

2015 ANNUAL CHILD WELFARE LAW UPDATE

**Ko'olau Golf Course, Honolulu, Hawai'i
Friday, August 14, 2015**

PROGRAM

8:00 a.m. REGISTRATION

8:30 a.m. WELCOME

Honorable R. Mark Browning, Senior Family Court Judge, Family Court of the
First Circuit

Rachael Wong, Director, Department of Human Services
Thomas Haia, Esq., Program Emcee

**8:40 a.m. CHILD WELFARE STATUTORY CHANGES AND
APPELLATE DECISIONS**

Patrick Pascual, Deputy Attorney General

(Q&A to follow)

**9:00 a.m. JUDICIARY AND EXECUTIVE BRANCH: CHILD
WELFARE INITIATIVES, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AND
PLANS FOR 2015-16**

Family Court: Honorable Bode Uale, Judge, Family Court of the First Circuit

Department of Human Services: Kayle Perez, Child Welfare Services Branch
Administrator

Department of Education: Gordon Miyamoto, Acting Administrator, Student
Support Services Branch

Department of Health: Stanton Michels, Administrator, Child and Adolescent
Mental Health Division

(Q&A to follow)

8/18/15

10:00 a.m. BREAK

10:15 a.m. IMUA KĀKOU: WHAT WE'VE LEARNED IN YEAR ONE

Panelists: Honorable Catherine Remigio, Gernani Yutob (HI-HOPES);
Lynne Kazama, DHS; Natasha Nairn, DHS; Dina Koyanagi,
DHS.

Facilitator: Kayle Perez, Child Welfare Services Branch
Administrator

**10:55 a.m. HAWAII'S TITLE IV-E WAIVER DEMONSTRATION
PROJECTS: SUMMARY OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED**

Panelists: Mimari Hall, Title IV-E Project Manager; Dr. Marianne Berry,
Director, Center on the Family, University of Hawai'i.

Facilitator: Kayle Perez, Child Welfare Services Branch
Administrator

**11:10 a.m. DEFINING NORMAL: WORKING TOGETHER TO
IMPROVE LIFE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN FOSTER CARE**

Panelists: Gernani Yutob, Kintaro Yonekura, and Stephanie Kim, HI-
H.O.P.E.S. Board members

Facilitator: Kayle Perez, Child Welfare Services Branch
Administrator

11:50 a.m. NETWORKING AND WORKING LUNCH

**12:50 p.m. PRENATAL ALCOHOL EXPOSURE AND THE
VULNERABLE CHILD: A LIFESPAN PERSPECTIVE**

Presenter: Ira Chasnoff, M.D.

2:30 p.m. BREAK

**2:40 p.m. PRENATAL ALCOHOL EXPOSURE AND THE
VULNERABLE CHILD: A LIFESPAN PERSPECTIVE
(Part II)**

Question and Answer Session, time permitting

4:00 p.m. CLOSING REMARKS

Honorable Bode Uale, Judge, Family Court of the First Circuit

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

IRA J. CHASNOFF, M.D.

Ira J. Chasnoff, M.D., an award-winning author, researcher and lecturer, is President of NTI Upstream and a Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Chicago. He is one of the nation's leading researchers in the field of child development and the effects of maternal alcohol and drug use on the newborn infant and child. Dr. Chasnoff and his research team were one of five national sites conducting research into the integration of behavioral health interventions into primary health care services for high-risk children and their families, and through this project they studied the impact of concurrent planning on permanency placement for children in the foster care system.

From 2002 - 2009, Dr. Chasnoff led work funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as one of four national centers conducting research into innovative treatment for children with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. Dr. Chasnoff's most recent work focuses on community approaches to the integration of behavioral health services into primary health care for women and children and the occurrence of co-occurring mental health disorders in children who have been exposed to alcohol, methamphetamine, cocaine, and other drugs.

Dr. Chasnoff received his medical degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, which in 1991 awarded him its first *Distinguished Alumnus Award*. He is the author of numerous articles in research literature and has authored seven books, the most recent of which, *The Mystery of Risk*, explores the biological and environmental factors that impact the ultimate development of alcohol- and drug-exposed children and presents practical strategies for helping children reach their full potential at home and in the classroom.

SPEAKERS

HONORABLE R. MARK BROWNING. Judge R. Mark Browning has served as a judge for over fifteen years. He was appointed as a District Judge to the Family Court of the First Circuit in 1997. In 2010, he was appointed as a Circuit Court Judge. In 2011, he was appointed as the Senior Judge/Deputy Chief Judge of the Family Court of the First Circuit. Prior to becoming a judge, Judge Browning served four years as a prosecuting attorney and then was an associate with Shim, Tam, Kirimitsu, Kitamura and Chang for two years before becoming a partner in 1989.

