



**Kako'o Na Makua
All Parents Stand Together**

Family Support Services of West Hawaii
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August 2007 Parent Education Calendar & Resource Guide

Our Mission:

***To Support Families and Communities
in Providing Love and Care for Our Children.***

To add your parent education
information to the FSSWH listing,
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A United Way Agency



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OF SERVICES FOR FAMILIES
AND CHILDREN, INC.

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WHEN CHILDREN IMITATE SUPERHEROES

Remember back when you had to look up to all the "big" people, and tasks like tying your shoe were still a challenge? How much fun it was to imagine yourself as a superhero, and take on the powers you wished for in everyday life.

Children naturally imitate fearless superheroes who can overcome any obstacle in their path. When children begin leaping and tumbling about, however, adults worry that accidents will happen. Sometimes adults discourage superhero play for fear that it will become too disruptive, or that children will engage in it at inappropriate times.

Keep in mind that this type of play gives children the chance to face their fears and show off physical feats. When supervised by adults, "superhero play" can help children improve their language skills and teach them to work together to solve problems — not to mention how it encourages creativity. When children begin pretending they are superheroes, adults can help them make the most of it. Here are some tips:

1. Show children that superheroes are not special just because they are physically powerful. Point out when superheroes show kindness and helpfulness to others, and praise children when they do the same.
2. Talk about real heroes and heroines with children. Introduce them to people like Helen Keller and Martin Luther King, Jr., and discuss how everyday people can demonstrate acts of courage and goodness.
3. Point out the difference between movies, TV and real life. When you see actors pretend to leap out of windows or jump over speeding cars, explain to children why they shouldn't "try this at home."



4. Make the rules about when and where superhero play is allowed. You may limit this sometimes rough-and-tumble play to outdoors, or during recess time. Be consistent — if "flying" indoors is not allowed on Monday, it shouldn't be allowed on Tuesday.

5. Help children build on their interests through superhero play. Watching Star Wars may lead to learning about space travel. A Spiderman comic book may lead to exploring the world of insects. Always keep your eyes open to learning opportunities for children.

6. Be on the lookout for overly aggressive play. Get involved if you see a child become frightened or angry. When the laughter stops, and threats or complaints begin, help children get back on track — or end their play. Show them you are there to help, and offer options. Maybe it's time to take a break, or to find out why the frustration occurred. In any case, make it clear that physical or verbal aggression are not acceptable.

7. Give children the chance to make choices and take on responsibilities. Children become bored when activities are not challenging, and frustrated when they are too advanced. Keep a close eye on children so that you know when they are ready to take on new challenges, like helping with a recipe or dressing themselves.

8. Praise children when they accomplish real "feats" — like putting together puzzles, or learning to spell their own names. Children may still imitate superheroes, but they'll have more confidence both during play and in everyday living.



National Association for the Education of Young Children

<http://www.naeyc.org/ece/1997/16.asp>

Listing of events & resources.

Kona

Y **Neighborhood Place of Kona (NPK):** NPK's Ke Ala Kupono Parent Education Classes focus on the important responsibility that parent(s) have in teaching and role modeling proper values and behavior to their children. Hawaiian culture is used as the primary vehicle of instruction and presented in a "story telling" manner. For more information and to register call the Neighborhood Place of Kona at 331-8777

Y **HIPPY Playgroup:** The Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) playgroup that meets every Wednesday morning will be taking a summer break. For more information call Shannon Ramirez at 334-4111.

Y **Are you prepared to "parent" a teenager?**

- Once the hormones kick in (ages 10+), do you think you will be able to handle your child?
- Are you a parent/guardian who is experiencing frustration and being overwhelmed by your child/teen's behavior?

A **new** series of presentations concerning effective and positive parenting of teenagers focuses on discussions & learning activities with an emphasis placed toward preparing and helping parents faced with "strong-willed" adolescents. Facilitated by Douglass Bartlett, M. Ed., an experienced teen therapist & former facilitator for the "Parent Project" parent classes. For information on the next class, contact Linda Jeffrey at 327-4300, ext. 432 or e-mail: khparentcenter@yahoo.com.

