



Supporting Youth  
and Families,  
Strengthening  
Communities

ANNUAL REPORT 2000



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**HISTORY OF HALE KIPA**

Hale Kipa, “The House of Friendliness” has been just that to thousands of Hawaii’s runaways and homeless youth who have needed a place to stay and someone to talk to while they work out their problems. During the past thirty years, over 25, 000 youth have been provided shelter and other services by Hale Kipa.

Hale Kipa was formed in 1970 by concerned community citizens, including the Junior League, police and churches, who observed the alarming number of distressed teenagers, who for one reason or another left home. In response to these and other identified community needs, Hale Kipa developed a variety of programs to assist Hawaii’s children and families.

Hale Kipa is currently licensed as both a child-placing and child-caring agency by the Department of Human Services. We have two emergency co-ed group shelters, a Department of Health (DOH) crisis shelter, three residential therapeutic living programs, sixteen foster homes and an array of independent living and outreach programs in the community.

**HALE KIPA VISION FOR HAWAII**

Hawaii is a safe, healthy, economically vibrant community of people who celebrate their cultural diversity and connectedness through the creation of opportunities for actualization of full potential and social responsibility.

**HALE KIPA VISION STATEMENT**

Hale Kipa is a progressive, collaborative and culturally sensitive agency supporting and connecting youth, families and the community to actualize their full potential and social responsibility.



The prior fiscal year ending June 30 of 1999 represented a period of planning at Hale Kipa, the year ending June 30 of 2000 was the year of implementation and expansion based on that planning. No process of change is easy and as has been true of many Human Service agencies in Hawaii over the past few years, Hale Kipa has gone through the very difficult process of attempting to carefully review and evaluate its services and make changes necessary to better align what we do with the needs of those we serve in the community.

No process of change can take place without the active support of both the Board of Directors and the staff. Hale Kipa has been blessed with an extremely active and involved Board of Directors and a staff whose commitment to doing the right thing for clients and the community has provided the impetus for the change that has taken place. The evolution of the agency over the past few years has deep roots in the work that was done by Sam Cox, the previous Executive Director and the preceding Boards of Directors and staff. Consistent with the long standing Mission and Vision of the organization, Hale Kipa has attempted to ensure that the work we do and the services we provide are reflective of the thinking about the agency over the past thirty years and consistent with the developing core competencies of the agency. We have, out of necessity, been forced out of our comfort zone in taking on some new projects that have required us to stretch and grow. Since this is what we ask often of our clients and those we serve, if we are to remain responsive to their evolving and changing needs, it is only fair that we ask that of ourselves as well.

Hale Kipa has also been fortunate to be involved in a number of very beneficial collaborations with other members of the provider community. Our perception that we are part of a larger system and our desire to participate as a partner with other organizations and the community is central to our thinking about the kinds of services we should be providing and the kinds of collaborations we need for those services which are better provided by others.

Hopefully, this annual report will provide those of you who know the agency well with an update on Hale Kipa in the year 2000. For those of you who are not familiar with the agency, we hope it is a resource for learning about who we are and what we do. I am often reminded in my conversations with the community at large that people think of Hale Kipa essentially as a shelter. The annual report is an attempt to more accurately align the awareness the community has about who we are and what we do with the reality of what takes place in this organization on a day-to-day basis.

The strength of Hale Kipa is in its Board, its staff and ultimately in the clients that we serve. I look forward in the coming years to the continued evolution of the work we have been doing, the active participation of our volunteer board, and the on-going commitments to excellence that are reflected in the attitudes, approaches, and the work that is done by the agency staff. On behalf of all of us at Hale Kipa, Mahalo for your support, your assistance, your partnerships and collaborations, and for the opportunity to serve.

Punky Pletan-Cross  
*Executive Director*



## PURPOSE STATEMENT

*Our mission statement reflects the essence of what is unique about the agency.*

## MISSION STATEMENT

*Hale Kipa provides opportunities and environments that strengthen and encourage youth, their families and communities to actualize their potential and social responsibility.*

THE KEY WORDS HERE ARE OPPORTUNITIES AND ENVIRONMENTS. There are certain consistent concepts that are associated with most of the services that Hale Kipa provides. Words that come to mind include safety, accessibility, a place to learn and grow, home, a house, an environment and sanctuary.

