



# 'ŌLELO NU'UKIA

Leadership in Disabilities & Achievement of Hawai'i

## Stand and Be Recognized!

### From the Executive Director



One of the many features I enjoy from working with parents is the “a-ha” moment. Because of our work in Hawai'i and the Pacific Region, I watch faces of discovery, satisfaction, hope and encouragement all rolled up into one and usually all at the same time, right in front of me. It warms my heart. For this reason I continue to seek out answers through the Department of Education, represent the voice of parents of children at risk of, or with disabilities through systems advocacy, and support the model of leading by convening.

In September 2022, at an award ceremony with Dennis Arakaki and Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Governor Ige awarded LDAH as “Outstanding Advocates for Children and Youth” in the organization category along with B.R.A.V.E Hawai'i, Estria Foundation, HCAN, Hawaii Afterschool Alliance, and K.A.M.P. Hawaii. At the time of this acknowledgement, LDAH was experiencing our own discovery - how to function after a pandemic. We had internal growing pains taking place while serving parents. I was worried for the mental health of the staff. The news couldn't have come at the right time. It validated all the extra work we were putting in and struggling through as the needs of our service to families grew.

These are one of those times we can truly say Mahalo Hawai'i and the Hawai'i Children & Youth Day organization for acknowledging our work in Hawai'i.

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	1
IN THE SPOTLIGHT	2
DAW-NAH DU RITE	2
YOUTH CONFERENCE	3
BEST OF 2022	4 & 5
PACIFIC ISLAND PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	6
OHANA CORNER	7
UPCOMING EVENTS	8

**President:**  
Sam K. Yee

**Vice President/Treasurer:**  
Carlos G. Penaloza, Ph.D.

**Secretary:**  
Neal Aoki, Esq.

**Directors:**  
Christy Burke, Ph.D.  
Patricia A. Morrissey, Ph.D.  
Steven Nagata, Esq.  
Gloria Niles, Ph.D.

# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

By Tina King,  
SRP Program Coordinator



Rein Terrado

We welcomed Rein Terrado to the LDAH team in 2021. Rein is married and a mother of two boys, one on the Autism Spectrum. She is no stranger to LDAH, she regularly frequented trainings and attended the Honolulu Families Embracing Autism support group with her boys before joining the team. She has previously worked as an Outreach Specialist at another nonprofit that supported Hawaii's families. "Reinalyn M. Terrado has a degree in Journalism and has studied for Master's degrees in Communication Management, Ministry, and Divinity. Her works have appeared in various publications including Courthouse News, The Center for Christian Business Ethics Today, Accredited Investor Markets, Ecumenical News, Go Banking Rates, Capital Analytics Associates, Yahoo! TV, Not Alone, and The US Review of Books. She also authored essays for the 1st edition of Gale Business Insights Handbook of Global Business Law. "Mulag the Plantation Ant" is Rein's first children's book. Published in December 2016, the book is now available in Amazon paperback, Kindle eBook, Apple's iBookstore, Barnes & Noble's NOOK, Kobo, Smashwords, OverDrive, Inktera, Tolino, Gardners, Baker & Taylor & their affiliate retailers." ([www.reinalynterrado.com](http://www.reinalynterrado.com)) Rein loves to spend time with family & we are happy she has joined Team LDAH!

## Dwa-nah Du-rite



By Beverly Reidy,  
Education & Training Coordinator

Dear Dwa-nah,  
I think my son, Keoki, needs a Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA). I think he needs ABA services because his behavior is so bad. His Behavior Support Plan is NOT working. I get calls from the teacher every day. When I asked the Principal he said, "no, because Keoki's behavior is not harming himself or others." This just doesn't seem right.

-Confused in Kahului

Dear Confused,

You are right. According to ACT 205, which regulates FBAs and ABA services it says, "The use of functional behavior assessment is appropriate when the student's behavior impedes learning processes..." If Keoki's behavior is making it hard for him to learn, then you should request an IEP meeting to discuss his behavior, review behavior data

if there is any, using the information you collected from the Behavior Support Plan, and request an FBA. Be sure you have your current progress reports available for reference.

-Dwa-nah Du-rite



## THE 2ND ANNUAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

# BEYOND THIS

# Moment

By Makeila May, Administrative Assistant

In November of 2022, we hosted our 2nd Annual Youth Conference in the Neal S. Blaisdell Pikake Room with the theme "Beyond this Moment." The goal of our event was to empower transitioning youth, with or without disabilities, to find their voice through college and career exploration.

We were honored to have DJ Kutmaster Spaz as our keynote speaker! He shared his inspiring story to our youth attendees and their families. We were also able to give away 100 signed copies of his book "SPED to Success." During dinner, Somei Taiko did a Taiko drum performance for the youth and their families and some youth even got to participate and hit the large drums.



Exhibitors Room in the Blaisdell Galleria for the 2022 Youth Conference



Rosie, Tina, Makeila, Kutmaster Spaz, Trixy, Linee, and Kaleigh in front of the Pikake Room



Rein & Bev eating with dinner with Youth Conference attendees

There were exhibitors where parents and youth could get information about other providers, what kind of services they offered, and the different ways it could benefit their youth. We also had four interactive activities set up for participants to try out which included Lei Po'o making, Sound Healing with crystal bowls, Martial Arts, and Tai Chi/Yoga. These activities were chosen to encourage the youth to explore new activities and care for their mental health.

We ended our night with a dance party and were able to give away over \$400 worth of raffle and activity prizes! All in all, this year's youth conference was a great success and we hope next year's event is even more fun!