Y **Na Makuakane Maika'i 'O Hawai'i, Great Fathers of Hawai'i:** This father's group meets every Tuesday from 6:00 - 7:30 pm. For more information on the group activities and parenting classes, contact Larry Ursua at 334-4153 or Kaulia Ho at 334-4180.

Y **Personal Parenting and Assessment Services (PPAS):** PPAS offers a twelve-week series of parenting classes on Wednesdays from 10:00 - 11:30 am. A Women's Support Group is also held on Wednesdays from 9:00 - 10:00 am. Call 327-2123 for details.

Y **The Institute For Family Enrichment (TIFFE):** TIFFE is offering free Nurturing Families of Hawaii training sessions. For more information and to pre-register, contact Suzanne at 854-1160.

Y **Prenatal Classes:** Every Wednesday from 7:00 - 9:00 pm at the Kona Community Hospital. To pre-register, call Krista Olson at 895-0782.

Y **West Hawaii Baby S.A.F.E.:** Free prenatal/postpartum education classes are offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 am - Noon. For more information call Jonelle at 322-3100 ext. 102.

Waimea

Y **Tutu and Me:** Meets weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 - 10:30 am at Imiola Church. For more information call 885-1200.

Y **West Hawaii Baby S.A.F.E.:** Free prenatal/postpartum education classes are offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 am - Noon. For more information call Jonelle at 322-3100 ext. 102.

Waikoloa

Y **Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS):** Mothers and their preschool-aged children meet for playtime and to share parenting tips. Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Fridays from 9:00 - 11:30 am. Call Tina Makoff at 883-9083 for more information.

Y **Waikoloa Play Group:** This is a drop in playgroup that meets every Friday at Waikoloa Park from 10:00 am. For more information call Alyce Camero at 885-0086.

Kohala

Y **Kohala Family Center:** The Kohala Family Center is located in Hawi and provides information and referral services for the district of North Kohala. The center also has a lending library and free computer use. Call Christi Morgan at 889-0036 or walk in during open hours M, T, Th, F from 8:00 to 11:00 am and 3:30 to 4:30 pm and Wednesdays from 12:30 to 4:30 pm.

Y **Na Ohana Anuenue:** This Waldorf inspired learning center sponsors Parent/Toddler programs for ages 0 - 5 every Friday. For more information call Kether Holtenbaugh at 889-1812.

Y **Tutu and Me:** Meets weekly on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:30 - 10:30 am at Kamehameha Park, Inter-generational Center. For more information call 885-1200.

Y **Intergenerational Kickball:** This fun activity takes place the 1st Sunday of every month from 3:30 - 5:00 pm at the Veteran's Field at Kamehameha Park. For more information call Lani Bowman at 889-5852.

Y **Kohala Play Group:** This is a drop in playgroup that meets every Tuesday at Kamehameha Park from 9:30 am. For more information call Alyce Camero at 885-0086.

Ka'u

Y **Ka'u Family Center:** The Ka'u Family Center is located in Na'alehu and provides information and referral services for the district of Ka'u. The center also has a food pantry and free computer use. Call Teresa Alderdyce at 929-9611 ext. 10 or walk in during open hours M - F from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 to 2:00 pm.

Y **Good Beginnings Play Group:** Meets every Tuesday at Waiohinu Park from 10:00 - 11:30 am. Children ages 6 months - 5 years and their caregivers are welcome to attend. For more information call Hettie Rush at 959-8572.

Y **Family Reading Night:** Will meet the 4th Friday of each month from 5:30 - 7:30 pm at the Ocean View Community Center. Call Melody Raymond at 929-7311 ext. 312 for details.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES:

Y **Aiu Like:** Offers prenatal and parent/child services including home visits, workshops, and parent/toddler groups for people of Native Hawaiian ancestry. For more information call 329-4801 in Kona or 885-7040 in Waimea.

