



Kaua'i County



2020

2021

2022

2023

2024

2025

Updated 08/2024

Early Childhood Priorities

- ✱ Renovations have begun in the Pi'ikoi Building (Old Big Save space) for the County Youth Center.
- ✱ Mayor Kawakami is one of the Early Learning National Policy Fellows at The Hunt Institute, which includes 100 mayors and other elected officials nationwide.
- ✱ Increasing family and community engagement through a partnership with Kaua'i Planning & Action Alliance.
- ✱ Building capacity for early childhood.

- » **County of Kaua'i** continues to work closely with Alanna Bauman, **ECE System Coordinator** from Kaua'i Planning & Action Alliance, on Early Childhood priorities.
- » Kaua'i Planning & Action Alliance was recently awarded \$235,000 from a subgrant through Hawai'i P-20 PDG B-5 Family & Community Engagement and Advocacy project to **increase family knowledge and maximize family engagement** on Kaua'i.
- » As of September 1, 2024, **Kauai County employees** and their families will receive **free health care premium coverage**, including medical, prescription drugs, vision, and dental plans. The county will pay 100% of the premium and administrative costs for employees who enroll in the Kaiser Standard HMO or HMSA 75/25 PPO health plans.
- » \$120,000 in ARPA funds was awarded to the Kauai YWCA to fund its **24/7 crisis support services** through this year.
- » The county's FY24-25 budget included a \$1M competitive GIA program to support various **substance abuse prevention and mental health programs** across the island.
- » The Kauai Office of the Prosecuting Attorney has partnered with Ho'ola La Hui Hawaii, a Native Hawaiian Health Care System, to create a diversion program for low-level offenders suffering from mental health issues, as well as partnering on a program to **assist families dealing with domestic violence issues**.
- » Mayor Kawakami continues to **prioritize progressive and inclusive parks** and open spaces, such as inclusive playgrounds for kupuna and children with special needs, skateparks, and the county's first public equestrian facility so that all children will have a safe space to play.
- » Continue to support the annual events, including the **Parent & Child Fair and Kaua'i ECE Conferences**.