



Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc.

Community Needs Assessment FFY 2019-2021

I. INTRODUCTION

Honolulu Community Action Program, Inc. (HCAP) is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) community action agency serving Oahu’s low-income residents since 1965. HCAP offers a range of programs and services to assist individuals and families to gain self-sufficiency. Annually, HCAP impacts over 20,000 people throughout the island of Oahu (City and County of Honolulu).

HCAP serves the community through its mission of “POI: Providing Opportunities and Inspiration to enable low-income individuals or families to achieve self-reliance.” HCAP offers programs and services in six major areas: Early Childhood; Employment; Education; Economic Development; Emergency & Transitional Programs; and Community Development & Advocacy.

HCAP’s programs are designed to benefit low-income and disadvantaged clients. Eligibility for individual programs varies based on specific guidelines set by funders. While programs are its primary service delivery vehicle, equally important are HCAP’s efforts to mobilize community members and groups to advocate for the needs of low-income people.

A. Overview

Every three years, HCAP conducts a Community Needs Assessment (CNA), in compliance with requirements of the Community Services Block Grant. The assessment is then updated on a yearly basis. HCAP’s CNA presents data on the characteristics and needs of low-income individuals and families in the agency’s service area, the City and County of Honolulu, which includes the entire island of Oahu. Once collected, the data is analyzed to determine significant areas of need, identify any potential gaps in programs and services, and to develop goals and objectives accordingly.

The following Community Needs Assessment was prepared for the three year planning cycle, October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2021. It has been prepared in December 2018 utilizing the most current source material obtained by HCAP.

B. Data Collection Methods and Information Sources

HCAP’s planning staff collected data through multiple sources: quantitative data, qualitative data (focus groups), and quantitative research (surveys).

- **Quantitative Data**

The needs assessment incorporates data from various sources at national, state, and local levels. These data sources include but are not limited to the U.S. Census, the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Department of Labor, the Hawaii State Department of Business, the Hawaii State Department of Health, and the Hawaii State Department of Labor. Data includes self-report of demographics and health behaviors from large, population-based surveys such as the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).

- **Qualitative Data: Focus Groups**

From August 2018 to October 2018, HCAP’s Planning, Program Development and Communications department conducted a series of community focus groups with staff, partners, clients, and community members. All focus group participants had to be invited by the Planning, Program Development and Communications department, the District Service Center Community Service Managers, or the Head Start Executive Management team. All groups were audio-recorded for transcription purposes, but names of individuals will remain confidential.

- **Quantitative Research: Surveys**

Around the same time that focus groups were conducted from August 2018 to October 2018, HCAP’s Planning, Program Development and Communications department also distributed the 2018 Community Survey. Survey participants either filled out the survey online or completed a paper version of the survey. They answered questions about their age range, educational background, and income levels, as well as indicated their relationship to HCAP. Survey participants also answered questions about the following areas: Employment, Education, Housing, Nutrition, Income, Transportation, Health, and Community.

II. QUANTITATIVE DATA

A. Oahu’s Poverty Population

According to the U.S. Census Bureau’s Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates for 2017 (SAIPE), 132,201 people in the State of Hawaii are living in poverty. Honolulu County is home to 60% of the state’s impoverished population, with 79,084 people or 8.3% of Oahu’s residents living at or below the poverty line.¹ Poverty is determined by comparing annual income to a set of dollar values called thresholds that vary by family size, number of related children, and age of householder. If a household’s gross income is less than the dollar value of their threshold, then the household is considered to be in poverty.

The following table shows the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2017 poverty estimates for the State of Hawaii and Honolulu County.

TABLE 1: POVERTY ESTIMATES (2017)

	Poverty Estimate All Ages	Poverty Percent All Ages	Poverty Estimate < 18 yrs	Poverty Percent <18 yrs	Poverty Estimate 5-17 yrs	Poverty Percent 5-17 yrs	Poverty Estimate 0-4 yrs	Poverty Percent 0-4 yrs
State	132,201	9.5	35,572	11.9	22,463	10.7	11,596	13.3
Honolulu County	79,084	8.3	20,432	9.9	12,841	9.0	Data not available	Data not available

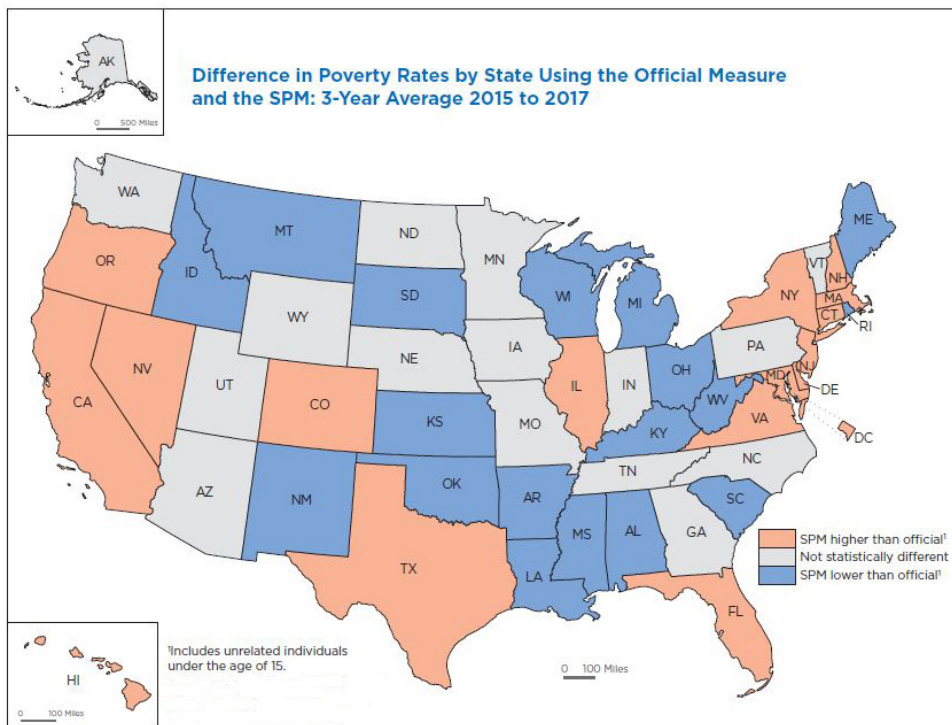
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2017.

