



## ***Head Start and Early Head Start 2019-20 Annual Report***

### ***Our Agency, Our Program***

Child & Family Service (CFS) has been Hawaii's premier family-centered, full-service non-profit since 1899. It has been providing comprehensive support services to children and families in Kauai for over 36 years. CFS believes the future of Hawaii's communities depend on our ability to foster the health and well-being of our youth and empower our families to make positive changes for successful outcomes. CFS Head Start (HS) and Early Head Start (EHS) services greatly support these efforts.

### **The CFS Mission:**

#### ***Strengthening Families and Fostering the Healthy Development of Children***

Despite the impacts of COVID-19 this year, Child and Family Service Head Start and Early Head Start has continued to focus on its mission, "Strengthening Families and Fostering the Healthy Development of Children." Based on the opportunities afforded by the Office of Head Start and CARES Act funding, CFS HS/EHS was able to continue to serve families remotely and keep all staff employed. The program provided families with educational activities and resources for students. Funded by the County of Kauai, the Head Start program provided a month-long Summer School program that allowed students to attend to prepare their transition to kindergarten in the fall and make up lost classroom time.

CFS has been providing HS services on Kauai since 2000. The 2019-20 school year marked the end of year five, and the CFS made great strides in meeting the program's two long-term goals, as follows

**Goal 1:** Enhance CFS HS and EHS' Parent, Family, Community Engagement (PFCE) services by implementing Transitions to Success™ (TTS), an evidence-based model to transition families to CFS Head Start and Early Head Start 2019-20 Annual Report

improved health, education, and economic self-sufficiency. The program's progress includes:

- Full implementation of the TTS model to all families in CFS HS and EHS. We focused on strengthening the use of the model to guide family engagement services and increase child and family outcomes.
- All staff in the HS & EHS programs were trained at the beginning of the school year.
- A reporting system in ETO was created to allow staff to have immediately updated data to analyze the program's effectiveness.

**Goal 2:** Increase the capacity of early childhood education services and enhance teaching practices for children 0-5 to maximize children's potential to enter kindergarten with a solid foundation for school success. The program's progress includes:

- CFS HS and EHS provided early childhood education services to 163 participants.
- Staff received ongoing training and support focused on curriculum implementation, health and safety protocol and procedures, developmental milestones, family engagement.
- The EHS program selected a curriculum that was a stronger fit for home visiting services. All EHS staff were trained in this curriculum and continued to receive booster training throughout the school year.
- CLASS Scores indicate that the program is meeting the national threshold and above the 10% nationally.

Funded enrollment for the school year was 128; 92 for HS preschool children and 36 for EHS infants, toddlers, and a maximum of six pregnant women at any given time. CFS initially offered center-based preschool services in the Koloa, Lihue & Kapaa classrooms described in the table below and HS-EHS home-based services island-wide. The Kekaha center was not in operation due to the center's renovation; therefore, home-based services were provided to families in this area. In March of 2020, the pandemic hit Hawaii, which shifted our services to all virtual learning.

### **The CFS Vision:**

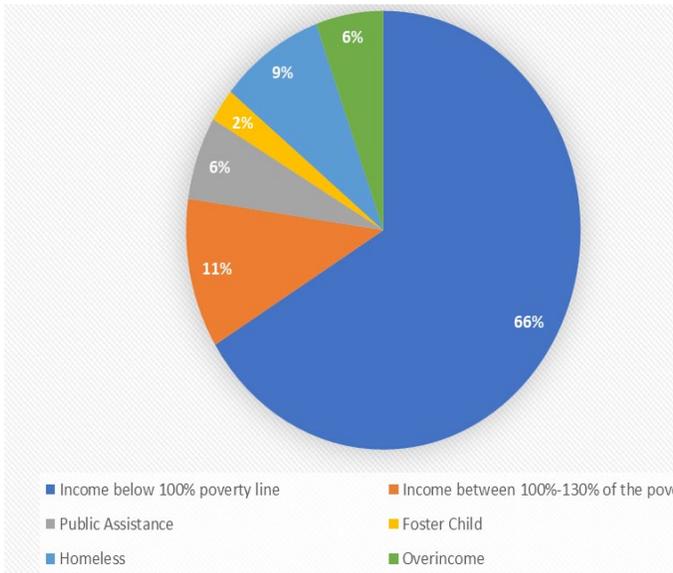
***Healthy, thriving individuals and  
families building multicultural  
communities across generations.***



