



Maui Youth &
Family Services



Malama Family
Recovery Center

Working together to ensure everyone has the help they need to achieve and maintain a foundation for lasting recovery and well-being

Maui Youth & Family Services

MYFS Recruiting Foster Families

Maui Youth & Family Services (MYFS) is recruiting families for its Therapeutic Foster Program, which provides a safe, family-based setting for 10-17 year-olds with behavioral and emotional issues who are experiencing difficulties in the home or community. The Foster Program combines the positive aspects of a nurturing home environment with active and structured therapeutic treatment and can provide youth with a temporary alternative to home for up to six months.

MYFS is a licensed Child Placing Organization that recruits and licenses foster parents with approval from the Hawaii Department of Human Services. Foster families receive a monetary stipend, access to a 24-hour support hotline and extensive (both initial and ongoing) training by MYFS counselors and clinical staff about how to help young people cope with daily stressors, make healthy decisions and strengthen family relationships.



Foster Parent Lani Cabanilla and Foster Youth Anastasia Boyer at Island Art Party



Foster Parent Joe Kawaha & Family Therapist Yvonne Manupuna at Island Art Party

Foster families and youth participate in outings throughout the year like whale watching, roller skating and a recent visit to Island Art Party in Kihei in March, where the owners waved the entrance fee for youth. There is also an annual holiday party. These experiences allow foster parents and youth to bond and get to know each other better. They also give foster youth an opportunity to participate in "fun, normal life activities" that other young people do with their families all the time.

Every day we see the difference foster families make in this community and in the lives of young people in need. Offering a stable and caring home environment for our youth is an extremely rewarding and life-changing experience.

Interested? Want to learn more? Visit MYFS.ORG or call Wendy at 808-579-8414, ext. 8202

EXCITING NEWS! MYFS is in the process of converting one of our old group homes into affordable housing for former foster youth! After consulting with a Hawaiian cultural practitioner, this special building was named KA LEWA NU'U, which means *Rise High*.

Anytime we learn something new, we grow. The more we learn, the more we know and the more we grow. The more we grow, the higher we rise. Moving up, moving forward and moving ahead helps us improve, learn and achieve our goals. The meaning within Ka Lewa Nu'u is to make a new change and achieve new heights.



This project would not be possible without the extraordinarily generous support of the Sangham Foundation, Central Pacific Bank Foundation and the Hawaii Community Foundation. More details to come soon!

To learn how you can contribute, call Frances at 579-8414, ext. 8102

Aloha House

Providing round-the-clock support and care to those in crisis

Aloha House's Crisis Mobile Outreach (CMO) Program is available FOR FREE 24/7/365 to any Maui County resident experiencing a mental health or emotional crisis. When someone calls the ACCESS Line – 1-800-753-6879 – they are connected with a live person from the State of Hawaii Department of Health. If necessary, an experienced Aloha House CMO staff member is dispatched to wherever the person is to provide support, information, an assessment and recommendation for services, which can range from crisis counseling to hospitalization. Aloha House CMO workers are highly trained specialists who are comfortable in any environment – from the beaches of Moloka'i, to the bustling Emergency Room at the hospital, and in private homes all across the county. They respond to over 600 calls each year. Here are two people's stories...

Hannah* was a successful businesswoman from the mainland who managed her bipolar disorder with self-managed holidays and the help of her family. Her manic episodes actually helped to fuel her success -- for a while. When her husband became ill and passed away, she sank into a cycle of alcoholism and depression. She decided she wanted to "drink all my money away until I croak" here on Maui and abandoned her family to do just that.

But she ran out of money before the alcohol could finish its work. The hotel manager where Hannah was holed up remembered our CMO staff person, who had previously made an outreach connection at the resort. The manager called the ACCESS Line and our CMO worker got Hannah immediately to the

Emergency Room. From there she went into detox and then Crisis Support Management (also part of Aloha House's array of Crisis Services). She is now a long-term Case Management client and living in a sober living house. She works with an Aloha House psychiatrist who helps her manage her Bipolar Disorder (for the first time in her life).

With the support of our staff, Hannah was encouraged to repair damaged family relationships back home. When she did so, she was shocked to find previously unknown family assets and her husband's life insurance money awaiting her. Hannah turned this "second chance" into another successful business and is clean, sober and happy. "You saved my life," she recently told our staff.



Alex* is 13, and was taken away from his birth family at the age of 4 after being severely abused and neglected. Alex was adopted by a loving single mother who was dedicated to helping him recover from this abuse. Over time, it became clear that Alex had Reactive Attachment Disorder, a serious mental health condition that often occurs when young children live in abusive families. His adopted mother dutifully takes him to his frequent therapy meetings and helps him lead a stable life. But now that Alex is becoming an adolescent, there is more arguing and fighting, and Alex recently threatened suicide. His mother became overwhelmed from dealing with him after she lost her job because of his intensive needs.