While the official rate of poverty represents 132,201 residents who cannot make ends meet, the 2015-2017 Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) figure boosts that figure to 210,000, making Hawaii one of 16 U.S. states in which the SPM is higher than the official rate² Unlike the official rate of poverty, the annual Supplemental Poverty Measure takes into consideration several important variables including cost of living. With 210,000 residents living in poverty, Hawaii is ranked the 10th highest in the nation.

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, SAIPE State and County Estimates for 2017. 2018. <<https://www.census.gov/data/datasets/2017/demo/saipe/2017-state-and-county.html>>

² U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, The Supplemental Poverty Measure: 2017, “Current Population Reports.” 2018. <<https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2018/demo/p60-265.pdf>>.

FIGURE 1: STATES WITH SUPPLEMENTAL POVERTY MEASURE HIGHER THAN OFFICIAL POVERTY RATE



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2016 to 2018 Annual Social and Economic Supplement.

B. Race and Ethnicity

Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders are overrepresented in the poverty population, as shown in Table 2 below.

TABLE 2: POVERTY ESTIMATES BY RACE IN HONOLULU COUNTY (2017)

	Asian	White	Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	Black	Two or More Races
All Residents (Percent)	38.7	24.6	10.2	1.5	23.4
Individuals at or Below Poverty Level (Percent)	6.0	10.4	19.5	13.9	9.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months, 2017.

19.5% of Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders live in poverty, as compared to 10.4% of whites and 6.0% of Asians.³ Though there have been improvements for Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific

³U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months. 2017. <<http://factfinder.census.gov/>>

Islanders, particularly Micronesians, these groups are still overrepresented in Honolulu’s poverty population. There is a need for outreach, advocacy and services targeted specifically to these groups throughout HCAP’s service area.

C. Gender

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, a total of 33,265 males and 46,880 females in Honolulu County had income below the poverty level. The charts below show the breakdown of the number of males and females living in poverty, broken down by the State of Hawaii and Honolulu County and age.⁴

TABLE 3: POVERTY STATUS BY SEX BY AGE (MALE)

	Hawaii	Honolulu County
Male Total	59,326	33,265
Under 5 years	6,055	3,464
5 years	1,467	622
6 to 11 years	4,645	2,436
12 to 14 years	2,585	1,516
15 years	972	477
16 and 17 years	2,328	1,812
18 to 24 years	6,084	3,686
25 to 34 years	6,972	3,789
35 to 44 years	4,342	1,696
45 to 54 years	6,196	3,615
55 to 64 years	7,800	3,883
65 to 74 years	5,740	3,583
75 years and older	4,140	2,686

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-year Estimates, 2017.

TABLE 4: POVERTY STATUS BY SEX BY AGE (FEMALE)

	Hawaii	Honolulu County
Female Total	73,223	46,880
Under 5 years	5,738	3,422
5 years	1,008	573
6 to 11 years	4,651	2,921
12 to 14 years	2,866	2,157
15 years	507	442
16 and 17 years	1,619	999
18 to 24 years	8,527	5,955
25 to 34 years	10,958	6,842
35 to 44 years	7,214	5,110
45 to 54 years	7,811	4,730
55 to 64 years	9,128	5,230
65 to 74 years	5,843	3,460
75 years and older	7,353	5,039

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-year Estimates, 2017.

⁴ U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months by sex by age. 2017. <
<https://factfinder.census.gov/>>.

D. Language

25.3% of people in the State of Hawaii, aged 5 and older, speak a language other than English in their home. In Honolulu County, 27.5% of the population speaks a language other than English. 14.4% of those living in Honolulu County speak English less than “very well.” 7.8% of total households in Honolulu County are defined as a “limited English speaking household.”⁵ Most are of Asian (Filipino, Japanese, Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese) or Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (Hawaiian, Samoan, Tongan, Marshallese, etc) descent.

The top 10 languages, other than English, spoken in Hawaii are:⁶

1. Tagalog – 17.6%
2. Ilocano – 17.6%
3. Japanese – 13.8%
4. Chinese- Cantonese/ Mandarin – 9.0%
5. Spanish – 8%
6. Hawaiian – 5.6%
7. Korean – 5.4%
8. Samoan – 3.7%
9. Vietnamese – 2.9%
10. German – 1.4%

With the majority (75.9%) of Hawaii’s limited English proficiency (LEP) population living on Oahu, there is a need for English-as-a-second-language classes, as well as translation of agency materials to encourage LEP individuals to access needed services. In addition, children whose parents are limited in English proficiency can benefit from language-rich environments in early childhood education

E. Employment

Hawaii’s unemployment rate as of November 2018 was 2.4%.⁷ In Honolulu County, the October 2018 non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 2.3%.⁸ According to the Economic Research Organization at the University of Hawaii (UHERO), “Hawaii labor markets continue to be very healthy, but there are now signs of softening. Having settled at historically low levels, the statewide unemployment rate and initial claims for unemployment compensation have changed very little over the past year. In recent months, the labor force and employment have been trending up, but the government job losses, and overall public sector jobs are down nearly one percent for the year so far. Public sector hiring will remain restrained throughout the forecast horizon, hampered by budget pressures.”⁹

⁵The U.S Census Bureau defines “Limited English Speaking Household” as “Household in which no member 14 years old and over speak only English or speaks a non-English language and speaks English “very well.”