The common thread in many of the services provided by the agency is that unfortunately there are times when individuals must leave their principal place of living in order to do the work necessary for them to have the opportunity and environment that allows them to actualize their potential and social responsibility. That place is Hale Kipa, in the form of a foster home, a residential treatment program, an independent living program or an emergency shelter. Since the agency focuses on adolescents, children and youth, the organizing concept for Hale Kipa is that of either providing a safe environment for youth who need to be out of their homes for some period of time, or in attempting to do the critical work with youth and families that prevents out-of-home placement. In both cases, the focus of the work we do is to provide opportunities for learning, growth and skill acquisition that builds on the existing strengths of the individual or family and allows them to develop the capacity to resolve whatever issues are confronting them. We believe that a safe and nurturing environment is essential to this purpose, and the symbol of the organization is reflective of a place where individuals can find sanctuary and a place where they will receive the types of support necessary for them to take the risks that are essential to real growth.

Based on a firm belief that everyone has strengths, an asset orientation allows the organization to see the real potential in individuals, in spite of whatever behaviors might currently be evident, or whatever situations may have caused the youth or family to come to us for services. Within this framework, it becomes our responsibility to help identify ways in which the individual or family can address the problems that they have identified, acquire the skills that are necessary, and do so in the context of a place that affirms their competence, potential and provides opportunities for the change necessary for them to actualize their visions or dreams.

This commitment to providing a safe environment is unique to Hale Kipa and thematically links all of the work we do. Whether training foster parents to be able to work with youth placed in their care, or using similar training to teach parents how to better respond to the needs of their youth in their own homes, the organization has developed a capacity to understand and support the crucial work necessary for people to take control of their own lives and accept responsibility for achieving and fulfilling their personal destinies.



Entering the new millenium, we look back over the proud thirty-year history of Hale Kipa. We started in 1970 as a privately funded organization, providing emergency shelter to those homeless adolescents whom nobody else wanted to help. Building on that tradition, we have now evolved into a multi-faceted social service agency, funded by both governmental and private sources, filling the gaps by providing a broad range of needed services to youth and their families.

Gone are the days when we could operate out of one Manoa shelter house. The reality of our \$200,000 budget in 1980 has been replaced by a \$6,000,000 operation and a quantum leap increase in services. Hale Kipa is not alone in its evolution of programs and services. Our growth is matched by growth in the human service industry and today our programs call upon a myriad of collaborations, reciprocal services and joint ventures to aid our youth.

An organization of this size cannot remain at the mercy of changeable political/economic climates. We are looking ahead to build an endowment that will guarantee our continued viability in good times as well as bad. With thirty years of success ministering to problems that will not go away, we will continue to assure our youth that we will always be there for those who need us.

Heidi A. Gregor  
*President*

# Program I

Shelter Services is compressed of two programs. One is the foundation of Hale Kipa services which is Emergency Shelter, provided through group and foster homes. The second program focuses on providing assessment, referral and support services for status offenders and minor law violations.

## **EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAM (ESP)**

Basic emergency shelter services as well as assessment, support and counseling for youth between the ages of ten to seventeen, focusing on reunification or preparing youth for alternative placements.

### **GROUP HOME:**

Co-ed group home in Manoa serving youth needing a group environment and structure

### **KAMALA HOMES:**

Short-term foster home placement for youth whose needs are better met in a family setting.

# of youth served: 194

60% of youth remained safely in the program for the duration of their planned stay

59% of youth were returned home or placed in an alternative setting as planned

## **HO'OKALA PROGRAM**

24-hour intake and assessment service for status offenders and minor non-violent law violators that were arrested by the Honolulu Police Department.