In order to prevent hospitalization at the only unit that would take him – on Oahu – and be separated from his only parent (since his mother didn't have the money to accompany him) – his therapist called the ACCESS Line and sent a Child/Adolescent CMO worker from Aloha House. Since Alex's therapist works for Aloha House under another program, the therapist and CMO specialist immediately put their heads together to come up with a solid plan to keep Alex safe, out of the hospital and on Maui with his mother. They supported his mother during a difficult time until she found another job as well as additional help from friends and family. This intervention, along with an increase in therapy, has put Alex back on the "right track." He is now stable, back in school and doing much better.

*names changed for confidentiality





Ohana
FUELS
Fuel up. Do good.

Between now and June 30th, every time you purchase the Ohana Fuels TOP TIER™, fuel-efficient gasoline brand at any of Maui's 8 Minit Stops, a portion of the proceeds go to Aloha House!

Thank you to Ohana Fuels for selecting Aloha House as the second quarter 2017 nonprofit beneficiary organization for its "Fuel up. Do good." Community Giving Program! Funds raised will support our efforts to provide life-changing and life-saving behavioral health services to thousands of individuals and families in the community each year.

Want to help us raise extra funds? Come to our car wash on Saturday, June 17th from 9am-1pm! Ohana Fuels/Minit Stop gas station at 85 S. Wakea Avenue in Kahului.

\$10/wash

Thank you to Ohana Fuels for providing the space and all the supplies for the car wash!



Malama Family Recovery Center (Malama Na Makua A Keiki)

Preventing child abuse and neglect through family-centered addiction treatment

Malama recently received a multi-year grant from the Hawaii Children's Trust Fund (HCTF) for its mother-child programs. Malama provides caring, holistic substance abuse treatment to women and children so families can live safe, independent and healthy lives. It is the only women-specific addiction treatment center on Maui and the ONLY place where young children can stay with their mothers while they get help in therapeutic and sober living settings. Services are also provided on an outpatient basis.

The HCTF aims to prevent child abuse and neglect by supporting community-based family strengthening programs that promote healthy relationships and environments so Hawaii's keiki can reach their full potential and develop into productive and caring individuals. This grant will allow Malama to expand its family programs and target young mothers with children under five years old. Grant activities will include intensive case management, formal parenting training using 'The Incredible Years' curriculum, developmental screenings for clients' children using 'Ages & Stages Questionnaires' and outreach to young moms at Malama's nonprofit partner agency Aloha House. It will also support continued BabySAFE (Substance Abuse Free Environment) Program efforts to ensure pregnant women can access treatment and prenatal care so they can get clean and give birth to healthy babies.

Staff will work one-on-one with clients and children to model positive interaction and redirection. Malama will also promote "mommy-baby time" by helping moms think of and participate in healthy activities they can do with their

children (going to the park or beach, reading a book together, art and crafts, etc.). Staff will also help moms create daily schedules that cover feeding, bathing, meal-prep, nap times and more.

“We deeply appreciate the Hawaii Children’s Trust Fund’s willingness to help us enhance our current programing,” said Program Coordinator Megan Morrow. “We know that parental substance abuse is a risk factor for child abuse and neglect. This is a unique opportunity to combine comprehensive and effective addiction treatment with activities that strengthen mother-child/baby bonding and increase attentive parenting practices in order to improve and support the entire family’s well-being.”

Malama relies on the community’s support for its parenting programs.

To see how you can help, call Frances at 579-8414, ext. 8102

Program Coordinator Megan Morrow with Malama graduate MaryJane and her son Reign in the Early Learning Center, where many of the grant activities will take place



Malama graduate Ellie wanted to share why, for her, Mother’s Day is not just another holiday...

“Mother’s Day is special to me because 8 years ago on this day I was in treatment at Malama Family Recovery Center. And prior to that, I had missed a lot of special moments, holidays and big life events with my daughters. Haley wouldn’t even hold my hand because she said ‘it made her sick.’ And my two other daughters had to move to the mainland with their dad because of the wreckage I had caused and the unstable mother that I was. My life was more than a wreck. I had hit rock bottom and was hurting everyone around me, including my beautiful precious daughters that were in the path of the disease of addiction.

Now I have been clean and sober for 8 years and I get to be a present mother to my daughters, a present grandmother to my grandsons, and my relationship with them has grown to be so amazing and special. Today Haley will hold my hand. My daughters are my biggest motivators and inspirations! They are the light in my life!

One of the biggest gifts I get today is to be a sober, present mother and grandmother on Mother’s Day with my beautiful family. Never again will I miss any precious moments!”



From left to right: Ellie’s daughter Zoe, Ellie, and her daughters Haley and Evy

Your support makes Mother’s and Father’s Day that much more special for countless individuals and families in this community!

MAHALO for helping us save lives, restore families and help people turn their lives around!