⁶State of Hawaii. Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism Research and Economic Analysis Division. “Non-English Speaking Population in Hawaii.” April 2016. < http://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/economic/data_reports/Non_English_Speaking_Population_in_Hawaii_April_2016.pdf >.

⁷ U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor and Statistics. “Local Area Unemployment Statistics.” 2018. <<http://www.bls.gov/web/laus/laumstrk.htm>>.

⁸U.S Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor and Statistics. “Local Area Unemployment Statistics.” 2018. <<https://www.bls.gov/web/metro/laucntcur14.txt>>.

⁹The Economic Research Organization at the University of Hawaii (UHERO). “Hawaii’s growth down, but not out.” <http://uhero.hawaii.edu/assets/18Q3_SU_Public.pdf >.

F. Cost of Living (Inflation)

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over a time in a fixed market basket of goods and services (food, clothing, shelter, fuels, transportation fares, medical services, and other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living). The Honolulu CPI (inflation) advanced 0.9% in the second half of 2017. Over the last 12 months, the Consumer Price Index rose 2.5%.¹⁰ In the 3rd quarter of 2018, Honolulu was ranked the third highest in cost of living among 268 urban areas in the United States and the most expensive place to buy groceries.¹¹ Despite the high cost of living in Hawaii, the median earnings for full-time, year-round workers were \$46,978 – only slightly more than the U.S. median of \$46,881.¹²

HCAP sees this as an indication of the need for support services to help underemployed individuals and families address the high cost of living in Hawaii.

G. Housing

1. Rental and Home Ownership

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2017, there were 312,625 households in Honolulu County.¹³ Of those households, 176,287 (56%) were owner-occupied and 136,338 (44%) were renter-occupied. The average owner-occupied household size was 3.30 people and the average renter-occupied household was 2.71 people.¹⁴ The median income of owner-occupied households was \$104,689 and \$58,620 for renter-occupied households.¹⁵

Hawaii's rates for rent and mortgage are among the highest in the nation. Housing is expensive in Hawaii to rent and own, due in part to the high price of land. In 2017, Hawaii had the nation's highest median monthly housing costs for renter-occupied units. The median renter costs in Hawaii were \$1,573.¹⁶ Hawaii had the third-highest median housing costs for owners with mortgages. The median monthly housing cost for owners with mortgages in Hawaii was \$2,337.¹⁷

According to the National Low-Income Housing Coalition, fair market rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom apartment in Honolulu County is \$1,879 a month. Assuming that a household spends no more than 30% of gross income on utilities, the household must earn an hourly wage of \$36.13, or \$75,158 a year to rent a two-bedroom apartment at FMR. A household must contain 3.6 people, earning at least minimum wage, and working no less than 40 hours a week year-round in order to afford such an apartment¹⁸. Such data indicates that housing represents a Hawaii family's greatest expense and calls into question the

¹⁰U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor and Statistics. "Consumer Price Index, Honolulu – Second Half 2017." 2018.

<http://www.bls.gov/regions/west/news-release/consumerpriceindex_honolulu.htm >

¹¹The Council for Community and Economic Research. "Cost of Living Index Quarterly Update." November 2018. <<http://coli.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/2018Q3MediaRelease.pdf> >.

¹²U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Earnings in the Past 12 Months (in 2017 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars). 2017. <<https://factfinder.census.gov/>>

¹³U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Households and Families. 2017.

<<https://factfinder.census.gov/> >

¹⁴U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Average Household Size of Occupied Housing Units By Tenure. 2017 <<https://factfinder.census.gov/> >

¹⁵ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Financial Characteristics. 2017.

<<https://factfinder.census.gov/> >

¹⁶U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Median Gross Rent By Bedrooms. 2017. <

<https://factfinder.census.gov/>>

¹⁷ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Median Selected Monthly Owner Costs (Dollars) By Mortgage Status." 2017. <<https://factfinder.census.gov/> >

¹⁸National Low Income Housing Coalition. "Out of Reach 2018: Hawaii." 2018.<http://nlihc.org/sites/default/files/oor/OOR_2018.pdf>

affordability of Hawaii. For many individuals and families, wages and salaries have not kept pace with the rising costs of living.

2. Homelessness

The City and County of Honolulu periodically conducts point-in-time counts of individuals and families experiencing homelessness. On January 22, 2018, a total of 4,495 people were identified as being homeless on Oahu (a 9% decrease since the 2017 point-in-time count). Of those identified, 48% (2,145) were unsheltered and 52% (2,350) were sheltered (residing in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program).

Taking a broader view than the Point-in-Time Count, the University of Hawaii Center on the Family determined that 15,627 homeless individuals were served statewide through shelter and outreach programs in FY 2017. In Honolulu County, a total of 5,731 individuals received shelter services; 2,750 (50.3%) of those individuals were people in households with children under the age of 18.¹⁹

Certain ethnic groups are overrepresented in the homeless population on Oahu. According to the 2017 Homeless Service Utilization Report, Hawaiians/Part Hawaiians (26.8%) and Caucasians (19.2%) were two of the largest ethnic groups accessing shelter services on Oahu.²⁰

Taking into account the data presented, HCAP recognizes a need for a multi-faceted approach, including the following: providing transitional housing with support services to continue reducing the number of unsheltered homeless on Oahu; offering quality education options for homeless children, with corresponding support services for parents; maintaining partnerships and keeping abreast of developments in homelessness prevention strategies at the Federal, State and local level, including transition-in-place.

H. Energy and Utilities

While there is a statewide initiative to build a clean energy economy, Hawaii is still the most petroleum-dependent state in the nation. As of September 2018, Hawaii has the highest average electricity price in the nation, even surpassing Alaska.²¹ Oil dependency is a major risk for the state as whole – for low-income populations in particular – as fluctuations in price and supply can greatly impact the daily costs of utilities.

