

History Timeline

Across the nation, the 1970s brought a surge of new grass roots, youth-centered projects concerned about runaway and homeless teens.

1970

Following concerns from community distressed teens and abused wives who had fled from home, Hale Kipa opened its doors on the grounds of St. Andrew's Cathedral.

1975

Bought our first house on McKinley Street in Mānoa.

1976

Opened Emergency Shelter for Boys.

1979

Opened Kamala Homes (emergency shelter foster homes) to complement our group shelters. Opened three-month Transitional Home for youth needing longer-term out of home placement.

1980

Hoping to prevent out of home placements and ensure that youth who have returned to their families would remain there, we begin our Family Counseling (aftercare) Unit.

1983

Piloted a program focused on support and skill building to older adolescents in foster care.

1989

Opened Independent Living Training Apartments for youth transitioning out of foster care and homelessness. Later, also added youth transitioning out of the Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF).

Youth Outreach Program: Partnering with Waikīkī Health Center resulted in the creation of YO!, the first street outreach and drop-in center program focused on 14 through 21 year olds.

1990s

Began the roller coaster with both major growth and expansion in new and different areas for Hale Kipa and major panic regarding threatened and real funding cuts to its more traditional services. There were many cuts in funding with the Kamala Home, Emergency Shelter Group Homes, Independent Living Program all facing closure at one time or another. We saw our capacity to perform our original mission lessen and were forced to close almost all of our emergency shelters.

1991

Continuing its collaborations, Hale Kipa joined forces with Marimed and the YWCA Kokokahi to provide intensive therapeutic services to emotionally-challenged teens. The Kailana Program offered day and residential services.

1992

Power Teen project offered psychoeducational peer drama groups.

1993

Ho'okala Program began diversion (intake and assessment) services for youth picked up for status offenses and non-violent minor law violations.

1995

Hale Kipa expanded its residential program to include transitional foster care (Hānai) homes.

O'ahu Provider Group collaboration with Catholic Services to Families, Marimed, and PACT (Parents And Child Together) providing outpatient services to teens and their families.

1997

Collaboration with the Consuelo Alger Foundation and Friends of Children's Advocacy Center to work with young men and women who have experienced sexual exploitation and homelessness.

1998

Collaboration with KEY Project, PACT and Susannah Wesley Community Center to form Hui Mālama 'Ohana to provide school, community, and family outreach to help families resolve differences and stay intact. These services were also once offered in the Pu'uwai Momi Public Housing area through the Holo Mua Project.

1999

Opened Residential Treatment Programs as part of an integrated continuum of Therapeutic Living Programs under contract with the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Division. These programs, serving 12 through 19 year old youth, were a natural outgrowth of our historical collaboration with the Marimed Foundation and Kailana, which ended on June 30, 1999.

Began an Outreach Tracking Program to youth being discharged from the Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF) to help them reintegrate into their community.

Expanded Foster Care Services, adding Foster Care with Therapeutic Service.

Opened Hāpai Program for pregnant and parenting young moms.

Opened Transitional Living Program for young men transitioning out of homelessness. Residences for young women have followed this.

2000

Added a specialized treatment facility for young boys, Hale Kūpono.

The Juvenile Diversion Program offered intakes, assessment and case management for juvenile offenders.

2002

Opened a Hale Kūpono for young girls. These programs have since shut down.

Opened its Hāloa House which allows young females transitioning out of foster care a supportive and skill-building residence.

Valid Court Order Disposition Review Program provides assessments to determine services for youth who have violated their valid court order.

2004

Expanded and renamed Hawai'i Advocates for Youth to the Hawai'i Advocate Program to also work with youth in Hawai'i Department of Human Services (DHS) and Family Court Systems. Has large statewide presence.

2006

Intensive In-Home Program provided individual and family counseling on O'ahu, Kaua'i and the Big Island.

2007

Started Community-Based Outreach and Advocacy Program that provides supportive counseling and linkages to youth both in and out of the system.

Expanded our Therapeutic and Hānai Homes to the Big Island, particularly focusing in East Hawai'i.

Opened the first residential program focused on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Questioning Youth. It sadly was only open for a year and there remains a void in this area.

2009

Opened Evening Counseling as a first response to youth who were arrested for law violations.

Started Step-Up Program.

2010

Closed Hāpai Home.

Closed Community Mental Health Services (CMHS) and one Emergency Shelter Group Home.

Closed Valid Court Order Program.

Started Underage Drinking Prevention Program on Kaua'i

2011

Lost major Hawai'i Advocate Program funding but kept alive through smaller grants; monies for youth transitioning out of HYCF remained intact.

Continued Pregnancy Prevention program with federal funds.

Closed Hānai Home Programs on O'ahu and Big Island.

Started Intensive Monitoring Program on O'ahu and Big Island where Monitors provide supervision and support to youth in the Family Court system.

2012

Started Intensive Monitoring Program on Kaua'i.

Served Hawai'i Advocate Program youth on Moloka'i.

2013

Started School Success Program on Kaua'i to help youth who are or at high risk of being suspended from school.

Started Hawai'i Advocate School-based Program with four schools on O'ahu, targeting youth who are disengaging with school.

2014

Started C-Base (now School Success) Programming on Kaua'i.

Granted Imua Kākou award and started services to young adults extending voluntary care through age 21.

2016

Started to provide Anti-Trafficking services on O'ahu, Hawai'i and Kaua'i in a collaboration with Susanna Wesley Community Center and PACT.

2017

Formed partnership with Lili'uokalani Trust, Waimea Middle and High Schools and Family Court to identify and work with youth who have been truant and supporting their re-engagement with school.

2018

Expanded emergency shelter to open Hale Lanipōlua Assessment Center which also offers assessment, support and counseling for youth between the ages of 12 through 17, who are suspected or confirmed victims/survivors of sex trafficking.

Groundbreaking for Hale Kipa's new home, in 'Ewa on Old Fort Weaver Road, was held on September 17, 2018. Followed with the blessing on December 4, 2018.

2020

Moved our Administrative Offices and two shelters to our new Hale Kipa Youth Services Center.

Was chosen as an anchor partner by Lili'uokalani Trust and opened Lydia's House in May providing emergency/transitional shelter to young Native Hawaiians faced with homelessness due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Expanded our services to youth and young adults experiencing homelessness with our Housing First, Guide on the Side, and Mobile Crisis Outreach services; the latter two are part of a larger Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project.

Started involvement with the Hawai'i Department of Education (DOE) to implement the Hookeika Trauma Recovery Project and thus far have trained numerous DOE staff on the model. Next step will be to have Therapists in schools to increase the number of students receiving trauma-specific mental health services.

2021

Ceased providing Intensive Monitoring on Kaua'i.

Unique characteristics of Hale Kipa which makes us especially qualified to perform our work include our long-standing expertise in the areas of outreach, family counseling, emergency shelter, foster care, transitional and independent living, flexibility to individualize placement and services, strong and effective working partnerships and collaborations with other community agencies.

Hale Kipa's history speaks to a commitment to youth, willingness to partner, being a strong voice in the community, and leadership in the area of youth services.

Hale Kipa is currently licensed as a child-placing agency by the Department of Human Services and has Therapeutic Foster Homes and Kamala Homes.