Judge Browning has received numerous awards throughout his legal career including the Niu Award for Distinguished Contribution by an Individual from Volunteer Legal Services, Starfish Award from Hawai'i State Foster Parents Association, Improved Justice Award from the Mediation Center of the Pacific, Angels in Adoption Award from the United States Congress, Daniel K. Inouye Award from the Hawai'i Psychological Association Board of Directors, Outstanding Judicial Achievement Award from Hawai'i Women Lawyers, and most recently the Judiciary Jurist of the Year Award.

Judge Browning is very active in the community and serves on numerous boards such as Friends of Foster Kids and Hawai'i Foster Youth Coalition. He created Project Visitation to help facilitate foster youth familial relationships, and he was the presiding judge of the Juvenile Drug Court for eight years. Judge Browning also developed the Volunteer Settlement Master Program to help expedite and facilitate the divorce process.

MARIANNE BERRY, Ph.D. Marianne Berry is the director of the Center on the Family, CTAHR, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. The Center on the Family conducts research and develops extension activities that benefit children and families and informs the services and legislation that support them. Dr. Berry has a thirty year career of research and extension work in child protection and family support services, always grounding her research in the community, responding to local needs and objectives, and producing and disseminating knowledge that will benefit front-line human services staff in making critical decisions to keep children safe and support families in taking care of children in their own communities, where possible. The Center on the Family is the evaluator for the Hawai'i Title IV-E Waiver Project.

THOMAS HAIA, ESQ. Thomas Haia received his Juris Doctor degree in 1995 from the William S. Richardson School of Law. Since then, he has practiced law as a solo practitioner, specializing in Family Law. Mr. Haia has also been a foster parent.

MIMARI HALL, M.A. Mimari Hall is the Title IV-E Waiver Project Manager for Child Welfare Services. She leads the Child Welfare Services (CWS) case management and program development staff with design and implementation of the Waiver initiatives. Before coming to the Hawai'i CWS, Mimari worked as a Senior Policy Analyst at the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ), where she led the development of a project to combat domestic child sex trafficking and to build a movement with juvenile and family court judges, federal leaders, and national experts across the country. Mimari also served as Model Court Liaison and Research Associate at NCJFCJ, assessing court and system practice, providing improvement recommendations on the implementation of promising practices, and facilitating implementation of the recommendations.

LYNNE KAZAMA, LSW. Lynne Kazama is currently an Assistant Program Development Administrator for the Child Welfare Services Branch of the Department of Human Services. She received her MSW from the University of Hawai'i, and is also a Licensed Social Worker. She was formerly with Casey Family Programs and has a long history of working with foster youth. Most recently, she is assigned to lead the Department of Human Services' implementation of the Imua Kākou Program in Hawai'i.

STEPHANIE KIM. Stephanie Kim is 20 years old and a former foster youth. She currently serves as Secretary of the HI- H.O.P.E.S Youth Leadership Board on `Oahu and is employed by Epic `Ohana as an assistant for the Hawai'i Youth Opportunities Initiative. Stephanie is a full-time student at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, where she plans to graduate with a B.A. in Journalism and English in 2017.

DINA KOYANAGI, LSW. Dina Koyanagi has worked for the Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Services Branch for over 26 years, 10 years as a supervisor. Dina is well known for her willingness and ability to take on any task given to her. She has a background in investigations and assessments, case management, adoption/permanency services, and sex abuse cases. She served as the first DHS Liaison for `Oahu's Imua Kākou cases when the program was first organized in 2014 and continues in that role today. For almost a year, her unit has been servicing intakes for serious harm cases involving an unidentified perpetrator; and effective this month, Dina's unit began servicing all serious harm intakes. This past February, Dina's unit also began assisting with the newly created CRT (Crisis Response Team); and starting this October, her unit will service intakes involving human/labor trafficking. Dina received her MSW and LSW from the University of Hawai'i (UH). She is also a practicum instructor for the MSW program at UH.

STANTON MICHELS, M.D. Dr. Stanton Michels is the Administrator of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division of the Department of Health. He received his Medical Degree from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan and later received a Master's Degree in Medical Management from the University of Southern California. As administrator, he is responsible for the development and direction of a statewide system of programs to promote, preserve, care for and improve the mental health of children,

adolescents and their families. Dr. Michels formulates and implements the statewide child and adolescent mental health policy.