¹⁹Partners in Care – 2018 Oahu Point-in-Time (PIT) Count. 2018.

<<http://partnersincareoahu.org/sites/default/files/2018%20OAHU%20PIT%20Report%20FINAL%20-%206.5.18.pdf>>

²⁰UH Center on the Family. "Homeless Service Utilization Report." 2017.

<http://uhfamily.hawaii.edu/publications/brochures/3f3d5_HomelessServiceUtilization2017.pdf>

²¹U.S. Energy Information Administration. "Hawaii State Energy Profile." 2017.< <http://www.eia.gov/state/?sid=HI>>

FIGURE 2: STATES WITH HIGHEST PRICE OF ELECTRICITY

Rank	State	Average Retail Price of Electricity to Residential Sector (cents/kWh)
1	Hawaii	32.29
2	Alaska	22.76
3	Rhode Island	22.32
4	Massachusetts	22.15
5	Connecticut	22.05
6	New Hampshire	19.87
7	California	19.39
8	New York	19.28
9	Vermont	17.95
10	Maine	16.01

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-861M (formerly EIA-826), Monthly Electric Power Industry Report, 2018.

At an average of 30 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) in 2017,²² the cost of electricity in Hawaii is almost two times the national average retail price of 13.1 cents per kWh.²³ Individual electric meters in Hawaii record a statewide average of 482 kWh per month. This translates to an average monthly utility bill of \$144.60.²⁴ Low-income households are especially vulnerable to the impacts of high energy costs, as a larger percentage of their income is used to pay for utilities. Financial hardships can force low-income residents to make difficult choices between using electricity and paying for other necessities, even food. Installation of energy-saving measures in low-income homes can lessen the financial burden; however, the purchase of these devices is often cost prohibitive for the target population.

Increases in consumer energy demand for transportation and household needs, combined with an overall decline in reserves of extractable oil, have resulted in escalating energy costs. Oahu’s low-income families will continue to need affordable methods and education to help them reduce their energy use. Honolulu County could also benefit from increased advocacy for energy conservation on an individual, family and community level.

I. Educational Needs

1. Early Childhood Education

The U.S. Census Bureau’s 2017 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates indicate that 13.3% or 11,596 of all children under the age of five in Hawaii live at or below the poverty threshold.²⁵ The highest percentages of young children living in poverty are in Waimanalo, Waianae, and Kahuku areas.²⁶

²²State of Hawaii, Hawaii State Energy Office. “Hawaii Energy Facts & Figures.” 2018.

<http://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/HSEO_2018_EnergyFactsFigures.pdf>

²³U.S. Energy Information Administration. “Electricity Monthly Update” July 2018. <<http://www.eia.gov/electricity/monthly/update/>>

²⁴State of Hawaii, Hawaii State Energy Office. “Hawaii Energy Facts & Figures.” 2018.

<http://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/HSEO_2018_EnergyFactsFigures.pdf>

²⁵US Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates. “Poverty Rates or Income: Under Age 5 in Poverty.” 2017.

<<https://www.census.gov/data/datasets/2017/demo/saie/2017-state-and-county.html>>

TABLE 5: GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF OAHU CHILDREN (AGES 0-5) IN POVERTY, 2013- 2017

HCAP District	Geographic Area/ Zip Code	Number of Children under age 5	Number of Children under age 5 living in poverty	Percentage of Children under age 5 living in poverty
LEEWARD	Kapolei (96707)	3,775	167	4.4%
	Waianae (96792)	3,867	1,309	33.9 %
CENTRAL	Aiea (96701)	2,169	201	9.3%
	Ewa Beach (96706)	5,786	425	7.3%
	Haleiwa (96712)	436	21	4.8%
	Kunia (96759)	N/A	-	-
	Pearl City (96782)	2,405	253	10.5%
	Wahiawa (96786)	5,335	486	9.1%
	Mililani (96789)	3,177	199	6.3%
	Waialua (96791)	504	37	7.3%
	Waipahu (96797)	5,295	701	13.2%
	Pearl Harbor (96818)	6,232	480	7.7%
KALIHI-PALAMA	Downtown (96813)	1,471	235	16.0%
	Downtown (96814)	815	175	21.5%
	Kapalama (96817)	2,554	403	15.8%
	Kapalama (96819)	3,293	693	21.0%
LEAHI	Waikiki (96815)	693	75	10.8%
	Waialae/Kahala (96816)	1,697	53	3.1%
	Hawaii Kai (96821)	771	0	0%
	Makiki (96822)	2,211	300	13.6%
	Hawaii Kai (96825)	1,388	48	3.5%
	Makiki (96826)	1,243	171	13.8%
WINDWARD	Hauula (96717)	497	27	5.4%
	Kaawa (96730)	121	4	3.3%
	Kahuku (96731)	320	77	24.1%
	Kailua (96734)	3,518	134	3.8%
	Kaneohe (96744)	2,589	234	9.0%
	Laie (96762)	492	18	3.7%
	Waimanalo (96795)	572	246	43.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2013-2017.

