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**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

***Office of Community Services***

**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**
GOVERNOR

**DWIGHT TAKAMINE**
DIRECTOR

**MILA KAAHANUI**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Oct. 10, 2013

**STATE ANNOUNCES OPENING OF IMMIGRANT RESOURCE CENTERS**

**HONOLULU**—The Office of Community Services (OCS) today announced opening celebrations that will take place at four Immigrant Resource Centers on Oahu, Hawaii Island and Kauai. The Centers will serve as multicultural navigators, connecting immigrants to resources, services and opportunities to participate fully in the economic, civic, social and cultural life of Hawaii.

“These Immigrant Resource Centers will facilitate and enhance the development, delivery and coordination of effective programs as we renew our investment in people and programs,” said Gov. Neil Abercrombie. “They are going to help immigrants achieve and maintain greater economic self-sufficiency and integration into the Aloha State.”

“The restoration of state-funded, comprehensive services for Hawaii’s immigrant communities comes after two decades of gaps in services to individuals and communities marginalized by poverty and lack of language access to needed resources and services,” said OCS Executive Director Mila Kaahanui. “In recognition of this milestone, we invite the public to join the state celebrating the restoration of services to immigrant communities.”

The celebrations are scheduled as follows:

**Thursday, October 24, 2013 - HILO**

1:00 PM

Catholic Charities Hawaii

62 Kinoole St.

Hilo, HI 96720

**Thursday, November 7, 2013 - KALIHI**

11:00 AM

Parents and Children Together (PACT)

Kuhio Park Terrace Family Center

1485 Linapuni St., Suite 103

Honolulu, HI 96819

**Friday, November 8, 2013 – EWA BEACH**

11:00 AM

Child and Family Service Center

91-1841 Fort Weaver Road

Ewa Beach, HI 96706

**Saturday, November 9, 2013 - LIHUE**

1:00 PM

Child and Family Service Family Center

Hale Hoomalu

4-1112 Kuhio Highway

Kapaa, HI 96746

For more information, contact the Office of Community Services at (808) 586-8675.

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