Child & Family Service Proves Poverty in Hawai‘i is a Treatable Condition

“Imagine helping a family move from poverty, homelessness, and distress to educated, working, and thriving. Child & Family Service has found a model that does just this!”
~ Karen Tan, LCSW, CFS President & CEO

Over the past 3 years, Child & Family Service (CFS) piloted **Transition to Success® (TTS®)** an anti-poverty model of care in our programs on the islands of Kaua‘i and Maui. TTS® is a system of care that changes our understanding and treatment response to poverty as a condition, NOT a character flaw. As with any “condition,” things can get better when given the right support and tools.

We deliberately measured the impact of TTS® on a quarterly basis over the pilot period and careful review of the data indicates that CFS has a clear and focused way to help move families in Hawai‘i out of poverty. The data also shows that it is important to expand the model across all CFS programs statewide. Ideally, the time is now to also expand the model across the Human Service sector.

Measuring 19 Self-sufficiency Domains

Using 19 Domains, determinants necessary to thrive independently, CFS Family Advocates partner with families to assess their progress in each Domain on a scale of 1- 5 (1 = in crisis and 5 = empowered). When indicated by the assessment, the Family Advocate works with the family to identify the barriers that are preventing success in the Domain. Working together, a map of the family’s hopes and dreams is created and used to identify short-term and intermediate goals which will help to overcome the barriers. Having moved past their barriers, the family can then focus on achieving their long-term goals.

1. **Shelter/Housing**
2. **Employment**
3. **Income**
4. **Food/Nutrition**
5. **Childcare**
6. **Children’s Education**
7. **Adult Education**
8. **Health Care**
9. **Life Skills**
10. **Family Relations/ Support Network**
11. **Transportation/Mobility**
12. **Community Involvement**
13. **Parenting Skills**
14. **Legal**
15. **Mental Health**
16. **Substance Abuse**
17. **Safety**
18. **Disability**
19. **Financial Management**

Child & Family SERVICE
A private nonprofit serving Hawai‘i since 1899

CHILD & FAMILY SERVICE 120 YEARS OF CARING

We Are All About FAMILY

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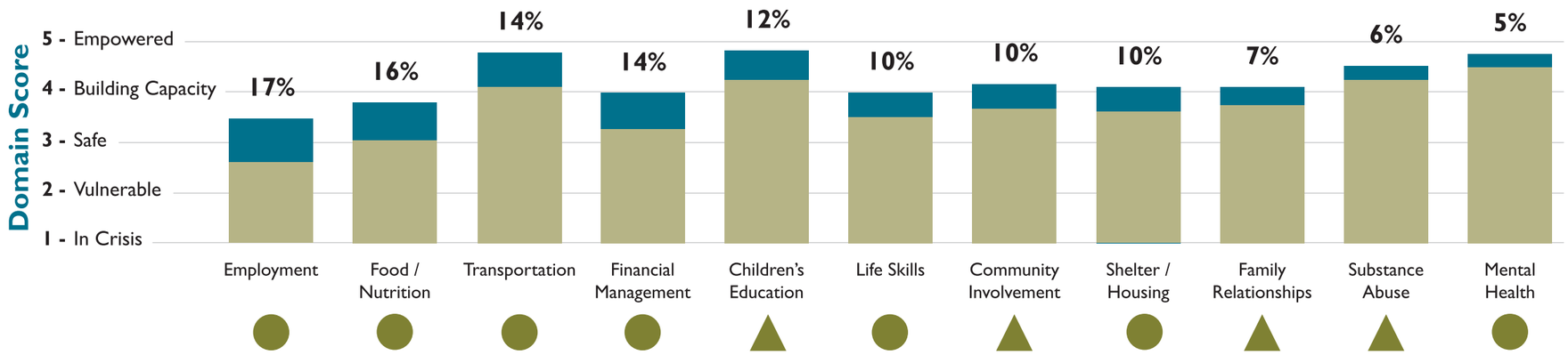
Child & Family Service (CFS) is an impact-driven, community-based organization, dedicated to strengthening families and fostering the healthy development of children. We are the oldest “Hawai‘i-grown” 501(c)(3) human-service nonprofit, serving the needs of families and individuals since 1899. Today, as we celebrate our 120th year, CFS continues to be ranked a top-250 company with a $30-million budget and more than 450 employees statewide who voted CFS a “Best Places to Work.” Our statewide counseling and therapeutic programs are designed to help individuals and families heal from trauma, prevent abuse and neglect, and help break the cycle of generational poverty.

CFS Kaua'i & Maui TTS® Pilot Evaluation Results

From October 2016 to April 2019, CFS measured 19 domains for 558 individuals participating our programs. The data reveals incredible positive changes in 16 domains. Most importantly, 11 of the 16 indicate statistically significant change. This means that future participants, going through Transition To Success™, can expect the same or similar results. The chart below depicts our data.

CFS Transition to Success® Pilot Data Showing Statistically Significant Change



TTS® domains are assessed on a 1 – 5 scale where 5 indicates success.

October 2016 Initial Assessment

April 2019 Most Recent Assessment

● p = < 0.01> (indicates 99% of future participants can expect the same or similar results)

▲ p = <0.05> (indicates 95% of future participants can expect the same or similar results)

Kaua'i participants showed the most significant improvement in: Children's Education, Shelter/Housing, & Employment.

Maui participants showed the most significant improvement in: Employment & Community Involvement.

"Just 2 years ago, my husband and I were struggling from addiction. We were homeless, living in a tent with our 4 kids, moving from site to site, fetching water and food daily, trying to avoid the judgement of others while we struggled to make it through day to day. We first went to CFS for food and clothing, and ended up receiving so much more. Thanks to these past 2 years being in the CFS program, we have a safe place to live and a stable life for our kids. My husband and I are now employed and most importantly we have the tools we need to handle the problems that put us in poverty."

~ Kaua'i Family

TTS® Demographics of 558 Individuals (Kaua'i = 408, Maui = 150)

Gender

	Kaua'i	Maui
Female	50%	51%
Male	50%	49%

Age

	Kaua'i	Maui
< 20 Years	88%	2%
20-34 Years	4%	50%
35-55 Years	6%	43%
>55 Years	20%	5%

Ethnicity

	Kaua'i	Maui
Pt. Hawaiian	26%	39%
Caucasian	24%	26%
Filipino	22%	14%
Chinese	9%	6%
Other	19%	15%

Household Size

	Kaua'i	Maui
1-3 People	38%	62%
4-6 People	57%	35%
7+ People	5%	3%