School readiness assessments and data on children in poverty provide demographic characteristics of young children in low-income families. The Hawaii State School Readiness Assessment indicates that out of 7,695 children who attended kindergarten in the 2013-2014 school year, 55% received free/reduced lunch subsidies; 14% were non-native English speakers (ESL, ELL), 5% were special education students,

²⁶US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months. 2013-2017. <<https://factfinder.census.gov>>

and 43% did not attend any preschool prior to starting kindergarten.²⁷ A study by the National Center for Children in Poverty lists multiple risk factors facing young children in Hawaii, including a single-parent household, poverty, linguistic isolation, parents with less than a high school diploma, and parents without paid employment. The same study finds that 48% of children in Hawaii face at least one or two of these risk factors at an early age.²⁸

State-level data shows a lack of school readiness for children entering kindergarten. The 2013-2014 Hawaii State School Readiness Assessment (HSSRA) indicates that only 15% of students entering public kindergarten consistently displayed the skills and characteristics necessary to succeed in school.²⁹ The assessment also indicates that 29.9% (less than 1 out of 3) of the state's public school kindergarten classes had a majority of students who exhibited necessary literacy skills; for math skills, the result was only slightly better, at 34.9%. Although the state has indicated a new emphasis on early childhood education, the percentage of children that attend preschool prior to starting kindergarten has dropped every year for the past 3 years. In 2014, only 57% of kindergarteners had attended preschool.³⁰

In its report, "Quality Counts 2018," the Education Week Research Center ranked Hawaii 23rd among the 50 states for student achievement in grades K through 12. The ranking is based upon three graded indices: K-12 Achievement, Chance for Success, and School Finance. In early foundations, one of the indicators under the Chance for Success Index, Hawaii scored a grade of B-plus and ranks 21st.³¹

2. Preschool Services

Hawaii's Early Childhood Education Task Force developed five- and ten-year plans for a "comprehensive and sustainable early learning system that would provide a continuum of early learning opportunities for the children of Hawaii, from birth to 5 years of age."³² The task force recognized that a large gap exists between the academic abilities of high- and low-income children by age six. It also recognized that early interventions through quality programs for the child and family can make a tremendous difference. Children in these programs have higher literacy, school achievement and reading and math test scores. Benefits extend into adulthood, including increased earnings and rates of home ownership, and decreased instances of contact with the criminal justice system and social services.³³

Hawaii's Statewide Child Care Resource and Referral Agency People Attentive to Children (PATCH) reports that in 2017, there were a total of 946 licensed preschool facilities in the State of Hawaii, with 574 located on the island of Oahu. On Oahu, enrollment in these programs was 21,830 as of June 2017, which was lower than the desired capacity of 22,962 and the licensed capacity of 24,532.³⁴ HCAP Head Start is the largest early childhood provider on Oahu with 75 locations and the enrollment capacity of 1,514.

²⁷State of Hawaii, Department of Education. "Hawaii School Readiness Assessment – State Results." 2014. <<http://arch.k12.hi.us/PDFs/hssra/2014/State-999-State.pdf>>

²⁸National Center for Children in Poverty. Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University. "Hawaii Early Childhood Profile." 2015. <http://www.nccp.org/profiles/pdf/profile_early_childhood_HI.pdf>

²⁹State of Hawaii Department of Education. "Hawaii State School Readiness Assessment." 2014. <<http://arch.k12.hi.us/PDFs/hssra/2014/State-999-State.pdf>>

³⁰State of Hawaii Department of Education. "Hawaii State School Readiness Assessment." 2014. <<http://arch.k12.hi.us/PDFs/hssra/2014/State-999-State.pdf>>

³¹Education Week. "Quality Counts 2018: Report and Rankings." 2018. <<http://www.edweek.org/ew/collections/quality-counts-2018-state-grades/highlight-reports/2018/01/17/hawaii.html>>

³²State of Hawaii. Act 259 Report to the 2008 State Legislature. Early Learning Educational Task Force. 2008. <<http://www.kinoshita-communications.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/Act-259.pdf>>

³³State of Hawaii. Act 259 Report to the 2008 State Legislature. Early Learning Educational Task Force. 2008. <<http://www.kinoshita-communications.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/Act-259.pdf>>

³⁴PATCH. "Report on Facilities and Capacity." 2018. <<http://www.patchhawaii.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Data-for-Web-Hawaii-Child-Care-Capacity-6.2017-PATCH.pdf>>

TABLE 6: LARGEST EARLY CHILDHOOD PROVIDERS ON OAHU

Name of Provider	Number of Preschool Locations	Enrollment Capacity
HCAP Head Start	75	1514
Kama`aina Kids	30	1395
Parents and Children Together (PACT) Head Start	14	286
Kamehameha Preschools	12	798
Cole Academy	9	593
KCAA	6	850
Rainbow Schools	6	414
Seagull Schools	5	991

Source: PATCH Hawaii, 2017-2018 School Year.

As the need for quality early childhood education grows, the options for low-income families are shrinking. The decision for low-income families to enroll their children in preschool is affected by many factors, not the least of which is the cost of center care and the availability of financial subsidies. The average monthly full-time rates in child care centers in Oahu, as of June 2017, were \$784 for children ages 3-4 and \$775 for children ages 4-5.³⁵ The federal government defines “affordable” child care as no more than 7% of a household income for all children combined.³⁶ Using the federal government definition, the University of Hawaii Center on the Family concluded that Hawaii has the nation’s least affordable child care center in relationship to median family income.³⁷

3. Children with Disabilities

According to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Child Count and Census, 4.5% of children with a disability in Hawaii, ages 3-5 were reported in the 2016-2017 school year.³⁸ A national average for the 2016-2017 school year was 7.1%. The IDEA report also reported the percent of children in Hawaii with disabilities by disability category for ages 3-5.

TABLE 7: CHILDREN IN HAWAII WITH DISABILITIES

Disability Category	Ages 3-5 (%)	Disability Category	Ages 3-5 (%)
All disabilities	100%	Multiple disabilities	2.4
Autism	14	Orthopedic impairment	0.4
Deaf-blindness	0.0	Other health impairment	4.0
Developmental delay	67.8	Specific learning disabilities	0.2
Emotional disturbance	0.4	Speech or language impairment	8.5
Hearing impairment	1.5	Traumatic brain injury	0.1
Intellectual disability	0.5	Visual impairment	0.4

Source: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 2016-2017 School Year.

