

Connections: Updates

March 11 - 18, 2010

County Updates

Hawaii County News Contact Angela Thomas, Hawaii Coordinator at athomas@fofhawaii.org or at 808-885-8336

Kauai County News Contact Anna Peters, Kauai County Coordinator, at 808-632-2114, or at apeters@goodbeginnings.org.

Maui County News Contact Kaina Bonacorsi, Maui County Coordinator at 808-242-1608 or at Kaina.Bonacorsi@co.maui.hi.us Visit [their website](#)

Oahu County News Contact Celia Chang Takahashi, Oahu Coordinator, at ctakahashi@goodbeginnings.org or at 808-531-5502.

Furlough Information, Updates & Options

Department of Education Beginning October 23, 2009 schools will begin taking furlough days. To view the calendars for the 2009-2010 school year for both HSTA and HGEA, please visit <http://doe.k12.hi.us/news/furlough/calendars/index.htm>

Department of Human Services – Benefit, Employment and Support Services Division (BESSD) will be implementing furloughs starting October 23, 2009 and continuing through June 30, 2011. For more information, including a furlough calendar, please visit www.hawaii.gov/gov/furlough and look for Attachment B.

The Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS) has completed negotiations with the Hawaii Government Employees Association (HGEA) and will be implementing Furlough Days. HSPLS will be placed on unpaid furlough for 15 days in fiscal year 2010 (December 1, 2009-June 30, 2010) and 15 days in fiscal year 2011 (July 1, 2010-June 30, 2011). A schedule of these furlough days will be announced at a later date. A schedule of Library Furlough Days through May 2010 can be viewed at <http://www.librarieshawaii.org> A schedule for Furlough Days for FY 2010-2011 will be announced at a later date.

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii recognizes that students, parents, and businesses will be affected by the upcoming schedule of furlough days. To ensure that our keiki will have places to go, many organizations have stepped up to provide services. For a listing of known available programs, statewide, visit <http://cochawaii.com/furlough-friday.asp>

PATCH, Hawaii's only statewide child care resource and referral agency, can help parents find the child care they need for teacher furlough days. Families looking for child care for the teacher furlough days can call PATCH at 839-1988 or visit www.PatchHawaii.org to obtain a free listing of qualified child care providers in your area.

Mililani Hongwanji BASS program has all-day care open from 5:30 am to 6:00 pm for Teacher Workdays, intersessions, and furlough days. Families with children already in the daycare are being given the first chance to sign up. For more information call 625-0325 or email mililanibassprogram@gmail.com

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Tutor Hawaii will help make the most of furlough Fridays by providing individual academic instruction for Hawaii students grades K-12. For more information call 808-263-9890 or visit www.tutorhawaii.com

Be Healthy, Stay Healthy

Swine Influenza A (H1N1) & Staying Healthy This Flu Season The State Department of Health continues to identify cases of novel H1N1 Influenza A circulating in our communities here in Hawaii. CDC is working with local and state health agencies to investigate these cases. It has been determined that this virus is spreading from human to human. Here are some tips to help keep you, the children and families you work with healthy and safe:

1. **Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.**
2. **Stay home** from work, school, and errands when you are sick. Keep sick children at home. You will help prevent others from catching the illness.
3. **Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.** Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
4. **Washing your hands and the hands of your children often** will help protect you from germs.
5. **Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.** Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.
6. **Practice other good health habits.** Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

For more informational links visit <http://hawaii.gov/health/about/H1N1.html> and <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/schools/>

Stop Flu at School The School-based Vaccination Program is an innovative partnership between the State of Hawaii Departments of Health and Education, the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools and Hawaii Catholic Schools. It aims to improve the health of Hawaii keiki, families and kupuna by preventing the spread of harmful influenza viruses. Through the program, all children attending Hawaii elementary and middle schools will be offered FREE seasonal flu vaccine at school, during the school day. Teachers and school staff can also receive the free vaccine. The program is voluntary for schools and students. Vaccinations will begin in October 2009. For more information about this important and valuable program visit <http://www.stopfluatschool.com> or call 211

Free Flu Shots for Medicare Part B Subscribers available. For a complete list visit <http://hawaii.gov/health/family-child-health/immunization/flu-shot-schedule.pdf> For more information call the Department of Health at 808-586-8332 or 211.

Flu.gov has a link for the state of Hawaii. Use the *Flu Shot Locator* to find place, date and time for H1N1 and seasonal flu shots. Information for citizens and professionals are also provided. Visit <http://www.flu.gov/professional/states/hawaii.html> for more information.