GORDON MIYAMOTO, M.A. Gordon Miyamoto is the Hawai'i Department of Education's Acting Administrator for the Comprehensive Student Support Services section. He oversees programs that assist schools in supporting all students to achieve and succeed. Gordon also serves as the HIDOE's Educational Specialist for Family Support since 2008, where he assists schools in encouraging family and parent engagement in their children's education. He received his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and M.A. in Communication from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

NATASHA NAIRN, B.S. Natasha Nairn has been a social worker with the Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Services Branch for a total of 11 years. She works as a Youth Services social worker, Child and Adult Protective Services Specialist, and one of two `Oahu Imua Kākou Liaisons. Natasha is passionate about working with teens and young adults. She is also the President of the Board of Directors for a private non-profit preschool. Natasha has a Bachelor's degree in Social Work from the University of Hawai'i at West `Oahu.

PATRICK PASCUAL, ESQ. Patrick Pascual is a graduate of the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Patrick has worked as a Deputy Attorney General in the Family Law Division with the Office of the Attorney General for over 20 years.

KAYLE PEREZ, MSW. Kayle Perez is the Department of Human Services (DHS), Child Welfare Services Branch Administrator. She has been with the DHS for over 30 years, beginning as a Social Worker on the Hamakua Coast of the Big Island, moving to Case Management and the Sex Abuse unit, assuming the responsibilities of an `Oahu section administrator, and moving to her current position as Branch Administrator in November 2010. Kayle received her Masters in Social Work from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

HONORABLE CATHERINE REMIGIO. Judge Catherine H. Remigio was sworn in as a Family Court Judge of the First Circuit on June 23, 2011. Judge Remigio currently presides over Child Welfare Services and Juvenile Criminal cases and previously served in the Domestic Division. Judge Remigio is the Presiding Judge of the Imua Kākou (extended foster care) and the Permanency Specialty Courts. She is the Chair of the Child Support Guidelines Committee, and the Administrative Judge of the Truancy Court Pilot Project. Prior to her appointment to the Family Court bench, Judge Remigio served as a Per Diem District Court judge from 2007 to 2011, Grand Jury Counsel from 2007 to 2008, and Court Appointed Arbitrator from 2006 to 2011. From 2006 to 2011, Judge Remigio was a partner at Bryant & Remigio, LLC – a family law practice. Judge Remigio also served as Deputy Public Defender for nine years, and worked as a civil law associate in firms located on `Oahu and San Diego, California. Judge Remigio received her law degree from the William S. Richardson School of Law, and a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service from Georgetown University. She is a graduate of the Kamehameha Schools, Kapalama Campus.

HONORABLE BODE UALE. Judge Bode Uale was the first Family Court judge appointed in the United States of Samoan descent. He is currently the lead judge of the First Circuit Family Court's Juvenile Division. Judge Uale has a strong interest in foster youth and has played a pivotal part in the 'Ohana is Forever conferences. He was raised in Laie, Hawai'i, and graduated with a degree in political science from Brigham Young University-Hawai'i and later earned a Juris Doctorate in 1984 from the University of Hawai'i.

RACHAEL WONG, DrPH. Rachael Wong serves as director of the State of Hawai'i Department of Human Services. Previously, she was the vice president and chief operating officer of Healthcare Association of Hawai'i where she worked with healthcare providers on the provision of quality care and improving community health. Rachael also served as executive director of Kokua Mau (Hawai'i Hospice & Palliative Care Organization) and the Hawai'i Consortium for Integrative Care. Rachael earned a bachelor's degree in East Asian studies and a certificate in women's studies from Princeton University, a master's degree in public health from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, and a doctorate in public health from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

KINTARO YONEKURA, MSW. Kintaro Yonekura is a former foster youth who entered foster care at age four. Today, Kintaro is very involved in the field of Child Welfare. He works as a SPAW (Safety, Permanency, and Well-being) facilitator with Child Welfare Services and as a resource caregiver Recruitment Assistant for Hui Ho'omalū. He is also an active member of the National Foster Care Youth & Alumni Policy Council. Kintaro has an associate's degree in Business Administration, a bachelor's degree in Social Work, and a master's degree in Social Work from the University of Hawai'i.

GERNANI YUTOB JR., B.A. Gernani Yutob is 25 years old and an alumni of the foster care system. He currently serves as the president of the HI H.O.P.E.S. Youth Leadership Board on Oahu and is active in advocating for improved outcomes for transitioning foster youth. Gernani graduated from the University of Hawai'i - West Oahu with a B.A. in Public Administration, with a concentration on Justice Administration, and currently works for EPIC 'Ohana's Youth Circle program as a coordinator/facilitator, helping young people involved with foster care to create transition plans.

This program is funded by the Hawai'i Court Improvement Program

*In order to ensure that this event is as "green" as possible, all Power Point presentations and other conference resource materials will be available for download from www.ittakesanoohana.org (Handouts/Facts > Conference Handouts)