



2021 Request for Proposals (RFP): Round 1

Community CAN Prevention & Outreach Grant

*Hawai'i Children's Trust Fund: Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention
(Project Period, January 1-December 31, 2022)*

The Hawai'i Children's Trust Fund was established to ensure that Hawai'i's keiki reach their full potential, developing into healthy, productive, and caring individuals through the advancement of community-based family strengthening programs. By promoting healthy relationships and environments, thriving and safe communities can be created for Hawai'i's children, and their children to follow.

SUMMARY

This funding opportunity supports Hawai'i's most vulnerable families by focusing on the well-being and resiliency of families and communities through prevention education and resources. Funding is available for direct service programs and community-based outreach that provide primary and secondary prevention resources. Preference will be given to programs addressing mental health, substance abuse, or providing direct family resources through programs and services. All programs should incorporate the Protective Factors in implementation.

Applicants are encouraged to review this entire RFP before applying.

BACKGROUND

The Hawai'i Children's Trust Fund (HCTF) was established in 1993 by state legislation, Chapter 350B of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes, creating a public-private partnership between the Department of Health and the Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF). The purpose of the Hawai'i Children's Trust Fund is to prevent child abuse and neglect (CAN), and for the development of programs for children to increase their ability to form healthy relationships, and to avoid and cope with dangerous situations.

STAKEHOLDER RECOMMENDATIONS AND FEDERAL GUIDANCE

HCF will use to the recommendations provided by the HCTF Coalition, the HCTF Advisory Committee, and the HCTF Advisory Board and supplement those recommendations with federal guidance to ensure grantmaking is relevant and aligned to other child abuse and neglect prevention approaches across the country.

Target Population: Families with children age 0-5 years old; high-risk populations, and rural or remote communities.

Application Deadline: Online applications are due by October 15, 2021 at 4pm HST

Grant Range: Up to \$10,000 grants

Project Period: January 1 – December 31, 2022

Focus: For Primary Prevention programs, services, or projects focused on community-based outreach and/or direct support programs. Preference will be given to programs focused on mental health, substance abuse, and family resource programs and services.

Projects and programs should include the protective factors in implementation.

The Hawai'i Children's Trust Fund Coalition and Advisory Committee members met in 2020 and 2021 to gather feedback about the present needs of Hawai'i's most vulnerable families and to share about programs and or services that might support the prevention of child maltreatment. The Coalition overwhelmingly noted the need to provide flexible funding for organizations addressing parental resilience through programs and services that support the protective factors with implementation. The Coalition also recommended smaller grants for initiatives, programs, and outreach activities that support CAN Prevention that might also provide for small basic needs and mental health- or substance abuse-related activities.

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) issued an informational memo (ACF-CB-IM-21-03) on January 12, 2021 with key recommendations to stakeholders, agencies, and organizations delivering services for children and families. ACF summarized lessons learned from the pandemic and shared that it recommends prioritizing support for the health and well-being of children and families through two strategic approaches: ACF recommends strengthening families and communities through primary prevention, or services that address the root causes of family vulnerability and that enhance an individual's or a family's resilience. Secondly, ACF recommends promoting economic mobility to improve stability of the family unit.

ACF notes in this memo that its work will be rooted in the social determinants of health as well as the protective factors. In addition, ACF recommends determining family needs through adequate input received from service providers, families, and those on the ground or in the field. The agency provided a list of common services and supports that families have identified as a need and they include but are not limited to the following:

- Food and essential supplies, stable housing
- Language assistance services
- Providing remote supports to children and families to build protective factors
- Mental and behavioral health services for families
- Employment and educational resources for families to promote economic mobility

Because of the impacts of the pandemic, the Advisory Committee and Coalition members emphasized similar sentiments of the ACF memo to encourage flexible and less prescriptive grantmaking programming to better support CAN Prevention work amid enhanced hardships. In summary, the intention of this one-year funding program is to support local outreach of services, activities, initiatives, and primary prevention programming that aims to prevent maltreatment of children by providing much needed resources to families who may be more vulnerable because of notable barriers to accessing support.

PROTECTIVE FACTORS

The effects of abuse and neglect on children perpetuate beyond their youth. Children who were victims of maltreatment can suffer lifelong physical, psychological, and behavioral effects. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report that child maltreatment in one generation can be associated with child maltreatment in the next, but that the cycle can be interrupted. The Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSPP) lists the six protective factors in its [Protective Factors Framework](#) as:

1. Nurturing and attachment
2. Knowledge of parenting and of child/youth development
3. Parental resilience
4. Social connections
5. Concrete supports for parents
6. Social and emotional competence of children

FOCUS OF FUNDING

HCTF seeks to fund primary prevention programs, services, and projects focused on community-based outreach and direct support for families and children in Hawai'i.

DESIRED PROGRAM ELEMENTS

1. Services for Hawai'i families with children, preferably age 0 to 5 years old.
2. Incorporating or developing the protective factors of child abuse and neglect prevention identified by the CSSP.
3. A focus on providing mental health, behavioral health, or substance abuse services to families.
4. A focus on high-risk populations as identified through the provision of key data.
5. A focus on rural or remote communities as identified through the provision of key data.
6. Evidence-informed evaluation methods that document their effectiveness, where possible.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for funding, the applicant:

- Must be a nonprofit organization with a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status;
- Must be providing services in the State of Hawai'i, and have done so for the last two years; and
- Must be current on all grant reporting requirements with HCF.