³⁵PATCH. “Report on Average Monthly Full-Time Rates.” 2018. <<http://www.patchhawaii.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Data-for-Web-Ave-FT-Rates-HI-Child-Care-6.2017-PATCH.pdf>>

³⁶Department of Health and Human Services. “Child Care and Development Fund Program: Rules and Regulations.” 2016. <<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2016-09-30/pdf/2016-22986.pdf>>

³⁷University of Hawaii Center on the Family. “Early childhood programs in Hawaii.” 2017. <http://uhfamily.hawaii.edu/publications/brochures/31491_EarlyLearnSum_FINAL.pdf>

³⁸Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). “Child Count and Census.” 2014. <http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/Reports/2016-2017_IDEA_Part_B_Data.zip>

A 2017 Program Information Report (PIR) stated 10.38% of children enrolled in Hawaii Head Start programs had been diagnosed with a disability (having an IEP or IFSP). Of those children, 18.9% were diagnosed during the program year and 81.1% had been diagnosed the previous year.³⁹

A number of different support systems and organizations are in place for parents and families with children with special health needs:

- **Community Children's Councils**: A partnership of parents, school personnel, private providers and other community members, coordinated by the Department, who are concerned with the delivery of services and support to special needs children and families.
- **Special Parent Information Network**: The Special Parent Information Network (SPIN) is a project of the DCAB and the Department of Education. Its purpose is to enhance the participation of parents with children with disabilities in the decision making process involving their child's education. SPIN's responsibilities are to:
 - A. Provide parent-to-parent support through the SPIN "warm-line" to assist parents in accessing services for their child with a disability.
 - B. Promote parent involvement in the education of their child with special needs through information about the special education process, due process options, and parent-professional partnerships. www.spinhawaii.org
- Autism Society of Hawaii www.autismhawaii.org
- United Cerebral Palsy Association of Hawaii www.ucpahi.org
- Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD) www.chadd.org
- Hawaii Down Syndrome Congress www.hidownsyndrome.com
- Learning Disabilities Association of Hawaii www.lidahawaii.org
- Hawaii Families as Allies <http://hfaa.net>
- Easter Seals Hawaii www.eastersealshawaii.org

4. Early Childhood Health and Nutrition

Approximately 2.4% of young children in Hawaii were without health insurance in 2016.⁴⁰ The other 97.6% of children were covered by private or public health insurance, including Quest and Medicaid. 49.62% of total public school students in Hawaii are eligible for Free/Reduced Price lunch.⁴¹

These indicators are relevant because it assesses vulnerable populations which are more likely to have multiple health access, health status, and social support needs. Access to quality health care services is important to assuring the quality of a healthy life for everyone. Access to quality health care impacts physical, social, and mental health, prevention and treatment of health conditions, quality of life, and life expectancy.

According to the World Health Organization's 2013 Meeting Report, "early exposures and experiences impact our developmental trajectories across the life course."⁴² At this point in time, a child's experiences and environment exposures will be instrumental in the development of early brain function and provides

³⁹Office of Head Start. "Hawaii Head Start by the Numbers 2017 PIR Profile." 2018.

⁴⁰U.S. Census Bureau. Small Area Health Insurance Estimates. State and County by Demographic and Income Characteristics. 2016.
< https://www.census.gov/data-tools/demo/cedr1/sahie/sahie.html?s_appName=sahie&s_statefips=15&s_agecat=4&menu=grid_proxy>

⁴¹National Center for Education Statistics, NCES – Common Core of Data. 2015-2016.

⁴²World Health Organization. "Meeting Report – Nurturing Human Capital along the Life Course. Investing in Early Child Development." 2013.
<http://www.who.int/maternal_child_adolescent/documents/investing_ecd/en/>

an important window of opportunity to build a strong foundation and a strong future.⁴³ Early childhood is also a period “of great vulnerability to negative influences and constitutes a unique phase for capitalizing on developmental forces to prevent or minimize disabilities and potential secondary conditions.”⁴⁴

a. Nutrition and Obesity

Obesity is linked to a number of life threatening and chronic illnesses, including heart disease, stroke, diabetes, and some cancers. The Hawaii State Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity Profile report shows that among Hawaii’s children aged 2 years to less than 5 years, 12.8% were overweight and 10.2% were obese.⁴⁵ 14.9% of adolescents were overweight and 13.4% of adolescents had obesity.⁴⁶ Obese children and adolescents are more likely to become obese as adults.

According to the World Health Organization, “Overweight and obese children are likely to stay obese into adulthood and more likely to develop noncommunicable diseases like diabetes and cardiovascular diseases at a younger age.”⁴⁷ Approximately 40% of Hawaii children in families below the poverty line are overweight or obese.⁴⁸ According to the State of Hawaii Department of Health, “Youth who are publicly insured (36.0%) have a significantly larger percentage of being obese/overweight compared to those who are private insured (23.6%).”⁴⁹ All Head Start families are referred to the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). WIC provides nutrition education and health foods enabling families to make life-long healthy eating and life-style choices.

b. Asthma

Asthma is a chronic lung disease that affected an estimated 74,600 children in Hawaii in 2014. Child lifetime asthma prevalence was 22.1% of children age 0-4 and 27.4% of children age 5-9.⁵⁰ Asthma is a serious health concern, especially for children, resulting in missed days of school, limitations on daily activities, emergency department visits for treatment of asthma symptoms, and hospitalizations. According to the Hawaii Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Native Hawaiian children had the highest rates of asthma.⁵¹

⁴³World Health Organization. “Meeting Report – Nurturing Human Capital along the Life Course. Investing in Early Child Development.” 2013.<http://www.who.int/maternal_child_adolescent/documents/investing_ecd/en/>

⁴⁴World Health Organization. “Early Childhood Development.” 2015.
< http://www.who.int/maternal_child_adolescent/topics/child/development/en/>

⁴⁵Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. “Hawaii State Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity Profile.” 2016.
< <https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpao/state-local-programs/profiles/pdfs/hawaii-state-profile.pdf>>

