



# Hawaii Kids Count E-BULLETIN

## May 2006 Issue

Center on the Family • University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

### [What's New This Month](#)

1. May is National Foster Care Month
2. *Child Maltreatment 2004* Report
3. New Publication and Orientation Session: *Learning to Grow Developmental Guidelines for Infants, Toddlers and Young Preschoolers*
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### [1\) May is National Foster Care Month](#)

National Foster Care Month provides an opportunity for people across the nation to take action on behalf of the children and youth in foster care and to raise awareness of how people can change a life in their own community.

There will be rally on Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at the State Capitol. Activities include:

#### **3pm- Press Conference and Rally**

- Speakers include Lt. Governor "Duke" Aiona, foster parents, former foster youths and children adopted from foster care
- Proclamation Presentation and Heart Gallery Hawaii Photographic Display of Hawaii's Foster Youths that volunteered to share their story
- Exhibits from every foster care agency in Hawaii

#### **4pm- Sign waving in front of the capitol**

- Free Blue Ribbon Balloons to help represent Hawaii's Foster children
- "When I Foster, I Touch the Future" Blue T-Shirt campaign
- Banners and signs from local schools, churches and community groups

To find out how to become a foster parent in Hawaii, please call (808) 454-2570 on Oahu, and 1-800-995-7949 on neighbor islands. For more information on donating goods to foster families or becoming a foster parent, please visit <http://www.hawaiifosterparent.org/> or <http://www.fosterhawaii.org/>

### Some facts about foster care in Hawaii

As of September 2003:

- About 3,000 children were in the foster care system, mostly due to parental abuse or neglect
- The average age was 8.6 years

- 7% of children were under age 1; 31% were ages 1-5; 25% were ages 6-10; 26% were ages 11-15; and 11% were ages 16-18
- The average length of foster care placement was 18 months
- The largest racial/ethnic categories were “Asian/Pacific Islander” (46%) and “Two or More Races” (38%)
- 62% of children leaving the foster care system were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers

To view these data and their sources online, please visit:

[http://www.fostercaremonth.org/NR/rdonlyres/A25D1AEC-076A-4479-B99D-1D33DA82C0D3/0/HI\\_Facts\\_fcm06.pdf](http://www.fostercaremonth.org/NR/rdonlyres/A25D1AEC-076A-4479-B99D-1D33DA82C0D3/0/HI_Facts_fcm06.pdf)

## [2\) Child Maltreatment 2004 Report](#)

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families Bureau, has released its latest report on child maltreatment for the nation and each of the 50 states.

2004 data for Hawaii include:

- Of the 7,186 children who were subjects of a maltreatment investigation, about half (3,629) were substantiated and half were unsubstantiated (3,556)
- Of the 3,629 substantiated cases, 547 (15%) were victims of neglect, 400 (11%) were victims of physical abuse, 196 (5.4%) were victims of sexual abuse, 64 (1.8%) were victims of psychological maltreatment, 56 (1.5%) were victims of medical neglect, and 3,173 (87.4%) were classified as “other”
- 49% of victims were boys, and 51% were girls
- There were 6 child fatalities
- Of the 3,629 substantiated cases, 1,823 children (50%) were removed from their homes

To view full report, please visit: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/pubs/cm04/cm04.pdf> or <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/pubs/cm04/index.htm>

## [3\) Learning to Grow Developmental Guidelines for Infants, Toddlers, and Young Preschoolers](#)

The University of Hawaii’s Center on the Family is pleased to announce the publication of *Learning to Grow Developmental Guidelines for Infants, Toddlers and Young Preschoolers*. This book identifies developmental guidelines for children from birth through three years of age and provides examples of typical behaviors that illustrate the guidelines. It also discusses factors that contribute to children’s growth and development, and hallmarks of early learning. The *Developmental Guidelines* provide a foundation for understanding young children’s

development and for recognizing and creating learning opportunities that support this development.

In June, orientation sessions will be conducted on the development and the intended use of the Guidelines. This first round of orientation sessions are designed for early childhood program administrators and trainers. Additional sessions will be provided at a later date for other interested individuals.

For more information, including orientation dates, locations, and how to register, please e-mail Angela Choy at [choyange@hawaii.edu](mailto:choyange@hawaii.edu) or call her at (808) 956-2128 by **May 31, 2006**. Seating is limited so register early to guarantee a space for you. Attendees will receive a copy of the *Developmental Guidelines*.

#### [4\) Feedback Wanted: Hawaii Kids Count E-bulletin Feedback Survey](#)

Hawaii Kids Count is collecting feedback to help ensure that our products and services meet the needs of our users. Please follow the link below and take a moment to complete a quick, online survey. All responses will remain confidential. We appreciate your participation.

You may access the survey at: [http://uhfamily.hawaii.edu/hawaii\\_kids\\_count/ebsurvey.asp](http://uhfamily.hawaii.edu/hawaii_kids_count/ebsurvey.asp)

#### [5\) Hawaii Kids Count E-Bulletin Subscription Information](#)

Below are instructions on subscribing and unsubscribing to future issues.

##### **SUBSCRIBING:**

If this newsletter was forwarded to you by a colleague and you would like to receive future newsletters, you may subscribe to this newsletter by sending an email to [cof@ctahr.hawaii.edu](mailto:cof@ctahr.hawaii.edu) with the phrase "Subscribe Hawaii Kids Count Newsletter" in the subject field.

##### **UNSUBSCRIBING:**

If we have reached you in error, or if you would prefer not to hear from us in the future, simply send an e-mail to [cof@ctahr.hawaii.edu](mailto:cof@ctahr.hawaii.edu) with the phrase "Unsubscribe Hawaii Kids Count Newsletter" in the subject field.

#### [6\) Printable and Archived Versions of E-bulletins](#)

A printable version of this e-bulletin can be accessed as a pdf file at:

[http://uhfamily.hawaii.edu/hawaii\\_kids\\_count/kids\\_count.asp](http://uhfamily.hawaii.edu/hawaii_kids_count/kids_count.asp)

Archived versions of e-bulletins can be found at:

[http://uhfamily.hawaii.edu/hawaii\\_kids\\_count/archive.asp](http://uhfamily.hawaii.edu/hawaii_kids_count/archive.asp)