



## 2024 HCTF Funding Opportunity

### Community CAN Prevention & Outreach Grant

*Hawai'i Children's Trust Fund: Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention  
(Project Period, Spring 2024-Spring 2025)*

**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  
Funding Opportunity 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 April 1, 2024 at 4pm HST

**Grant Range:** Up to \$10,000 grants

**Project Period:** 12 months from award date in May 2024

**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.
7. Alignment to the Hawai'i Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Framework,  
<https://www.hawaiichildrenstrustfund.org/framework>

## 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.
- Organizations awarded under this program in 2023 are expected to submit a final report before an award can be made.

## GRANT RANGE

HCF invites one-year proposals for up to \$10,000.

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:

- Availability for on-site or virtual program visits;
- 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 four (4) of the seven (7) 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 **April 1, 2024 at 4 pm HST**.

*\*Decisions will be announced in May 2024 with projects operating for 12 months.*

## Online Application

This application is available for online submission. Beginning January 2022, the Hawaii Community Foundation transitioned to a new Grants Portal. New users may register for an account here

[https://hawaiicf.smartsimple.com/s\\_Login.jsp](https://hawaiicf.smartsimple.com/s_Login.jsp). Registered users may log in to their account to submit an application.

Please give yourself adequate time before the submission deadline to access the system and familiarize yourself with the application process and requirements.

## Instructions

- Only complete and timely applications will be accepted.
- The online application has fillable boxes with character limits. The character counts in MS Word may 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 'Ōlelo Hawai'i (Hawaiian language) as pronunciation guides; however, the online application system is unable to accept diacritical markings. Please do not include these in your narrative as it may cause errors in how the online system processes your application.

## ORGANIZATION PROFILE

As part of the online application you will need to complete your organization's profile including:

- IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter (not required if previously applied to the Foundation or if applying through a fiscal sponsor)
- Organization mission
- Number of full-time, part-time, or regular volunteer staff
- Service location
- Types of services you provide – including age, gender, and target populations served
- Financials – including, annual financial statement, previous year's financials, and current operating budget (financials include income statement, balance sheet, and cash flow)
- Board of Directors List

## APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Applicants are encouraged to respond to sections completely, including all the elements requested, and using examples and data when available.

- **Organization Description** Describe the organization or program. What is the organization's mission and history, geographic reach, and volunteer and/or paid staff size? What is the organization's experience implementing this program and staff capabilities to conduct the proposed work? *(Maximum 2,500 characters = 3/4 page)*
- **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 2,500 characters = 3/4 page)*

- **Problem or Opportunity** Describe the need or opportunity you are trying to address, within the subject area of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention and why this is critical. Provide relevant data to support the need or opportunity being addressed. *(Maximum 3,000 characters = ¾ page)*
- **Program Activities** Fully describe the program proposed for funding, the activities that will be conducted, a program timeline, and the protective factor(s) addressed. Include how the target population will be identified, and how they will be entered into the program. *(Maximum 3,500 characters = 1 page)*
- **Expected Results** 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 3,500 characters = 1 page)*
- **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)*

#### **ADDITIONAL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

Please upload/attach the following documents with your application:

- 1) Program Budget Form (Attachment A- Available in the Applicant Resources Tab located at the top right-hand corner of the Home Page)
  - a) Complete and upload/attach the program budget, listing expected expenses and income.
- 2) Program Budget Narrative
  - a) A brief summary of other fund sources, how expenses relate to program activities, and any fiscal notes the Foundation should know about.

#### **QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FUNDING OPPORTUNITY**

Specific questions regarding the Funding Opportunity 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](mailto:kmeyer@hcf-hawaii.org) until April 1, 2024.