# of youth served: 905

55% of youth and their families were referred to appropriate services

66% of youth were assessed as stable one month post release from Ho'okala

48% of youth were assessed as stable three months post release from Ho'okala

*The following client profiles within each program listing are actual youth that participated in our programs, however, their names have been changed to respect the youth and their identities.*



*Elizabeth, a fifteen year-old youth, was referred to the Emergency Shelter Program (ESP) by a law office. Elizabeth was able to obtain assistance from the Na Keiki Law Center to help her deal with difficulties she was experiencing with her adoptive parents. Elizabeth was originally adopted from another country and brought to the United States by her adoptive parents. They lived on the mainland where she was raised until about two years ago when they moved to Hawaii. Within the last year or so, problems began. There were allegations of physical abuse, but Child Protective Services (CPS) did not feel there was enough evidence present to warrant their involvement. There was a potential for Elizabeth to be sent back to her country of origin if something could not be worked out in Hawaii. Things had become rather hostile in the home, thus neither parent was willing to have their daughter home nor was she willing to return to her parents. Basically, Elizabeth had nowhere to go. There was a family who was willing to take her, but legal arrangements needed to be made before this could happen. Parents were somewhat resistant, thus the process was slow. While awaiting the process of legal issues, Elizabeth was provided with basic needs at the Emergency Shelter, as well as support and encouragement for her perseverance in spite of all that was going on in her life. Elizabeth was also provided opportunities to share her feelings and talk about what she was going through. Elizabeth continued receiving her education at her home school and was able to maintain her participation in extra-curricular activities since they were a positive part of her life. Elizabeth had done fairly well in the program and made it to the highest level of achievement. Although communication between parents and daughter was strained and minimal, the program coordinator maintained contact with the parents to keep them engaged in the process and accountable for their daughter. As it turned out, Elizabeth was able to live with the other family who was willing to take her into their home. Had the shelter program not been available, it is questionable as to what would have happened with this youth.*

# Program II

Outreach Services provides an array of community-based services (Hawaii Advocates for Youth, Hui Malama Ohana, Independent Living Program, Transitional Living Program and Youth Outreach) to a range of target populations that includes youth in foster care (with particular emphasis on ones who are transitioning to adulthood), intermediate high school students, runaway, homeless and street youth, youth in the juvenile justice systems and pregnant/teen mothers. Services are provided in the youth's neighborhoods. Work is completed within a holistic youth development skill-building framework with youth being assisted and expected to take responsibility for their choices.

## **HAWAII ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH (HAY)**

Intensive outreach and tracking services to assist Judiciary youth remain out of correctional facilities and facilitate youth being released from the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF) to successfully reintegrate back into their communities.

# of youth served: 55  
80% of youth remained arrest-free

## **HUI MALAMA OHANA (HMO)**

A component of Hale Kipa's collaborative project includes: school-based outreach, drop-in and case management services to promote youth's educational efforts, positive behaviors and support systems.

# of youths served: 250 (outreach), 40 (case management)  
over 35 youth completed community service project

## **INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM (ILP)**

Continuum of outreach and residential programs supporting foster care youth to develop self-sufficiency skills and successfully transition into adulthood. ILP also includes Hapai Home for pregnant teens and teen mothers.

# of youth served: 60  
90% youth (ages 12-15) maintained satisfactory GPA  
85% of youth maintained education/vocation program  
10 graduates went on to college

## **TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM (TLP)**

Outreach, residential and skill building services to older street youth to help them obtain education, employment and transition out of homelessness into safe living arrangements.

# of youth served: 51 (mostly outreach, 15 in residential facility)  
90% of residential youth were employed  
90% of residential youth opened savings accounts and saved money

## **YOUTH OUTREACH (YO)**

Collaborative project with Waikiki Health Center to provide outreach, drop-in, health care, emergency needs and resources for runaway, homeless and street youth.

