

Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center



2002

Annual Report

Onipa'a - Steadfast

“Onipa'a!” The sound of hundreds of people chanting Queen Lili'uokalani's creed is not easily forgotten. It is a memory that remains in the hearts of everyone at the Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center and the Queen Lili'uokalani Trust. We are humbled by the unfailing aloha of all who refused to watch our Queen's legacy crumble.

In 2002, thousands of her people and supporters rallied together in protest of mandatory leasehold conversion, a form of legislation that threatened the Queen's ancestral lands in Waikīkī. These lands are the

foundation for funding the many programs and services offered by the Center. With the community's help, we were victorious in this battle.

A remarkable leader, Queen Lili'uokalani lived her life devoted to her people and nation. She created her trust to extend her love and concern for the children of Hawai'i in perpetuity. Her songs continue to inspire. Her words never fade. Her eminent grace will always fall upon all who need her. This is her legacy — the Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center is dedicated to its preservation.



Her Majesty's Legacy:



On December 2, 1909, Queen Lili'uokalani executed a Deed of Trust, which established the legal and financial foundation of an

institution dedicated to the welfare of orphaned Hawaiian children.

She amended her Deed of Trust in 1911 to include destitute children.

It states, "all the property of the Trust Estate, both principal and income...shall be used by the Trustees for the benefit of orphan and other destitute children in the Hawaiian Islands, the preference given to Hawaiian children of pure or part-aboriginal blood."

lūpapa





he year 2002 will be remembered as a year of changes and challenges for the Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center (QLCC) and Trust. We have flowed with the tides of change but remain focused upon our mission. We have met every challenge and overcome adversity with calm resolve. Our future is bright.

Major changes and challenges involving our Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center included budget and personnel cuts due to economic constraints; the closing of some satellite offices; and, a refocus on core programs.

Every day in communities statewide, through their dedication and hard work our QLCC employees, led by Executive Director Claire Asam, Ph.D., reaffirm our commitment to serve orphan and destitute children. Our vision for the Queen's beneficiaries is exemplified in our motto: "Healthy Children, Strong Families, Caring Communities." We achieve this vision by supporting, strengthening, and working with the child's primary caregivers, their 'ohana. We will work relentlessly to make this vision a reality.

In 2002, the changes and challenges involving trust administration and asset management were historic. The withdrawal of First Hawaiian Bank as trustee opened the door for the appointment of retired Judge Patrick Yim as successor trustee. He is a man of broad experience, keen intellect, and proven

dedication to the welfare of Hawai'i's families and children. He joins a board that already benefits from the patient wisdom of Colonel David Peters, our senior trustee.

In October, we took over management of all Trust assets, including 6,500 acres of Hawai'i land, over 100 commercial and residential leases and a portfolio of marketable securities. The Trust opened a downtown office and created a Trust Administration division headed by Robert Ozaki, a top executive with invaluable experience. The transition is proceeding smoothly. We will prudently manage Trust assets to build resources to support our mission and to ensure present and future stability and growth.

In 2002, we successfully opposed efforts by the Honolulu City Council to condemn Trust lands in Waikiki through mandatory leasehold conversion. Through community support—the power of the people—we blunted this effort. We must remain vigilant and seek a permanent solution. The Trust is facing many other issues, but we will overcome them.

In summary, 2002 has been a year unique in the annals of our history. We have weathered the storms of change, and are moving forward towards new horizons. We are now navigators of our own destiny. We have overcome adversity. We have accomplished this through the efforts of our loyal staff, competent leaders and supportive communities. But the source of our strength remains the vision and mana of Queen Lili'uokalani, whose motto inspires us. 'Onipa'a!

Aloha,

Thomas K. Kaulukukui, Jr.
Chairman, Board of Trustees
Queen Lili'uokalani Trust

*From Left to Right:
Trustee Patrick K.S.L. Yim,
Trustee David M. Peters,
Executive Director Dr. Claire Asam,
Chairman Thomas K. Kaulukukui, Jr.,
Trust Administrator Robert H. Ozaki*



We provide assistance to our beneficiaries in three ways:

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY SUPPORT, GROUP SERVICES, AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES.



Individual and Family Support provides assistance for children who have suffered a significant loss or who lack a caring and nurturing environment. Some examples include grief counseling to cope with the death of a parent, casework to secure shelter for those who may be homeless, and support to 'ohana caregivers who are providing a home for children unable to live with their parents.

