COVID-19 Public Health Action Webinar

The Emerging Needs of Childcare

Presented by Kerrie Urosevich, PhD
Deborah Zysman, MPH
Kathleen Algire, MSW

Wednesday, September 2, 2020
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
ZOOM HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS:

1. For all questions, please utilize the Chat box or Question & Answers box located at the bottom of your screen.
2. NO continuing education credits will be provided during this webinar series.
3. All webinars will be available on the Hawai‘i Public Health Training Hui’s YouTube channel - https://www.youtube.com/channel/HawaiiPublicTrainingHui
The Emerging Needs of Childcare

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Emerging Needs of Child Care

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State of Child Care Centers Pre-COVID

Number of Children Under 3 Years per Licensed Infant-Toddler Center Seat

Number of Children Age 3 to 5 years per Licensed Childcare Center Seat
What’s Happening Now

Child Care is considered “essential” during this time of COVID19, yet we are losing providers and losing slots.

In collaboration with Hawai`i Data Collaborative, PATCH and DHS, we will be putting out monthly data that shows how many programs are open, how many are closed and slots available by zip code. We will also share what ongoing needs child care providers have in responding to the realities of COVID19. Here is some preliminary data...
Critical Data

Of the 287 survey respondents (~30% of total providers)

March
- 178 or around 62% of child care providers closed
- 10,824 slots available pre-COVID
- 8,749 slots available in March

July
- 33 or around 12% remain closed
- 7,190 slots available

We will be breaking the data down by zip code and type of care (family child care or center-based care) and will have the information available by mid-September. The following two slides show breakdown for two of our largest center-based providers.
For one of our largest multi-site 0-5 companies, there was about a 20% drop in enrollment for 0-5 children. Since March the program has remained open and provided care for children from other closed programs. Those keiki have returned to their programs, which has resulted in an additional 5% drop. They are currently at a 25% loss.

- From March, 0-5 programs went from 1276 to 1028. A loss of about 275 children
- School age went from 8000 to about 100 as of today. A loss of 7900 children.

“Total loss for the company is about 8175 children. Revenue loss about 1.5 million a month. Loss of staff about 500 have been furloughed. More will come if this does not get resolved.”
This multi-site company could only afford to open 2 out of their 6 sites. They also shifted from serving 2-5 year olds to only serving 3-5 year olds.

- the number of seats pre-COVID: 600
- the number of seats post-COVID: 150
- the number of vacancies or openings: 0

The company does not see this changing for quite some time.
Health and Safety Precautions

Programs have been working hard to ensure keiki and staff stay healthy and safe. They are following DHS and DOH guidelines. Examples include:

- Site modifications to provide more outdoor learning/play space
- Keeping kids in “bubbles” with ratios of 10-12:1 with no “roaming staff”
- Heavy cleaning throughout the day and frequent hand washing
- Requirement of masks for children and PPE for staff
- Limiting “sharing” of items among keiki and washing all items down between uses
- Limiting enrollment
- Hand washing stations
- Implementing more physically-distanced activities
- Conducting daily screenings and reporting to DOH and the program community when a child tests positives
- Quarantining as necessary
- Distance learning for keiki 3-5
Child Care Industry Needs

Based on recent focus groups and surveys, the child care industry needs:

● Funding for:
  - site modifications to adhere to physical distancing recommendations
  - ongoing business expenses, like health care costs, rent and utility assistance
  - extra custodian staff
  - additional staff
  - pre-packaged meals
  - subsidy or scholarship for families
  - providers ineligible from receiving funds (ex. faith-based providers)

● Small business support, including:
  - Legal advice on liability
  - Training on business administration and effectively using technology
  - Additional Paycheck Protecting program to avoid permanent staff loss

● Technology costs for keiki that don’t come to school (devices, cameras, wifi)

● Increases in enrollment

● Ongoing cleaning, sanitation and PPE supplies

● Access to the CARES money that is currently available but has been slowly disbursed