# of youth encountered on the streets: 1500  
# of youth served: 135  
# of youth linked to program/positive living arrangement: 22



*Anthony was raised in a single-parent, low-income family with few resources. At the age of twelve, Anthony joined a gang and for the next few years was incarcerated over ninety times for serious crimes. At the age of fourteen, Anthony did the unthinkable. He stabbed a person to death and brutally beat another person. He was sentenced as a juvenile and sent to the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF). In 1999, Anthony was released to a local foster family where he was able to live in a stable environment for the first time in years. After being referred to Hawaii Advocates for Youth (HAY) in July, Anthony was kicked out of his foster home and bounced around to several placements over the next six months. Despite the chaos, Anthony saw his Advocate for ten to fifteen hours per week. Anthony is a great example of a kid that society had given up on. With the help of some community people and the support of the HAY program, Anthony was able to realize that he truly matters. He settled down, continues to be on track to graduate with his senior class, has plans to go to college and give back to the community. It appears Anthony will go far in life and make quite an impact on other youth in trouble.*

# Program III

Therapeutic Services consists of four therapeutic group living programs (Bridge Home, Challenge House, Transition House and Passages) clustered under the title, The Threshold Program, one crisis shelter referred to as DOH Shelter and Outpatient Services. The Threshold Program serves males between the ages of 12-17 with severe emotional and behavioral problems while Passages serves males, ages 18-20, DOH Shelter serves both boys and girls, and Outpatient Services works with youth, ages 10-17, and their families.

## **BRIDGE HOME**

Youth and their families are provided with an open and welcoming treatment approach, which emphasizes family reunification, parental responsibility, community reintegration and self-responsibility.

## **CHALLENGE HOUSE**

A program that provides youth with a highly structured and secure setting in which they are allowed the opportunity to focus on developing their strengths and overcoming the barriers to their personal goals. Challenge House emphasizes compliance, personal challenge and teamwork.

## **TRANSITION HOUSE**

A safe, structured and secure environment which provides youth and their families with a highly flexible and adaptable treatment approach that emphasizes stabilization, engagement, assessment and discharge (i.e., facilitating an immediate reduction of the youth's most problematic or dangerous behaviors).

## **PASSAGES**

An independent living program (four-bed apartment) designed to provide males (ages 18-20) with an alternative to the traditional group home approach incorporating an emancipation treatment approach which will emphasize personal responsibility, educational/vocational development and good citizenship. Opened early June 2000.

## **DOH SHELTER**

A six-bed program designed to serve as a short-term placement for youth ready to step-down from a higher level of care and/or youth in crisis awaiting transition into a higher level of care. Opened June 2000.

# of youth served: 50

52% of youth completed program

49% of youth required alternate programs

## **OUTPATIENT SERVICES**

Services provided include individual and family therapy, in-school consultation, treatment planning, intensive in-home therapy, and assessments provided for youth and their families.

# of youth and families served: 185



*Alex is a sixteen year-old youth who was admitted into Program III from Juvenile Detention. Alex's parents were divorced and his father was in prison. Alex's mother had gone back to drinking quite heavily and due to neglect had her other three children taken away from her. Alex ran the streets, stole from parked cars and shoplifted. Alex was eventually arrested and placed in detention. While in detention, Alex was referred to Hale Kipa. Staff in Program III interviewed Alex and felt he would be appropriate for the program. Alex was hesitant but knew he had few options – one of them being Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF). At first Alex, tested every rule in the program including running away. Alex was always returned to the facility. Although resistant, Alex met weekly with his therapist and eventually his mother came for sessions as well. Alex was assessed and diagnosed with conduct disorder and depression. Alex was placed on medication and soon began to stabilize. Alex began to bond with the staff and the program. Within six months, Alex began to improve his school performance and was beginning to notice some successes in his life. At eleven months, he was referred to foster care and has since been able to hold down a job and is working on completing his high school education. Alex has adjusted well to foster care and visits his mother regularly.*

# Program IV

**PROGRAM IV:** Foster Care Programs encompasses three components (Foster Parent Training Program, the Hanai Homes Program and the Therapeutic Foster Homes Program) which provide skilled, nurturing, therapeutically trained and safe licensed foster families for youth, ages nine to eighteen years-old, who need temporary out-of-home placement and treatment in family home environments due to abusive family home environments, mental health issues, developmental disabilities and special needs.

## **FOSTER PARENT TRAINING PROGRAM**

Recruitment, training and licensing of foster families.

24 foster families were recruited, trained and licensed  
16 families remain committed and are essential to providing quality foster care services to Hawaii's youth.

## **HANAI HOMES PROGRAM**

Skill building programs for youth waiting to return home or be placed in long-term foster care.