⁴⁶Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. “Hawaii State Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity Profile.” 2016.
<<https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpao/state-local-programs/profiles/pdfs/hawaii-state-profile.pdf>>

⁴⁷World Health Organization. “Childhood Overweight and Obesity.” 2015. < <http://www.who.int/dietphysicalactivity/childhood/en/>>

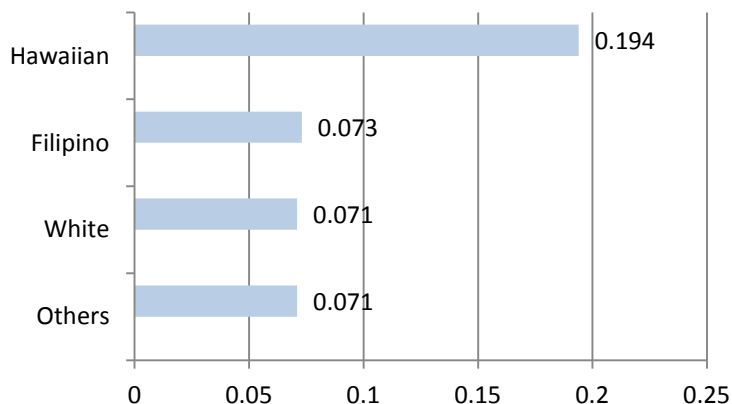
⁴⁸State of Hawaii Department of Health. “Health Status of Children in Hawaii.” 2014.
<<http://health.hawaii.gov/about/files/2013/06/health-status-of-children-in-hawaii-report.pdf>>

⁴⁹State of Hawaii Department of Health. “Health Status of Children in Hawaii.” 2014.
<<http://health.hawaii.gov/about/files/2013/06/health-status-of-children-in-hawaii-report.pdf>>

⁵⁰Hawaii Health Data Warehouse. “Child Asthma Prevalence.” 2014.
<http://www.hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS_aSTHMA_ind_0012_2011.pdf>

⁵¹Hawaii State Department of Health. “The Hawaii Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System: 2015 Results.” 2015.
< https://health.hawaii.gov/brfss/files/2016/07/brfss15_results.pdf>

FIGURE 3: CHILDREN WITH CURRENT ASTHMA BY RACE/ETHNICITY



Source: The Hawaii Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2015

c. Allergies

Allergic diseases, such as allergic rhinitis (hay fever), food allergy, and atopic dermatitis (eczema), are common for all age groups in the United States. Hay fever, respiratory allergies, and other allergies affect approximately 10 percent of children under 18 years old. In addition, food allergy affects an estimated 5 percent of children under 5 years old in the United States.⁵² Children with food allergies are two to four times more likely to have other conditions, such as asthma.

Additionally, a study from the Center of Disease Control (CDC) showed that children living in families that made more than 200 percent of the federal poverty level had the highest rates of allergies. The prevalence of food and respiratory allergy, but not skin allergy, increased with higher income levels. The prevalence of both food allergy and respiratory allergy increased with the increase of income level.

Among children with family income less than 100% of the poverty level, 4.4% had a food allergy and 14.9% had a respiratory allergy. Food allergy prevalence among children with family income between 100% and 200% of the poverty level was 5.0%, and respiratory allergy prevalence was 15.8%. Among children with family income above 200% of the poverty level, food allergy prevalence was 5.4%, and respiratory allergy prevalence was 18.3%. There was no significant difference in the prevalence of skin allergy by poverty status.⁵³

5. Youth Education

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), also known as the Nation's Report Card, informs the public about the academic achievement of elementary and secondary students across the country. The Nation's Report Card compares performance among states, urban districts, public and private schools, and student demographic groups.⁵⁴

In 2017, eighth-grade students in all 50 states participated in the NAEP reading and mathematics skills assessment. The average score of eighth-grade students in Hawaii in reading was 261.

⁵²National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. "Allergic Diseases." <<https://www.niaid.nih.gov/diseases-conditions/food-allergy>>

⁵³NCHS Data Brief No.121 May 2013. "Trends in Allergic Conditions Among Children: United States, 1997-2011." 2013. <<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db121.pdf>>

⁵⁴National Assessment Governing Board. "NAEP: Nation's Report Card." 2017. <<https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/>>

TABLE 8: HAWAII STATE NAEP PERFORMANCE COMPARED TO THE NATION

8th Grade Reading

Jurisdiction	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
Hawaii	28%	42%	28%	2%
National Average	25%	41%	31%	4%

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2017 Reading Assessment.

8th Grade Math

Jurisdiction	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
Hawaii	34%	39%	21%	7%
National Average	31%	36%	24%	10%

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2017 Math Assessment.

Eighth-grade students in Hawaii consistently underperformed in their reading and mathematics skills assessments across all proficiency levels.^{55 56}

Many low-income families are not able to provide supervision or learning opportunities for their kids during working hours. Afterschool Alliance reports that in Hawaii, 17% of K-12 youth are responsible for taking care of themselves afterschool and 38% are currently not enrolled in an after-school program, but would if one were available to them.⁵⁷ In addition, overburdened public schools are suffering budget cuts and the reduction or elimination of many after-school and enrichment programs. This lack of parental supervision and limited availability of after-school programs can have negative effects on children and youth. According to After-School All-Stars Hawaii, unsupervised children are threatened with crime and juvenile delinquency and are three times more likely to engage in violent crime, drug use, alcohol and sexual activity.⁵⁸

6. Adult Education

According to 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate, 91.7% of adults living in Hawaii (over the age of 25) and 91.5% of those living in the City and County of Honolulu (over the age of 25) have a high school diploma (including equivalency) or higher.⁵⁹ This is a positive statistic; however, the education level of parents in low-income families is, on average, lower than the education level of higher-income families. 70% of children in Hawaii whose parents do not have a high school diploma live in low-income families; 48% of children whose parents have only a high school diploma live in low-income families; and 24% whose parents have some college or more live in low-income families.⁶⁰