Group Services provides assistance to children and those influential in their lives (such as parents and grandparents) to support and educate them in areas of interest or concern. Groups are formed around a variety of topics that benefit children, including: parenting, leadership development, Hawaiian cultural values and practice, and academic achievement.

Community Development Services takes a long-term approach that focuses on building the social capacity of people residing within a geographical area so that they can improve the community's well being. In community development, we support residents to strengthen the systems of care available to orphan and destitute children in their own neighborhoods. Examples include increasing economic opportunities, or modifying existing service systems so that they are more appropriate for our beneficiaries' needs.



Motto:

HEALTHY CHILDREN,
STRONG FAMILIES,
CARING COMMUNITIES

Our commitment is to the orphaned and destitute Hawaiian children, the heirs to the legacy of our beloved Queen. Together with our partners, we work toward the development of:

- ❖ Healthy children whose needs are met by a consistent nurturing caregiver so that children can reach their full potential
- ❖ Strong family attachment built on a cultural and spiritual foundation
- ❖ Stable home environment
- ❖ Caring communities that are concerned about the welfare of their children

These Are Our Stories

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY SERVICES

Grief Has No Timeline – Shared by David Garcia
Grief Counseling

Dane Bowden-Kauka lost a part of himself at the age of 15 when his father died following a six-month visit with him. After his father's death, Dane returned to his home in Kona. His mother, Lani Bowden, contacted the Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center for help with his grief, knowing that she could not help him cope with his loss by herself.



After meeting with his mother, we met with him on his own turf, at school. He needed to feel comfortable with us in a neutral and safe setting. After the third visit, he began to open up. We talked about his anger. He was mad at his father for leaving him and directed a lot of his anger toward his mother.

Grief has no timeline and we helped him deal with it at his own pace. As he moved successfully through his recurring sorrow and pain, he became progressively stronger. We helped a little with books, clothes and school supplies, but what helped most was the individual counseling.

Dane's relationship with his mother grew stronger. He even earned himself a part-time job. We were so proud of him when he came with us to the Queen's birthday celebration at 'Iolani Palace on September 2. He was so responsive as he talked and laughed with new people.

However, there will be times when the sorrow returns. Times such as graduation, when he will wish his father were there. But like always, we will be here for him, steadfast like the Queen.

An Uphill Battle – Shared by Kurt Schweitzer
Destitute Assistance

Death is not the only reason children lose their parents. As Robert struggled with cancer, he also coped with single parenthood while his wife was in prison. He missed doctor's appointments because he feared leaving his two-year-old son alone with strangers. The child had already lived through abuse and neglect from others in his past. Robert's health began to deteriorate while they lived in destitute conditions in a dangerous neighborhood.

The Queen entered their lives at a time when they were physically and emotionally overwhelmed. She brought with her hope and a time of healing so that this small 'ohana could survive. Through our destitute assistance services, we provided them a small rent-free apartment to allow Robert to recover from his illness. He also took part in post-placement budget counseling, which helped prepare him to financially care for his son alone. His son was enrolled in childcare so that he could make time to meet with his doctors. Their immediate and extended family also received case management and counseling services to help them work through issues along the way. After six months of difficult chemotherapy and operations, Robert conquered his uphill battle against cancer.

Today, he lives a healthy lifestyle and is capable of making choices for himself and his son. Like all recoveries, there are challenges and obstacles. Fortunately, Robert and his son did not have to face them alone.

GROUP SERVICES

Nā Lā O Kaiona –

Shared by Wendell Ogata and Leilani Collins
Leadership Group

“Your lives have made a difference in Hawai‘i and the communities here on O‘ahu. I am grateful for all the work, hardships and love you guys gave my family, friends, and me. Sometimes when I get ready to go to sleep, somehow I feel your presence. It’s not spooky or anything, it’s actually comforting to know someone is watching over me.”



This is an excerpt from a letter written to Queen Lili‘uokalani and Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop by Laken-Ann Antonio, a student of Nā Lā O Kaiona. Her honest words encompass the spirit and aloha of Nā Lā O Kaiona leadership group.