# of youth served: 14  
78% of youth completed the program (ranging from six months to twelve months of stay)

## **THERAPEUTIC FOSTER HOMES PROGRAM**

Step-down from residential programs.

# of youth served: 15  
8 youth completed the program  
7 youth are still in the program



*Kawika, age fourteen, was initially referred to the Hale Kipa Emergency Shelter Program in August of 1998, due to chronic physical abuse (four years) by family members in the family home. He was in need of a temporary and possibly permanent out-of-home foster placement in a skill building and treatment program environment to assist him in dealing with his abusive and traumatic experiences. Kawika was referred and admitted to the Hanai Homes program in September 1998 for foster placement, skill building, school attendance and counseling. Initially, Kawika had difficulty adjusting to the program due to his expressed feelings of isolation from his family and community. Kawika's situation was further complicated by the fact that his biological parents are not residents of Hawaii but reside on a South Pacific island that is not under the jurisdiction of Hawaii. This presented further delays, complications and indecision by the system as to Kawika's future and placement responsibilities. However, throughout all this Kawika continued to progress and excel in all areas that were problematic for him when he entered the program (i.e., development of healthy family relationships, positive self-esteem and self-identity, positive role-model, positive school outlook and work habits, and the development of good work ethics and habits). Kawika expressed two main goals that he wanted to accomplish while in the program, one was to have a permanent foster family (not return to his family) and two, was to graduate from high school and be a "NFL football player". Kawika was eventually placed with a permanent foster family. Hanai Homes program assisted Kawika in preparation for his graduation by ensuring that he attended school regularly, provided assistance with his school work through foster parents and staff support, monitored classes/credits needed and provided support in his membership and participation in sports. Throughout his participation in the Hanai Homes program, Kawika has experienced a great deal of change, adjustments and progress with himself, the program and from the system (state) as a whole. Kawika, with the help and support of his foster families and staff, was both able to adjust and make positive gains in all areas, especially in school and sports. Kawika maintains regular contact with his Hale Kipa foster family and program (i.e., invitations to his games, calling to check in, dropping by for a visit).*





## **FINANCIALS**

Hale Kipa, Inc.—Selected Financial Information as of June 30, 2000

### **REVENUE AND SUPPORT:**

Government Grants	2,286,722
Contributions	244,782
Aloha United Way	201,332
Foundation Grants	109,486
Interest Income	11,339
Program Service Fees	2,711,087
<b>Total Revenue and Support</b>	<b>5,564,748</b>

### **EXPENSES:**

Program Services	5,106,508
Management and General	451,750
Fundraising	12,686
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>5,570,944</b>

- 1) *Figures are excerpted from our audited financial statements. A complete copy of the audited financial statements is available by writing or calling Hale Kipa, Inc.*



**KEY STAFF OF HALE KIPA, INC.**

PUNKY PLETAN-CROSS  
Executive Director

MARIA GOZZIP  
Controller

MIKE DEMATTOS  
Director of Quality Improvement &  
Training

DORI TYAU  
Shelter Services

JAQUE KELLEY-UYEOKA  
Outreach Services

DENNIS BLANK  
Threshold Program

SIMELEKE GROSS  
Foster Care Services

**COLLABORATIONS**

Youth Outreach [Waikiki Health Center,  
Hale Kipa]

Hui Malama Ohana [Susannah Wesley  
Community Center, Parents and Children  
Together (PACT), KEY Project, Hale  
Kipa]

Statewide Shelter [The Maui Farm, Hale  
Opio Kauai, Inc., Salvation Army Family  
Intervention Services, Hale Kipa]

Oahu Providers Group [Catholic  
Charities, Parents and Children Together  
(PACT), Hale Kipa]

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Aloha United Way

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Bank of America

Boys & Girls Club of Honolulu

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Bridget Komine

Bronson Newcomb

Calvary Lutheran Church

Carlos Britt

Campbell Foundation

Central Union Church

Christ Church Uniting

City Mill

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Downtown Rotary

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Dr. Margo Peters

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Emmanuel Episcopal Church

Eve Hamilton

FHB-J Watumull Fund

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Nanette Sua

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Our Savior Lutheran Church

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