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Flu.hawaii.gov has valuable information for Hawaii residents regarding H1N1 (swine flu) including a list of where you can get the H1N1 flu shot, links to the CDC, links to other websites and resources. Visit <http://flu.hawaii.gov/index.html>

Updates from GBA

One Voice for Children, is a collaborative advocating body comprised of individuals interested in developing a common platform supporting Hawaii's young children and families. Members are concerned about the depth of cuts to services for children and are interested in coming together to advocate through a common agenda. The group intends to develop a common document which all the advocates could support. Visit to view the latest **position statement**.

http://www.goodbeginnings.org/images/uploads/Position_Statement_2-24-10.pdf Please email kwynkoop@goodbeginnings.org if you would like to become involved in this important effort. **Next meeting**: Tuesday, March 30, 2010 from 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. Location TBA.

Points of Interest

Registration for Kindergarten for children born in 2005 for the Department of Education 2010-2011 school year began in February. For more information on what is required to register http://www.waialuael.k12.hi.us/groups/office/weblog/11382/Kindergarten_Registration.html For tips on how to have a smooth transition into Kindergarten visit http://www.goodbeginnings.org/images/uploads/Transitions_Tips_Brochure.pdf

The 2010 Census: Everyone Counts – Every Hawaii 'Ohana Counted Census forms will be mailed or delivered to households in March 2010. April 1st is National Census Day – Everyone is encouraged to use this day to complete and send forms back in the mail. Here are some interesting things regarding the Census:

1. **It only takes 10 minutes.** In the time it takes you to measure, wash, and push the “cook” button on your rice cooker you can complete the Census!
2. **It is confidential.** Private information is never published and Census workers are sworn for life to protect your confidentiality. Violating the oath is a serious crime – a fine of up to \$250,000 or imprisonment of up to 5 years or both.
3. **The Census is used as the baseline for everything** – from federal funding to emergency planning.
4. **Census data is valuable.** Data from the upcoming 2010 Census will help determine if new political boundaries are needed as a way to ensure that all of Hawaii's people are properly represented on a local and National level. The data can be used to help secure grants for community programs or create a community profile.

For more information about the Census visit http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/info/census/Hawaii_Census_2010

The AARP Foundation's Women's Scholarship Program provides scholarship funds to women 40+ seeking new job skills, training, and educational opportunities to support themselves and their families. The AARP Foundation Women's Scholarship Program is available to eligible individuals with moderate to lower incomes and limited financial resources. To be eligible for the scholarships, applicants must be: women; age 40 or over by March 31, 2010; able to demonstrate financial need; enrolled in an accredited school or technical program within 6 months of the scholarship award date. Applications will be accepted February 1, 2010 until March 31, 2010. Please visit <http://www.aarpfoundationwlc.org>

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2010 Toyota International Teacher Program to the Galapagos Islands

Application deadline: May 26, 2010

Program Dates: November 20 – December 4, 2010

This fully-funded, professional development program for U.S. educators aims to advance environmental stewardship and global connectedness in U.S. schools and communities. Full-time classroom teachers and librarians of all subjects for grades 6 – 12 are eligible to apply! Visit www.toyota4education.com for more information, FAQs, application instructions, and to apply online. Funded by Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., and administered by the Institute of International Education.

The Patsy Takemoto Mink Education Foundation for Low-Income Women and Children will offer five Education Support Awards of up to \$2000 each to assist low-income women with children who are pursuing education or training. Applications for 2010 Education Support Awards will begin on, but not before, May 1, 2010. Applications must be postmarked no later than July 1, 2010. Education Support Awards may be used for direct school expenses or for living expenses while you are enrolled in an educational program. Awardees will be notified by phone or email in September 2010. For more information visit <http://www.patsyminkfoundation.org/index.html>

Kahi Hoku Kai an advocacy and outreach organization has created a survey aimed to understand a parent's point of view regarding their children's online activities. Kahi Hoku Kai's primary objective is to encourage families and communities throughout Hawaii to take action when it comes to online safety. The survey and its results, along with other efforts we will be making in the near future, can help families discuss internet activities with their children, set appropriate parameters and then make their children and teens apart of this decision making process. Kahi Hoku Kai worked with a national expert to develop the survey to look specifically at how Hawaii sees the issue of online safety for their keiki. If you are interested in taking advantage of this unique opportunity to sound off on this very important issue take the 20 question on-line survey by visiting <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KeikiSafeOnlineSurvey>

