (i.e. prom, field trips, or various school activities)?*

A: The foster parent may request assistance for up to \$125.00 per child annually for clothes for events such as the prom or sports uniforms. Costs for regular school activities such as field trips are covered by the foster board payments. For costs related to special events not covered by DHS, funding may be requested through private sources such as Friends of Foster Kids (FOFK) or the Children's Alliance of Hawaii (formerly known as the Friends of the Children's Justice Center). Contact your child's social worker to process the request.



Other reimbursements:

Q: *My foster child sees her/his medical doctor, psychiatrist, or therapist. I also take him to visit his biological parents/relatives. Can I get mileage reimbursement?*

A: Yes, you may request reimbursement for local bus fare, private car mileage or taxi fare. Follow the same procedure used for mileage in school reimbursement.

Q: *I attend various workshops sponsored by the Hawaii Foster Parent Association (HFPA) and other groups. Can I get mileage reimbursement and financial assistance to attend these workshops and conferences?*

A: According to the Procedures Manual Part V 4.4.4, foster parents may request reimbursement for workshops that will enhance their ability to care for the children. If a child is currently in your home, the child's social worker can reimburse the mileage for the training you attended. (Follow the same procedure used for mileage in school reimbursement). If there is not a child currently in your home during the time you attend a workshop, then you submit your request to the licensing worker. Most workshops and conferences are free or you are notified of the procedure for requesting a scholarship, usually by calling HFPA at 263-0920 or 1-877-775-4400 (toll-free).

Acknowledgements

We are pleased to announce the receipt of grants from the Okumura Family Fund of the Hawaii Community Foundation and the Atherton Family Foundation.

Hawaii Foster Parent Association
 PMB 261, 111 Hekili St., Suite A, Kailua, HI 96734
 Phone: (808) 263-0920 Fax: (808) 263-0921

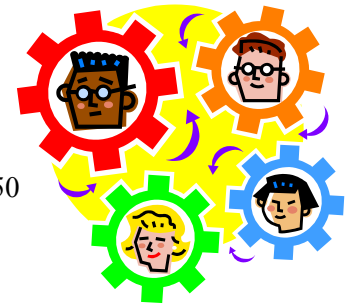
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<p>Yes, I want to support quality foster care for Hawaii's children. Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift of:</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> \$125 </p>		
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<input type="checkbox"/> My company will match my gift—the necessary form is enclosed.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please send me the next four quarterly newsletters, mailed directly from the HFPA office.		
<p>❖ This gift will be acknowledged in the HFPA Bulletin unless requested otherwise.</p> <p><i>In accordance with IRS regulations, your gift to the Hawaii Foster Parent Association is fully tax-deductible.</i></p>		



Workshop: Understanding the Dynamics of Child Sexual Abuse

The Children's Justice Center (CJC) of Oahu has reserved 10 spaces for foster parents at their upcoming training on

- Topic:** General Dynamics of Child Sexual Abuse
- Presenter:** June Ching, Ph.D, Clinical Psychologist
- Date:** Friday, September 5, 2003, 8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
- Location:** Central Union Church, Parish Hall
1660 S. Beretania St.
- Lunch:** On your own, or you may pre-purchase a sandwich buffet lunch for \$6.50



Registration Deadline: Friday, August 22, 2003

To register:

Call HFPA at **263-0920**. If you reach the answering machine, be sure to leave a call-back number.

This workshop will provide you with an understanding of the dynamics of sexual abuse and its impact on children. It is not designed at a parenting class for how to handle behaviors, but it will help you understand the experience, identify behavioral signs and symptoms and create a greater awareness of how this experience has impacted the child in your home.

This workshop is free, but, because space is limited, your registration indicates a personal commitment to attending.



**Hawaii
Foster Parent
Association**

PMB #261
111 Hekili Street, Suite A
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Mark Your Calendar for October 3 and 4, 2003



Annual Foster Care Conference

When: Friday, October 3 &
Saturday, October 4, 2003

Where: Sheraton Waikiki
Convention Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii

Time: 8:15 a.m.—4:15 p.m.

Registration Fee:

One Day: \$75
Both Days: \$115

**Early Registration Deadline:
September 12**

*Fee includes continental breakfast, lunch
and materials in addition to the workshops.*

Scholarships available to DHS foster parents.

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