Y **Aloha United Way:** Is a free, 24-hour information and referral service for all islands. The database includes over 4,000 programs and services ranging from legal assistance to recycling information to family counseling and much more! Dial 2-1-1 to find the services that meet your individual needs.

Y **Busy Buddies Hawaii:** A full service childcare center and full time Preschool. Full day or Holiday care, School waiver days and Intersession care, After School Care, Parent or Group visits, and Childcare While you "Get Fit" program. Available hourly or daily in a clean, fun, and safe educational environment. Call 334-1800 for more information or visit www.busbuddieshawaii@aol.com.

Y **Child Care Connection Hawaii:** The Department of Human Services' Child Care Connection Hawaii program provides families with subsidies to help with child care expenses, guidance in selecting a child care provider, information about quality child care programs, and referrals to community resources for help with other concerns. For more information call 327-4755.

Y **Family Support Services of West Hawaii:** Provides parent education services, referrals and resource linkages, home visiting services, family counseling, and positive alternative activities for youth. Offices are located in Kona and Waimea with Family Centers in Ka'u and Hawi. For more information call 326-7778, M - F 8:00 am - Noon and 1:00 - 5:00 pm.

Y **Hawai'i Covering Kids:** Through a variety of services, Hawai'i Covering Kids helps enroll children in free and low-cost health insurance programs. For more information call the Med-QUEST West Hawaii office at 327-4970 or visit www.coveringkids.com.

Y **Hawaii Island United Way (HIUW):** HIUW provides linkages to locally based organizations that assist people in need. These organizations include health and human service programs, services for the mentally and physically challenged, emergency shelter, food and health care for the homeless, youth recreation and family support services. Call 326-7400 for more information.

Y **Kona WIC Program:** The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is a federally funded program which provides Hawaii residents with nourishing supplemental foods, nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion and health and social service referrals. Participants are either pregnant, breastfeeding, or postpartum women, and infants and children under age five who meet income guidelines and have a medical or nutritional risk. Call 322-4888 for more information.

Y **Malama Perinatal Program:** The Malama Perinatal Program provides information and support for women's health, healthy pregnancy, labor and birth, breastfeeding, infant and toddler care, and much more. Services are provided island-wide. For more information call 885-1234.

Y **The Neighborhood Place of Kona (NPK):** Focuses on the well-being of families and the prevention of child abuse and neglect. NPK use a "talk story" approach of connecting with families and individuals. Services are non-judgmental, family-centered, individualized, and culturally sensitive. Call Wally Lau or Pili Kalele at 331-8777 for more information.

Y **The Parent Line:** Funded by the Hawaii State Department of Health, The Parent Line is a confidential toll-free telephone line staffed by professionals who specialize in child and adolescent growth and development. They offer support and information to anyone with concerns about parenting. To reach The Parent Line call 1-800-816-1222.

Y **The Pregnancy Center:** Offers free pregnancy tests, ultra sound exams, parenting classes, outreach and support to families, and baby clothes and furnishings awarded through a program called Earn While You Learn. For more information, call 326-1766.

Y **PATCH:** PATCH offers connections to a wide variety of information for parents and families. They help parents take the guesswork out of choosing child care with referrals to local child care providers. Call 325-3800 for more information

Y **Preschool Open Doors (POD):** Funded by the State of Hawaii, POD is an early childhood education and care project that helps children go to preschool by helping their families pay the preschool costs. Applications are accepted between March and April yearly. For more information call 1-800-746-5620.

Y **Tutu's House:** Throughout the year, staff and volunteers from the Waimea community offer a wide variety of opportunities that encourage individuals to make informed decisions about their personal health-related quality of life. For more information call 885-6777 or visit www.tutushouse.org.

Y **Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii (VLSH):** Legal assistance is provided to clients in a variety of areas of civil law. VLSH does not provide assistance on criminal law. Clinics are held at Family Support Services of West Hawaii once a month. Call 800-839-5200 for more information.



Let no child
be an Underdog!