News for Early Childhood Professionals

First Book *What Book Got You Hooked*

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Main Hawaii State Library

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Join First Book – Oahu in celebrating Hawaii winning First Book's *What Book got you Hooked Campaign*. Join us at this event to help us welcome the First Book team from Washington D. C. There will be special guests, entertainment, light refreshments, and more! The 50,000 books that will be distributed in Hawaii will be done through the First Book National Book Bank, and eligible groups in Hawaii who are registered with First Book will have exclusive access. If you have not done so already and you represent an eligible group, you must register your program at www.firstbook.org/register. Online registration takes only minutes and will connect your school or program immediately with the First Book National Book Bank and the First Book Marketplace. For more information about First Book, please visit www.firstbook.org

Upcoming Events, Meetings, Conferences, Trainings

For Early Childhood Professionals (dated items first, then alpha order)

Hot Topics--Social and Emotional Health Seminar for Early Childhood Programs with a focus on Challenging Behaviors

Thursday, March 18, 2010

12:00-2:00 pm

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Windward Health Center (45-691 Keaahala Road, Kaneohe)

Complimentary parking available

Cost: Free

RSVP: Friday, March 12, 2010

Complimentary lunch will be served at noon; please bring your own beverage. The seminar with Dr. Mae Kyono will start at 12:30 p.m. For more information or to RSVP please call Sharon Taba at 384.2902 or email sharon@medicalhomeworks.net

Pac Rim Congress for our Keiki with Special Needs

Harnessing Our Brilliance: Advocacy and Action for Collaborative Early Childhood

Development: A Focus on Children with Special Health Needs

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Book Signing with Dr. Terry Brazelton 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Hawai'i Convention Center

The fee includes registration to the Congress, a Pac Rim bag and cloth velcro badge, and lunch. For more information about the Congress visit

http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu/pacriminfo/pacrim2010/downloads/events/congress/pdf/PacRim2010_congress.pdf or contact Leilani Kupahu-Marino, Congress Coordinator, at leilani@keikiokaaina.org or 808-352-0013.

The Power of Purpose – Intentional Teaching

Hawaii Island Early Childhood Conference

Friday, April 23, 2010, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 24, 2010, 7:15 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Waikoloa Beach Marriott Resort & Spa (69-275 Waikoloa Beach Drive).

Registration fee for Friday evening includes a light buffet. Registration for Saturday includes continental breakfast and a buffet lunch. To download a registration form visit

<http://www.fofhawaii.org/BabySTEPS.html> If you have any questions, please contact Angela Thomas at athomas@fofhawaii.org

Resources for Early Childhood Professionals

'Ekolu 'Ehā 'Ike Pono offers free developmental, hearing, vision, and social emotional screening for 3 and 4 year old children, as well as free workshops for parents on early childhood development. For more information, or to schedule a screening, call 696-5361. To learn more about the project, visit

<http://www.ldahawaii.org/EEIP.htm>

Upcoming Events, Meetings, Conferences, Trainings

For Families with Young Children (dated items first, then alpha order)

Understanding Temperament: A Key to Building a Strong Parent-Child Relationship

Parenting Skills Workshop

Sunday, March 21, 2010

9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Harris United Methodist Church (20 S. Vineyard - corner of Vineyard and Nuuanu)

Cost: Free

RSVP Deadline: March 12, 2010

This parent workshop will be held with Kathy Bentley. Childcare provided. For more information or to reserve a seat, call 536-9602

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Upcoming Activities for Families with Young Children (dated items first, then alpha order)

First Book Fundraiser & Book Fair

Any Barnes and Noble Location

Friday, March 12 – Sunday March 14, 2010

A portion of the sales made during this period will benefit First Books. All that is required is to mention ***First Book*** or ***10141976*** at the time of your checkout. You can do this at any Barnes and Nobles' store. Funds raised over these three (3) days will help First Book-Oahu provide grants to Oahu Programs that work with low income families, title I schools and/or support military families. In fact, every \$2.00 we are able to raise means one more book for a child! Join First Book at the Kahala Mall store for Barnes and Nobles Book Fair for story time, kids crafts and other fun events all weekend long. For more information visit www.firstbookoahu.com For locations and store hours visit <http://storelocator.barnesandnoble.com/storelocator/stores.aspx>

16th Annual Honolulu Festival

Friday, March 12 – Sunday, March 14, 2010

Variety of times, locations and events all weekend long

The Honolulu Festival is Hawaii's premier cultural event, promoting understanding, economic cooperation and ethnic harmony between the people of Hawaii and the Pacific Rim region. Through educational programs and activities sponsored by the Honolulu Festival Foundation, a non profit organization, the Festival continues to successfully share the rich and vibrant blend of Asia, Pacific and Hawaiian cultures with the rest of the world. There are a variety of event happening all weekend. The Festival cumulates with the Grand Parade through Waikiki on Sunday. For more information and a complete list of events, visit <http://www.honolulu festival.com/index.php>

Keiko and Louie: Best Best Friends (Mostly)

Honolulu Theatre For Youth

St. Andrew Church's Davies Hall (Corner of Beretania and Alakea in Downtown Honolulu)

Saturday Performances on March 13, 20, 27

Ages 2 – 5 years

Louie needs a friend. Keiko loves to make friends. When Louie and Keiko find each other, they also discover the ups and downs, the fun and trouble of friendship. This interactive play uses humor, movement and participation to engage young audiences directly in the performance. For more information visit <http://www.htyweb.org/index.htm> or call 839-9885.