GRANT RANGE

HCF invites one-year proposals for up to \$10,000 for the grant term beginning January 2022 and ending December 2022.

HCTF funds **may not** be used for capital improvements, endowments, re-granting (i.e. redistribution of funds to other organizations), activities that promote religious beliefs, or for the benefit of specific individuals.

GRANT REQUIREMENTS

Awarded grantees will be required to comply with the terms of an award letter that may include:

- Attendance at grantee gathering(s) during the grant period;
- Availability for on-site or virtual program visits;
- Utilization of an assessment tool to be identified by HCF;
- Participation in technical assistance, if appropriate, and program evaluation; and
- Submission of a final report

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

The strongest proposals will be those that meet at least three (3) of the six (6) elements described in the *Focus of Funding* section above **and** which:

- Demonstrate an organizational history of successful CAN prevention work
- Indicate knowledge and experience working with the proposed community
- Possess the necessary capacity to implement the program
- Articulate a clear and logical relationship between activities and results sought
- Include clear and reasonable, but aspirational, outcomes
- Describe a budget that is reasonable and realistic to support the program

DEADLINE AND KEY DATES

Online applications are due by **October 15, 2021 at 4 pm HST**.

**Decisions will be announced in December 2021 with projects operating between January 1, 2022-December 31, 2022.*

ONLINE SUBMISSION

Applications must be submitted online at: <https://nexus.Hawai'icommunityfoundation.org/nonprofit>

If the applying organization is a new applicant to HCF, click on “New User Registration for Organizations” at the bottom of the screen and complete the required fields. ***This process may take up to two (2) days.*** Allow adequate time to complete the proposal before the submission deadline.

The online application has fillable boxes with character limits. The character counts in Microsoft Word do not match the character counts in the application. If you cut and paste your work into the application, please be sure your text fits the space provided.

We recognize the significance of diacritical markings in written Hawaiian as pronunciation guides; however, the online application system is unable to accept diacritical marks. Please do not include these in your narrative; it may cause errors in the way the online system processes your proposal.

Please be sure to click the “Submit” button at the end of the application to ensure submission of your application.

PROPOSAL SECTIONS

Only complete online applications will be accepted. Applicants will be required to respond to the following sections. Each section is intended to be complementary to the others, allowing applicants to articulate their strengths in several areas. Applicants are encouraged to respond to sections completely, including all the elements requested, and using examples and data when available. *(To help prepare your responses, note that 2,000 characters, including spaces, equal approximately 1/2 page, using 12-point Arial font, normal spacing.)*

1) Organization Profile Information

This includes a series of short questions about the applying organization, including primary location, service locations, type of organization, service categories, ages served, number of full- and part-time staff, number of volunteers, date of incorporation, and mission statement.

2) Executive Summary

Provide a brief but concise summary of the applicant’s proposed program. This executive summary may be used for different purposes, including external communications, to describe the program should a grant be awarded. *(Maximum 1,500 characters)*

3) Community or Population to Be Served

State the geographic community being served (e.g. Līhu‘e, Hilo). Discuss how or why there is a need for serving families in this area, and how the need was determined. *Note: HCTF is interested in funding programs that support communities throughout the state. Grant funding decisions will be made with the consideration of this goal. (Maximum 2,000 characters)*

4) Organizational Capacity

Describe the mission of the applying organization and include experience or accomplishments in the field of child abuse and neglect prevention and/or family strengthening. Discuss why the organization is qualified or prepared to implement the proposed program/project, including staff qualifications. Include how the organization engages with the community to be served, and knowledge or experience working with the community. *(Maximum 3,000 characters)*

- 5) Program Description
Fully describe the program proposed for funding, the activities that will be conducted, and the protective factor(s) addressed. Include how the target population will be identified, and how they will be entered into the program. *(Maximum 3,000 characters)*
- 6) Outcomes and Evaluation
Describe 1-3 expected outcomes and how the organization plans to track data to meet anticipated outcomes. Please indicate what tools are used to gather data. *(Maximum 3,000 characters)*
- 7) Program Budget Form (Attachment A)
Complete and upload/attach the program budget, listing expected expenses and income, and include a brief budget narrative.

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Please upload/attach the following documents with your application:

- 1) Most recently audited financials (if applicable to organization), or most recently completed financial statements for the organization.
- 2) Current year's operating budget, including income and expenses.
- 3) A current list of the organization's Board of Directors and their affiliations to demonstrate the construction of the organization's leadership and community representation.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE RFP

Specific questions regarding the RFP, including those related to completing the Program Budget, can be directed only by e-mail to the HCTF program officer, Kehau Meyer at kmeyer@hcf-hawaii.org until September 10, 2021. Questions will not receive a response if received beyond that date.

Assistance with the online application can be directed to websupport@hcf-hawaii.org up until the application due date of October 15, 2021.

OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT HCTF GRANTMAKING

An HCTF Round 2 Request for Proposals (RFP), the Strategic CAN Prevention Program Grant, will be released in early 2022 with awards anticipated later in the Spring. This RFP will focus on primary and secondary prevention programs and projects focused on impact, strong methods, and proven success supported and driven by data. These grants will operate under multi-year funding with a grant ceiling of \$50,000 per year, supporting programs that are more immersive and focused on measuring the impact of CAN prevention activities and approaches with Hawai'i families. Priorities listed in the Round 1 RFP will also apply to the Round 2 RFP. More information will be available in January 2022.