# BEST O





# OF 2022







# Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands



Despite the pandemic, the CNMI Department of Community & Cultural Affairs Division of Youth Services (DCCA-DYS) Family & Youth Enhancement Program continue to deliver direct services to the community. During this unprecedented time, the CNMI saw a much greater need as the pandemic added an additional layer of challenges, fear, instability, uncertainties and more that all affected the mental and physical well-being of children, youth, and adults with disabilities.

The DCCA-DYS remained committed and made necessary adjustments to continue with its services, including but not limited to, case management services, food distribution, workshops, parenting classes, support groups, youth evidence-based programs, summer youth empowerment camp, after-school programs, community outreach events, disability partnership network activities, and more! These services were made possible on all three islands (Saipan, Rota, & Tinian), in collaboration with DYS partner organizations and volunteers.

The DCCA-DYS is also proud to announce the completion of the parent resource room at the Kagman Community Center and is now fully equipped to assist families with linkages to community resources and other services.



*Photos sent in from our partner in CNMI, the  
Department of Community & Cultural Affairs -  
Division of Youth Services*



# 'ohana korner

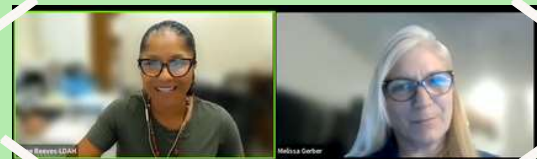
## Parent Talk Café

By Trixy Tambaoan  
Parent Consultant, EDS

We started Parent Talk Cafe over two years ago after not being able to reach parents at in-person trainings as a result of the pandemic. During Parent Talk Cafe, we talk about real life scenarios that parents go through so they know they are not alone and are able to gain knowledge from other parents to support their keiki. Too many times, as a Parent Consultant I hear from parents "I didn't know that" or "I wish I knew this information sooner!" Not all parents know they are not the only ones going through certain situations and that's the best part, we can learn from each other together. Parent Talk Café was created for this reason. We are here to give parents strategies, information, practical tips and tools for everyday use while supporting your child and yourself in Parent Advocacy. Please remember, there is always a parent out there that needs to hear your life story and experiences to give them hope for their children too! We were once that parent and I am glad we are here for you!



Rein and Parent during "Organizing my Documents"  
Aug. 11, 2022



Linee and Spotlight Provider during "Return to Learn"  
July 28, 2022

Merry  
GRINCHMAS



Team LDAH & Family at the 2022 Waianae Christmas Parade

LDAH participated in the Kanohe and Waianae Christmas Parades this year with our theme being The Grinch the Who's of Who-ville! LDAH staff and our families spread holiday cheer by passing out bubbles, windmills, and good vibes! The whole gang was dressed up in fun festive attire and we decorated our Mobile Screening Unit!



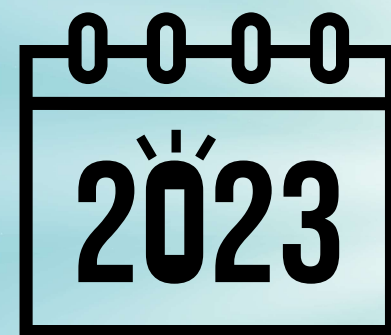
# Upcoming Events!

## April

- 2 TACA OUTREACH
- 3 SCREENING: HALAU KU MANA
- 5 & 6 SCREENING: KAELEPULU ELM.
- 6 EARLY HEAD START HEALTH FAIR - KONA
- 7 OFFICE CLOSED - GOOD FRIDAY
- 17 & 18 SCREENING: MAUNAWILI ELM.
- 19 PARENT TALK CAFE: FUNCTIONAL BEHAVIOR ASSESSMENT
- 22 SPIN CONFERENCE - PART 2
- 27 PACIFIC ISLANDS TALK STORY: KOSRAE
- 27 & 28 SCREENING: KAHALA ELM.

## May

- 6 PRINCESS RUTH OUTREACH
- 11 & 12 SCREENING: WAIMANALO ELM. & INTER.
- 17 PARENT TALK CAFE: DEVELOPING THE IEP
- 18 & 19 SCREENING: KEOLU ELM.
- 22 SCREENING: BLANCHE POP ELM.
- 25 PACIFIC ISLANDS TALK STORY: CNMI
- 29 OFFICE CLOSED - MEMORIAL DAY



## Learning Works



A Free Online Training  
Platform for Parents  
and Professionals

REGISTER FOR FREE NOW

[ldahlearningworks.org](http://ldahlearningworks.org)

GETTING READY FOR  
AN IEP MEETING?

SCHEDULE A

**SMALL GROUP  
SESSION**

CALL US AT 808-536-9685

## WORD SEARCH

LEADERSHIP BEYOND OHANA PACIFIC  
ACHIEVEMENT MOMENT PARENT GRINCH

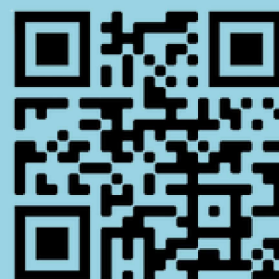
R A E M W Z F I M J K Z P E V  
X O L I K C O S X P I P J I C  
I M E P T H B O D N T J J D T  
M J A L A C H I E V E M E N T  
O J D M R R S X B H P J H D T  
H G E I O P E D Y Y A Q B Q K  
A N R O A M J N B I X N E S D  
N I S I Y T E D T F R Z Y Q R  
A M H T N S O N O H E S O U W  
A U I S V C B E T T N R N Z S  
O Y P V S Z H A M M X L D H E  
H G T P A C I F I C T F H Q J

For more information on  
events, to request a training,  
or to make reservations, visit  
our website at:

[www.LDAHawaii.org](http://www.LDAHawaii.org)

Call us at 808-536-9684

SCAN FOR  
MORE LDAH



@LDAHAWAII.PTI



@LDAHAWAII.PTI