



WHAT'S UP WEDNESDAY!

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

PATCH

PEOPLE ATTENTIVE TO CHILDREN

PATCH is a community service organization dedicated to supporting Hawaii's child care needs. PATCH provides access to registered and licensed child care, offers child care subsidies to eligible families, provides child development training and ECE scholarship opportunities, and assists those interested in starting a family child care business. PATCH is a free resource hub for families, child care professionals, and communities of Hawaii.

HAPPY FEBRUARY

As we welcome February, we celebrate the many ways love shows up in our early learning communities. Thank you for the care and commitment you bring each day to uplift Hawaii's keiki and their 'ohana. We hope this month's newsletter offers encouragement, connection, and meaningful support as we continue this important work together!



FALL IN LOVE WITH LEARNING!

Let this season be a reminder to invest in yourself and your professional growth. Our January–March Training Tracks offer both in-person and online sessions designed to support you wherever you are in your journey.

[View the training tracks newsletter HERE!](#)



CARE FOR THE CAREGIVER

You give so much of your heart each day. This is your gentle reminder to refill it. Access the coloring page below and take a moment just for you.

['LOVE GROWS HERE' Coloring Page](#)





Supporting Hawaii's Child Care Needs

What's New in the H.E.L.P. Resource Kit



Trauma-Responsive Care & Mental Health Support

Explore toolkits, directories and mental health resources designed for providers and families

[Click Here!](#)

Food, Nutrition & Healthy Menus

Find healthy menu ideas and local food resources, including 'ulu recipes for everything from appetizers to dessert.

[Click Here!](#)



Hawaiian Culture-Based Education

Discover culturally responsive lesson plans that connect keiki with traditional Hawaiian food crops and learning experiences.

[Click Here!](#)



One Website. Many Services.

JUST FOR HAWAI'I FAMILIES.

First 5 Hawai'i connects local families to programs and services for young children, from birth to age five.



Figuring out what's available shouldn't be overwhelming.

Whether you are looking for preschool options or need support with food, health care, or child development, First 5 Hawai'i is your go to guide.

Get started today!

- Visit first5hawaii.org
- Answer a few questions using the Eligibility Tool
- See what your child qualifies for
- Get direct links to apply for available services

first5hawaii.org



LEADERS SHAPING LEADERS COHORT VI

Now Accepting Applications



The National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) invites members to apply for its premier leadership program, Leaders Shaping Leaders (LSL) – a Fellowship exclusively for Family Child Care educators. This free, virtual, one-year, 30-session program builds skills in association leadership, business strategies, public policy, and citizenship to strengthen home-based child care. LSL cultivates FCC leaders and supports the future of early care and education. Designed in partnership with the National Parent Leadership Institute and the National Women’s Law Center, fifteen teams of established and emerging leaders will be selected. NAFCC membership is required to apply.



WHY JOIN

- Expand your network of FCC advocates nationwide
- Increase your professional leadership toolkit
- Become a community agent of change
- Start or grow your family child care network or association
- Secure your business legacy



WHO SHOULD APPLY

- Applications are submitted as a team:
- A Primary Applicant (5+ years FCC experience, active in leadership/advocacy)
 - A Co-Applicant (1+ year FCC experience, identified as an emerging leader)



TIME COMMITMENT

- One-year fellowship beginning August 13, 2026
- Bi-weekly virtual sessions (Saturdays and select Thursday evenings, EST).
- Reliable internet access and Zoom capability are required.
- Teams will be required to complete a community project and homework assignments.

APPLY NOW!

Applications are open and will close March 6, 2026.
All NAFCC members are welcome to apply!



OAHU
MAKE & TAKE
TUESDAY,

FEBRUARY 10TH
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
SUNSHINE SCHOOL

175 KIHAPAI ST

KAILUA, 96734

HiAEYC Members: \$20

Non-Members: \$30

RSVP by February 1st

Fee includes up to 4 make and take
activities

FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL
KAPUAHUSSEY@GMAIL.COM



VROOM TIP OF THE MONTH

HOW ARE YOU

In a joyful voice, ask your child how they are today. Tell them how you are, "I am happy today to see you!" Ask them again and go back and forth. "I am excited today because the sun is shining!" Keep taking turns!

BRAINY BACKGROUND

When your child hears about your feelings and thoughts and shares their own, they're learning the skill of thinking about the feelings and thoughts of others. This is an important skill in learning to understand and get along with others.

[Click here to access more tips!](#) 



FAMILY LITERACY NIGHTS



VIRTUAL EVENT ON ZOOM
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM



FOR FAMILIES & EDUCATORS IN HAWAI'I!

Join Read To Me International Foundation for an evening of fun read-alouds, music, and reading resources!

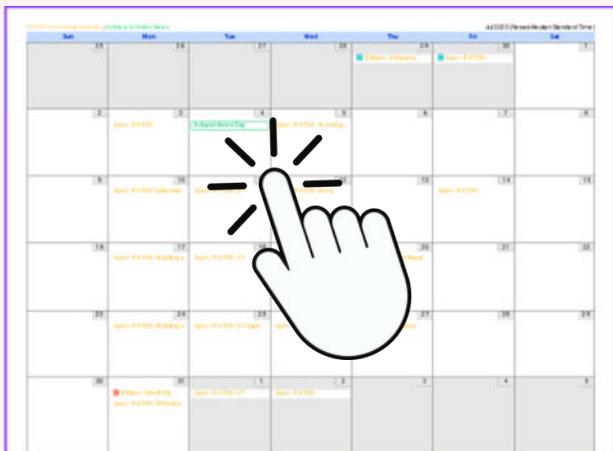


TUESDAY, FEB. 10, 2026
5:30-6:30PM

Registration is required.
Scan QR code or click link below.
[Meeting Registration Link](#)

CONTACT US
(808)955-7600
read@readtomeintl.org

You can find our PATCH community calendar on our website or access it here:



HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Your generous support will make a difference where the need is greatest. So please, get involved, donate now, and you can help provide quality care for our community's most precious resource; our keiki.

[Donate to PATCH](#)

OFFICE HOURS

HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT ANYTHING?

HOURS: MONDAY TO FRIDAY 7:30AM – 4:30PM

*****Kindly note, PATCH is closed on all federal and state holidays***



In case you are available, we are offering Virtual Office Hours every Wednesday from 5:45pm-6:15pm.

[TEAMS LINK HERE](#)

Meeting ID: 247 231 356 097
Passcode: Cr6kR9bw

Oahu: (808) 839-1988

East Hawaii (Hilo): (808) 961-3169

West Hawaii (Kona): (808) 322-3500

Kauai: (808) 246-0622

Maui: (808) 242-9232

Email: patch@patch-hi.org

WWW.PATCHHAWAII.ORG