



Nā Kama a Hāloa is a community-based network first convened in September 2018

Our Goal: By the year 2030, Native Hawaiian children are no longer disproportionately represented in child welfare.

How we work: We work to weave Native Hawaiian wisdom and perspective into Hawai'i's foster care system. We strive to heal and share power among participants who include people that work in child welfare, serve the Native Hawaiian population, and have lived experience in child welfare.

Our Dream:

We have reimagined and transformed child welfare so that it is grounded in Native Hawaiian culture and values and is sustained in deep positive relationships that heal and strengthen ourselves, our 'ohana, and our communities.

How we are making a difference:

- Parents with previous child welfare involvement are creating an advisory council to improve child welfare.
- Child Welfare Services has incorporated into its new hire training a Native Hawaiian history and cultural training module developed by Nā Kama members.
- CWS and partners are making practice changes to better support sibling connections for children in foster care.

To learn more about Nā Kama a Hāloa:

- Visit: epicohana.org/nakama
- Contact: Laurie Tochiki (Itochiki@epicohana.org) or Kailene Nihipali Sanchez (knihipalisanchez@epicohana.org)

Additional resources:

- Parent Resources: epicohana.org/parentpartners
- Resource Caregiver Resources: rcg.hawaii.gov
- Foster Youth and Young Adult Resources: epicohana.org/youth-circle

Partners in our network:

- Child Welfare Services, Department of Human Services
- Lili'uokalani Trust
- Kamehameha Schools
- EPIC 'Ohana, Inc.
- Partners in Development Foundation
- Family Court CASA program
- Catholic Charities Hawai'i
- Family Programs Hawai'i
- Hale Kipa
- Neighborhood Place of Wai'anae
- Pū'ā Foundation
- Family Court
- Department of Health
- Friends of the Children's Justice Center Maui
- Ho'oikaika Partnership
- Geist Foundation
- Hawai'i Community Foundation
- Young people who experienced foster care
- Birth parents who experienced child welfare involvement
- Resource caregivers (foster parents)
- Annie E Casey Foundation
- Casey Family Programs
- CoCreative™