● Grants with limited restrictions to address the various needs right now
## Child Care Options

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Keiki 0-5</th>
<th>Keiki 6-12</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Centers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Child Care</td>
<td>Expanded Afterschool Programs/Intersession Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Paid Leave Programs</td>
<td>Federal Paid Leave Programs</td>
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## Resources to Pay for Child Care

### State

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<tr>
<th>Resources</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Connections Hawaii</td>
<td><a href="https://humanservices.hawaii.gov/">https://humanservices.hawaii.gov/</a></td>
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The Department of Human Services (DHS) has expanded all subsidy options and has waived pre-COVID requirements for eligibility.

### Honolulu County

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<th>Resources</th>
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<tr>
<td>COVID-19 Hardship Relief Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aloha United Way <a href="http://www.auw.org">www.auw.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hawaiiancouncil.org">www.hawaiiancouncil.org</a></td>
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### Finding Child Care

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<tr>
<td>People Attentive to Children (PATCH)</td>
<td><a href="https://patchhawaii.org">https://patchhawaii.org</a></td>
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For community-based child care and preschool programs
Family First Coronavirus Response Act

Paid Sick Days

- Work for employer with less than 500 employees.
- Eligible regardless of how long you’ve worked with employer.
- Up to 2 weeks (80 hours, or a part-time employee’s 2-week equivalent).
- Up to $200/day and $2,000 total.
- Can be used to care for children if child care or schools are closed or the schools moved to partial or total online instruction.
- You are not required to take all available leave at one time.

Expanded Paid Family and Medical Leave

- Work for employer with less than 500 employees and have been employed for at least 30 days.
- Up to 10 weeks of leave.
- Up to $200/day and $10,000 total.
- Can be used to care for children if child care or schools are closed or the schools moved to partial or total online instruction.
- You are not required to take all available leave at one time.

More information: https://www.hawaii-can.org/
Recommendations for Business

• Support teleworking whenever possible

• If unable to telework, support maximum flexibility in schedules

• Allow flexibility in leave; allow flexibility in ability to use it intermittently

• Support employees using paid leave established through the Family First Coronavirus Response Act

• Offer all employees relief time, 2-10 hours weekly to handle care and other needs during the pandemic

• When it is possible, provide access to resources to support well-being and mental health
**Congressional Actions**

**HEROES Act**
House passed on May 15, 2020
$7 Billion in the Child Care Development Block Grant
$850 Million for the Social Services Block Grant to fund child and family care for essential workers, including health care sector and emergency response workers and other workers deemed essential by state or local officials, regardless of income.

**Child Care is Essential Act**
House passed on July 29, 2020
Senate introduced on June 3, 2020
Creates a $50 billion Child Care Stabilization Fund

**HEALS Act**
Senate introduced on July 27, 2020
$5 Billion in the Child Care Development Block Grant
$10 Billion in Back to Work Child Care Grants

to stabilize the child care sector and support providers to safely reopen and operate.
Family Voices

Sharing Your Story with HCAN

Hawai‘i Children’s Action Network has been advocating for the children and families of Hawai‘i since 1997. Now it’s your turn to advocate with us and share your voice on issues that are most important to you! Together we can continue the movement to make Hawai‘i a great place for all families and keiki to thrive.

If you’re ready to join this movement with us, please fill out this questionnaire to tell us more about your story and how you would like to share it. Someone from the HCAN staff will reach out to you shortly after so that we can schedule a meeting for your voice to be heard!

**Please give us a brief description about your story you’d like to share.**

Has your family been impacted by the pandemic? How has caregiving changed in your house?

Voices of parents are important! Are your needs being met?

Visit [https://www.hawaii-can.org/sharingyourstory](https://www.hawaii-can.org/sharingyourstory)
Questions?

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Mahalo!
Webinar Announcement

Topic: TBA
Wednesday, September 16, 2020
1:00PM – 2:00PM