Family Fun Fair

Sunset Beach Neighborhood Park (59-360 Kamehameha Highway)

Saturday, March 13, 2010

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Rides, games, prizes, food, and more will be featured. For more information call 638-8777

Keiki Talk Story

Mission Houses Museum (553 South King Street in Honolulu)

Chamberlain House Kitchen

Saturday, March 13, 2010

10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Tomie de Paola Stories of the Past is the topic. Ages 3+ years. For more information call 447-3910.

Book Sale

Mililani Public Library (95-450 Makaimoimo Street)

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Saturday, March 13, 2010

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Come look for good deals on great books. Sales to benefit Mililani Public Library. For more information call 626-7292.

Resources for Families

Kaiser Permanente's Keiki Passenger Safety (KPS) Program car and booster seat inspections. Participants do not need to be Kaiser Permanente (KP) members. Appointments available between 3:30 – 6:00 p.m. on the days and at the locations listed below. Call the KP Health Education Department at 432-2260 to make an appointment. Questions may be directed to 432-8938 or geila.r.fukumitsu@kp.org.

Kaiser Mapunapuna Clinic The Old "Ceridian" Building 2828 Paa St. Honolulu, HI 96819 April 9, 2010	Kaiser Waipio Clinic 94-1480 Moaniani St. Waipahu, HI 96797 April 30, 2010
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Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition (KIPC) On January 1, 2007 a law went into effect requiring children between the ages of four through seven to ride in a booster seat whenever traveling in a motor vehicle. The only exemptions are if the child is over 4'9" or if the vehicle has lap-only seat belts in the rear seat. The driver is held responsible for compliance with the law. Violators of Hawaii's Child Passenger Restraint Law are required to attend a 4-hour class and may be assessed a fine between \$100-\$500, depending upon the number of offenses. A Hawaii State tax credit of \$25 per year applies to the purchase of a booster or child safety seat. For more information and basic guidelines on the proper use of booster seats visit <http://www.kipchawaii.org/SafetyFacts/TrafficSafety/keikisafety.aspx> KIPC also conducts Child Safety Seat Checkups. Certified and trained technicians will check to make sure that your car or booster seat is installed properly and that you know how to buckle your keiki into his/her safety seat correctly. Below is a list of upcoming dates and locations.

Date & Time	Location	Contact	Sponsor
Oahu Saturday March 20, 2010 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Open Parking Lot on Bingham Street next to main parking garage @ "KMCWC"	Lisa Dau 983-6800	KMCWC / KIPC

For the most current information or for other dates and locations, please visit <http://www.kipchawaii.org/EventCalendar/eventcalendar.aspx>

Kamehameha Schools One-Stop-Shop Services provides assistance in completing KS forms and application for various KS programs. Assistance will be provided at the following places at the following times on the island of O'ahu:

KS Community Learning Center at Nānākuli 89-101 Farrington Highway 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. March 25, 2010	Wai'anae Health Academy 86-088 Farrington Highway (Nānākuli) 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. March 18, 2010
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Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center Windward Unit 53-516 516 Kamehameha Highway (Hau'ula) 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. March 24, 2010	St. George Church 41-1323 Kalaniana'ole Highway (Waimanalo) 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. March 16, 30, 2010
Windward Mall Shopping Center 46-056 Kamehameha Highway (Kaneohe) 2nd Floor near Sears 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. March 17, 31, 2010	

YWCA Clothing Sale for Dress for Success® Honolulu
Last Tuesday – Friday of every month, March 24 – 27, 2010
Laniakea YWCA (1040 Richards Street) in Downtown Honolulu
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Save money and discover new and pre-owned women's business, casual and evening attire in all sizes. 100% of the proceeds from the sale will be used to support Dress for Success® Honolulu which provides free interview outfits to help women re-enter the workforce with confidence and style. For more information on the Dress for Success® Honolulu program, including volunteer opportunities, call 695-2603 or visit <http://www.ywca.org/site/pp.asp?c=9fLGJSOyHpE&b=2818573>