The program was a collaborative effort of the Queen Lili‘uokalani Children’s Center – Wai‘anae Coast unit and Kamehameha Schools. It started as a weeklong leadership development program for students at Wai‘anae and Nānākuli intermediate schools in September 2002. Thirty-one students attended every day to learn about their Hawaiian culture and how Hawaiian values relate to leadership. They took part in a service project in Nānākuli Valley and learned about Princess Pauahi and Queen Lili‘uokalani, two maternal Hawaiian leaders whose legacies live on today.

The program also offered the students an opportunity to learn more about themselves and to discover new paths to their future through interactive and fun activities. Kamehameha Schools’ E Ola Pono curriculum served as a foundation for the group.



Nā Tūtū Coalition – Shared by Bernie Baker Caretakers Support Groups

Grandparents and relative caretakers from all walks of life participate in the Caretakers Support Groups. They come with thoughts of, “I don’t know what to do. I’ve already raised my family.” Having to start all over again raising another generation in a different environment is an entirely new challenge for kūpuna. The support groups provide opportunities for participants to share experiences, strategies, resources and activities that may include the children. Topics may include grief issues, permanency planning, budgeting, child development, etc. The sessions provide a place where bonds are formed.

Losing a loved one is a devastating experience. Coping with loss is even more difficult when caring for an orphaned grandchild or relative because of special and sometimes unnoticed needs.

Grandpa’s wife died in 2000 and his daughter succumbed to cancer in September 2002. He was left to raise his 7-year old grandson, Jeff. Grandpa, age 65, attended a Nā Tūtū Support Group looking for resources in raising his grandson. During group sessions, Grandpa learned techniques and skills that promoted positive interactions between the two.

One day Jeff asked, “Who’s going to take care of me when you die, Grandpa?” Grandpa was prepared with a response because he explored alternatives during support group sessions. In order to meet and build a relationship with Grandpa’s nephew, who agreed to be Jeff’s legal guardian in an emergency, they flew to California. Disneyland turned out to be the frosting on the cake!



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Johnelle's Story – Shared by Kaleve Tufono-Iosefa
Hawai'i Team for Youth and Family

Johnelle was a devoted mother and dedicated member of Hawai'i Team for Youth and Family. We share her story in celebration of her extraordinary life.

A mother of six, Johnelle worked two jobs to support her family. They lived in the Pupū Street neighborhood in Waipahu. She joined Hawai'i Team for the same reason as many of the other volunteers; they refused to watch their children and neighborhood fail.



The Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center launched the program about six years ago with the belief that building a healthy community starts in the home.

The group's first priority was to strengthen the parents and family. From there we were able to focus on how to improve the neighborhood. Weekly meetings were held to discuss the issues plaguing their families as well as the community and to learn about available resources and how to utilize them.

Although she juggled many things in her life, Johnelle remained a core team member who returned every week. She was a strong advocate for the program as well as her family.



With the team's help, she earned special government housing subsidies and was able to move her family to a new home. She started to consider college as an option, obtained a driver's license and bought a car.

After months of hard work, they gained support from the City and County of Honolulu to revive the Pupū'ole Mini Park, which had been a problem area for crime and drug abuse. They organized activities for children in the park and improved public safety in the area. The volunteer group also recently received their 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

Johnelle played a large role in the team's achievements. Today, Hawai'i Team must continue its mission without her. Johnelle was killed in a tragic car accident. However, she leaves behind an inspirational legacy for her children. The subsidy remains intact to care for her loved ones and thanks to her dedication, the Pupū Street neighborhood is a better place to raise a family.

Like always, the team and the Queen will be there, to help her family cope with their loss.

A Strand of Love – Shared by Kehau Santiago
Nā Lei Mālama

Nā Lei Mālama is a project that has positively affected families up and down the Ko‘olau Loa coast. Together with over 20 other early childhood partner organizations, it has helped to increase access to medical care, assisted in identifying children with special health needs and provided tuition waivers for children who otherwise would not have had the opportunity to attend preschool. Through these acts and more, Nā Lei Mālama has been the strand of love that connects families and children with the care and support they need to live healthy and happy lives.

The Queen Lili‘uokalani Children’s Center’s commitment to the Ko‘olau Loa community is evident in its involvement with Nā Lei Mālama. As a strategic member of the consortium, the Center has worked with partners to address the need to increase the number of certified caregivers in the area, promote literacy, establish childcare options for the destitute, and much more.

One family in particular, the Laudenslager-Mariteragi ‘ohana, has proven how important it is that services for families are grassroots, culturally competent and community based.