*New Kekaha Classroom*

**Participant Demographics**

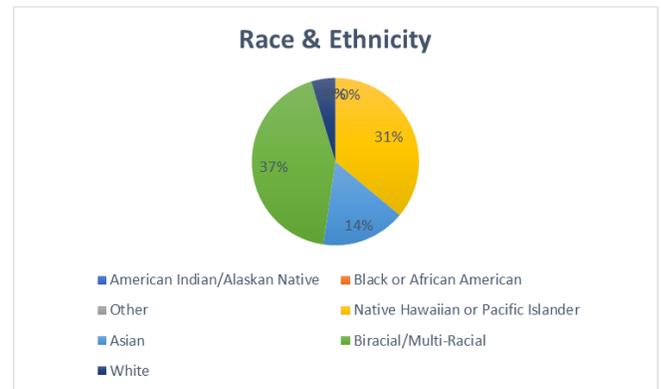
Cumulatively, CFS provided program services to 107 children in HS, 54 children in EHS. Of the total 161, the majority of participants were income-qualified, as indicated in the chart below:



The ethnic makeup of participants was indicative of the island’s diverse population, with most identifying that the majority (37%) of HS and EHS participants were Biracial/Multi-Racial, followed by 31% who are Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander and 14% Asian. The program supported families of different races and ethnicities with limited English proficiency through bilingual staff and contracted interpreters.

**Comprehensive Services**

CFS HS and EHS have a comprehensive focus on family engagement and encourage each family’s active role in education. Family well-being, family connections, and positive goal-oriented parent-staff relationships all promote a child’s school readiness. Utilizing the TTS model as a guide, program staff builds rapport with diverse families living in varied, challenging situations, allowing staff to support each family’s basic needs and goals. In establishing family goals, TTS assesses where families are in their current situation, guides family members to develop individual goals, and continuously measures progress on identified goals. TTS also provides for accountability measures in successfully moving families toward economic self-sufficiency.



As a comprehensive early childhood education program, CFS HS and EHS recognizes healthcare as a vital factor in a child’s pathway to school readiness. This includes having or obtaining health insurance coverage, accessing established medical and dental home providers, and receiving ongoing preventative care and recommended follow-up treatment services. Thus, HS Family Advocates and EHS Home Visitors partner with families to support their understanding of the importance of maintaining a regular schedule of care. Program staff also partner with medical and dental professionals and insurance providers to further assist participants in accessing comprehensive health services and remaining up-to-date on a schedule of preventive and primary health care, as based on the Hawaii EPSDT. All children in the CFS HS and EHS program had health insurance during this school year.

**Special Needs**

In 2019-20, CFS HS and EHS provided services to 28 children with a diagnosed disability, exceeding the

Office of Head Start requirement of 10% cumulative enrollment. HS children were dually enrolled with the Kauai Department of Education Special Education program, while EHS participants shared enrollment with Easter Seals of Kauai. This allowed children to receive specialized services they needed while also experiencing a learning program with more typically developing children.

**Approach to School Readiness**

Defined by the Office of Head Start as “children are ready for school, families are ready to support their children’s learning, and schools are ready for children,” CFS HS and EHS has established School Readiness goals in the five essential domains:

- Approaches to Learning
- Social and Emotional Development
- Language and Literacy
- Cognition
- Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development

Additionally, goals are aligned with the program’s curriculum and the Kauai Department of Educations’ kindergarten expectations. CFS HS utilizes Teaching Strategies GOLD for recording data. EHS utilizes Frog Street AIMS, measuring each child’s growth and development, individualizing lesson plans, and monitoring the program’s progress towards achieving School Readiness goals. Using Teaching Strategies GOLD and AIMS also provide continuous quality improvement data, allowing the program to analyze trends, implement program improvements, and



evaluate the program’s outcomes from year to year.

Recognizing parents and caregivers as a child’s primary teacher, HS and EHS support families in playing an active role in their child’s education and encourages participation in all facets of the program, including management via the Policy Council. HS Family Advocates are also instrumental in supporting families through the kindergarten transition process to enter elementary school equipped and prepared for their child’s next stage of education.

**The fiscal Year 2019-20 Revenue**

CFS Head Start and Early Head Start total budgets were \$1,483,587 are detailed below.

Funding	Budgeted
Early Head Start	403,794
Head Start	1,026,946
T&TA	24,847

**The fiscal Year 2019-20 Expenditures**

CFS Head Start and Early Head Start providing high-quality program services most cost-effectively. Expenditures are reasonable and necessary to meet program requirements and are consistent with meeting programmatic best practices.

The most considerable expense by far was personnel costs, which include salaries, taxes, and fringe benefits. Following personnel costs were Indirect Administrative Costs, including utilities, unreimbursed classroom meals, mileage reimbursements for staff, etc. Training & Technical Assistance (T&TA) costs are inclusive of out-of-state travel. COVID CARES Act funding from the Office Head Start assisted in supporting purchasing PPE items for the program.

**Audit Report**

Each year, an independent certified public accounting firm is engaged to complete a full audit of the CFS accounting system and financial statements, last completed for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019. CFS consistently receives an unqualified report reflecting the soundness of our accounting system and financial records.

CFS partners with Hawaii’s families to help them address serious life issues with life-changing results. We believe that positive change can happen. We help families move from the impossible to the possible to new possibilities. We instill hope that gives people the courage to change!