In 1996, Stacy Laudenslager-Mariteragi could not be at a more desperate time in her life. Having just given birth and faced with a dysfunctional home environment, parenting issues and maintaining her sobriety, she needed help.



Other programs had reached out to her with no avail. However, Nā Lei Mālama was able to provide a seamless system that provided a continuum of care for Stacy and her family. Services such as the Healthy Start Program, Pūlama Nā Wāhine Ola Hou, Rainbow Schools, the community health centers and more worked to assure that this family received the care they needed.

Today, Stacy is a faithful mother and active member of her community. She now serves as the president of the Healthy Start Ko‘olau Loa parent council and donates her time to support efforts against domestic violence in Ko‘olau Loa through a program called Nā Pua Aloha. She has three beautiful children, Jason, Jacey and Joseph. Stacy also helps others experiencing the hardships that she lived through.



The program name,

“**Nā Lā O Kaiona,**” literally

translates to “the week of

Kaiona.” Kaiona is the

goddess of the Wai‘anae

mountain range and the

protector of travelers.

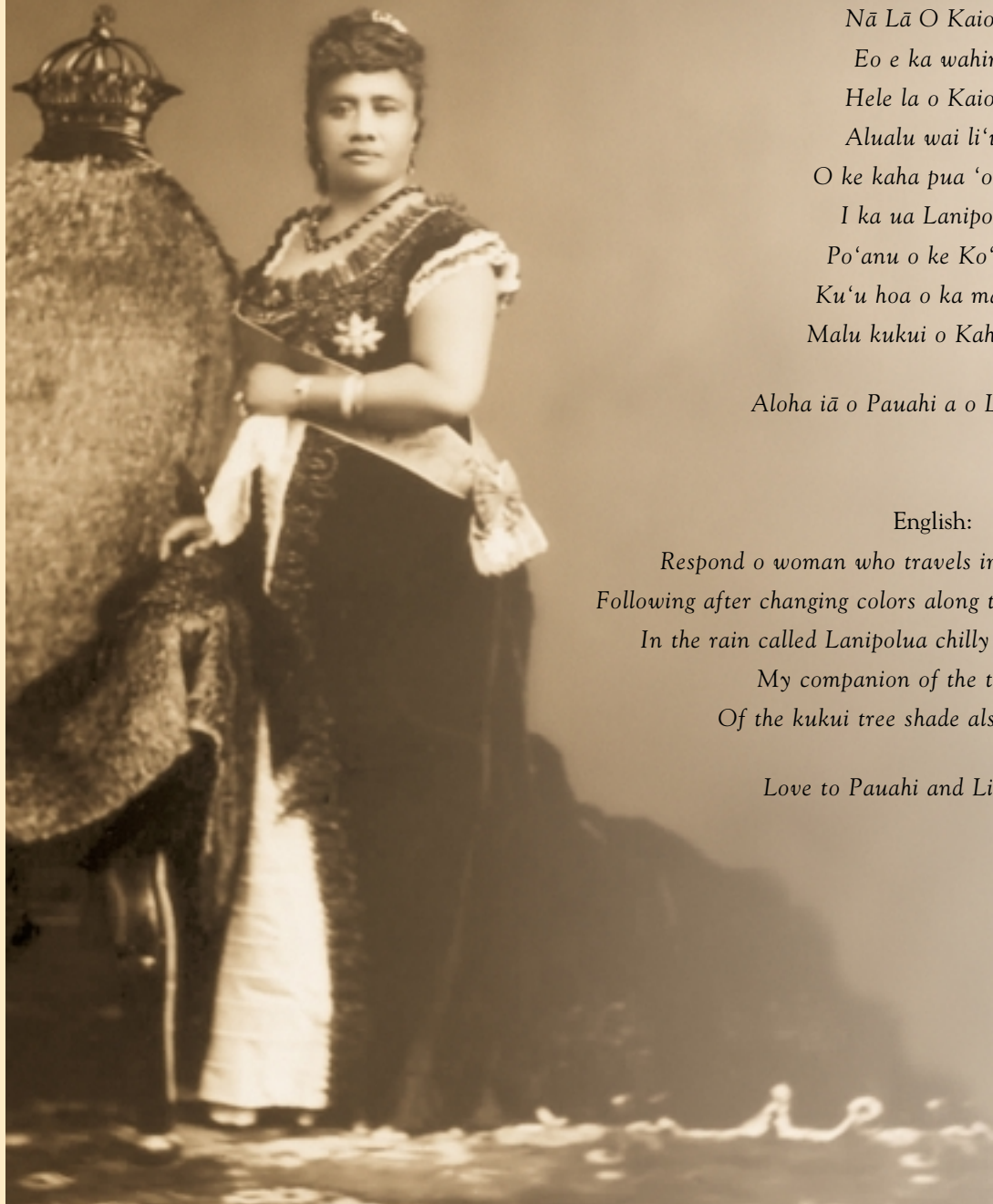
It is also the name used by

Queen Lili‘uokalani to

describe Princess Pauahi in

a song she wrote for her

hānai sister.



Lili‘uokalani lovingly wrote this oli
for her hānai sister, Pauahi.

*Nā Lā O Kaiona
Eo e ka wahine
Hele la o Kaiona
Alualu wai li‘ula
O ke kaha pua ‘ohāwai
I ka ua Lanipolua
Po‘anu o ke Ko‘olau
Ku‘u hoa o ka malu kī
Malu kukui o Kaho‘iwai*

Aloha iā o Pauahi a o Lili‘uokalani

English:

*Respond o woman who travels in the ways of Kaiona
Following after changing colors along the rows of ‘ohāwai flowers
In the rain called Lanipolua chilly cold upon the Ko‘olau
My companion of the ti leaf shade
Of the kukui tree shade also of Kaho‘iwai*

Love to Pauahi and Lili‘uokalani

Beneficiaries Served in 2002

CHILDREN SERVED	FAMILY SERVICES	CB PROJECTS	*BOTH	**TOTAL
Hawaiian Orphan	1,153	808	428	1,533
Hawaiian Destitute	2,204	7,457	526	9,135
TOTAL	3,357	8,265	954	10,668
No. of Family Service Cases	1,483			
No. of Community Building Projects		224		
<p>* "BOTH" refers to the number of children who received Family Services and participated in Community Building Projects ** "TOTAL" = unduplicated count of beneficiary children served</p>				

Expenditure Trends (in millions of dollars)

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Personnel	8.694	8.758	8.708	9.006	9.574
Financial Assistance	2.925	2.714	2.492	2.556	2.148
Operations	2.369	2.306	2.508	2.627	2.567
Capital Improvements	0.310	0.153	0.557	0.092	0.056
TOTAL	14.298	13.931	14.265	14.281	14.345

Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center has locations on each of our Hawaiian Islands, with the exception of Lāna'i and Ni'ihau. We welcome your interest, your support, and the opportunity to work with you on behalf of the children Queen Lili'uokalani so loved. Please contact the location nearest you for more information.

O'ahu

Central West O'ahu Unit
1300 Hālonā Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817
(808) 851-7770

Honolulu Unit
1300-A Hālonā Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817
(808) 847-7991

Ko'olaupoko Unit
46-316 Ha'ikū Road
Kane'ohe, Hawai'i 96744
(808) 235-7613

Wai'anae Coast Unit
87-1876 Farrington Hwy.
Wai'anae, Hawai'i 96792
(808) 668-2314

Waimanalo Office
41-245 Ilauhole Street
Waimanalo, Hawai'i 96795
(808) 426-1300

Windward O'ahu Unit
53-516 Kamehameha Hwy.
Hau'ula, Hawai'i 96717
(808) 293-8577

Hawai'i

Hilo Unit
919 Ululani Street
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
(808) 935-9381

Kona Unit
74-5490 Makala Blvd.
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
(808) 329-7336

Kona Unit Mailing Address
P.O. Box 2819
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96745

Kona Beach (Papawai)
(808) 329-0503

Kaua'i

Kaua'i Unit
4530 Kali Road
Līhu'e, Hawai'i 96766
(808) 245-1873

Maui

Maui Unit
1791 Wili Pā Loop
Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793
(808) 242-8888

Hāna Office
P.O. Box 662
Hāna, Hawai'i 96713
(808) 248-7218

Moloka'i

Moloka'i Unit
Kamehameha V Hwy.
Kalama'ula, P.O. Box 55
Kaunakakai, Hawai'i 96748
(808) 553-5369



Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center
Lili'uokalani Trust
1300 Hālonā Street • Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817
Phone (808) 847-1302 • Fax (808) 841-0502