⁵⁵National Center for Education Statistics. “The Nation’s Report Card. 2017 Reading Assessment: State Achievement Level Results.” 2017. <<https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/subject/publications/stt2017/pdf/2018039HI8.pdf>>

⁵⁶National Center for Education Statistics. “The Nation’s Report Card. 2015 Mathematics Assessment: State Achievement Level Results.” 2017. <<https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/subject/publications/stt2017/pdf/2018038HI8.pdf>>

⁵⁷Afterschool Alliance. “Afterschool Fostering Student Success in Hawaii.” 2016. <<http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/documents/HI-afterschool-fact.pdf>>

⁵⁸After-School All-Stars Hawaii. “About Us.” <<http://asashawaii.org/about-us/>>

⁵⁹US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2013-2017. <<https://factfinder.census.gov/>>

⁶⁰National Center for Children in Poverty. “50-State Data Wizard. Income Status of Children Under Age 18, by Parental Education.” 2016. <<http://www.nccp.org/tools/demographics/>>

Because the cost of childcare is often a barrier to parents pursuing higher education, providing daytime and after-school programs can help support low-income parents seeking to go back to school. There is also a need for GED and Competency-Based High School Diploma (C-Base) programs, as well as training in computer skills and adult literacy.

III. QUALITATIVE DATA: FOCUS GROUPS

A. Focus Group Process

HCAP's Planning, Program Development and Communications department conducted a series of community focus groups. The focus group concepts and outline are included as **Appendix A** of this document.

99 people took part in the focus groups. Individuals were broken into community focus groups invited by the Planning, Program Development and Communications department, the District Service Center Community Service Managers, and Head Start Executive Management team. All groups were audio-recorded.

The composition of the focus groups included the following: HCAP Board Members, Head Start Policy Council Members, HCAP District Council Members, volunteers, staff, parents, partners, community members, and clients. Individuals were broken into the following focus groups:

1. HCAP Program Managers Focus Group
2. HCAP Head Start Focus Group
3. Central District Service Center Focus Group
4. Kalihi-Palama District Service Center Focus Group
5. Leahi District Service Center Focus Group
6. Leeward District Service Center Focus Group
7. Windward District Service Center Focus Group

The HCAP Program Managers Focus Group was comprised of managers and supporting staff from the Na Lima Hana Employment Core Services (ECS) Program, the Hā Initiative: Creative STEM After-School Program, the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), and the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP).

The HCAP Head Start Focus Group was comprised of Head Start parents as well as Head Start Policy Council members.

The Central District Service Center Focus Group and the Kalihi-Palama District Service Center Focus Group were comprised of respective members of the Central District Council and the Kalihi-Palama District Council, in addition to the Districts' Community Services Managers and Community Workers. The Leahi District Service Center Focus Group was comprised of the Community Services Manager, an HCAP Board Member, and a community member. The Windward District Service Center Focus Group was comprised of program participants.

The protocol for the focus groups included the following concepts:

- **Community Strengths** – Identification of positive attributes of the community. Areas of strength pertain to community attributes that enhance both individual and collective well-being.
- **Community Challenges/Gaps** – Identification of most pressing gaps that stand in the way of wellness and quality of life in the community.
- **Recommended Actions** – Identification of program, service, or resource that would move the community quickly to better wellness and quality of life.

- **Other Issues** – Identification of issues that may have been overlooked or not have been shared in the discussion.

This report details the findings from the focus groups. The report first details the areas of strength in the community and compiles the most common areas of resources that should be leveraged.

The second section of the report details the areas of general need in the community and compiles the most common areas of identified challenges across the focus groups.

Finally, the report details the most common recommendations of participants on how they would like to see resources developed to meet identified community needs.

B. Key Findings

Each of the seven focus groups identified the areas of major concern they feel are affecting the lives of people on Oahu. There was strong consistency among the groups interviewed.

Appendix B of this report provides an expanded listing of community strengths identified by all groups. A summary of the key community strengths are highlighted:

- **“Aloha” culture** – Many respondents identified the strong sense of community or “ohana” prevalent in their neighborhoods. People in their communities are always willing to help each other when someone is in need. When times are tough, people rise to the occasion and help one another out as a member of the community. Volunteerism and strong civic spirit are alluded to several times in several different focus groups.
- **Multigenerational households** – Unlike the US Mainland, it is not frowned upon to have adult children living with their parents well into their thirties. In fact, it is normal to find multi-generational families living under the same roof. In addition to parents, uncles and aunts, and grandfathers and grandmothers serve as adult role models to the younger individuals. For young people who would otherwise have to pay market rent, such living arrangements can be a much needed form of financial relief. Some parents pass on their houses or even their subsidized rental units from one generation to the next. In several focus groups, it is described as both a cultural norm and a financial safeguard against high housing costs.
- **Cultural diversity and acceptance** – Hawaii is the only US state that has never had a white majority. It is also the only US state with an Asian majority. Most of the early Asian settlers moved to the Hawaiian Islands as plantation laborers and identified one another as members of different ethnic groups. Different racial demographics and the common use of ethnicity as an identifier may serve to partially explain why Oahu is referred to or implied as a “melting pot” more than once in the focus groups.
- **Good public transportation** – In several focus groups, Oahu’s bus system is cited as a strength. Bus system remains affordable to seniors and individuals with disabilities. Convenience and accessibility are also cited in the focus groups: there are many bus stops located throughout the island.

- **Neighborhood safety** – Most residents feel safe and secure in their neighborhoods. Many respondents in the focus group describe relations with neighbors on strong and positive terms. Residents know one another and have been residing in the neighborhood for long stretches of time. Certain neighborhoods use telecommunications and social media to keep one another notified on neighborhood watch group activities.

Appendix C of this report provides an expanded listing of community challenges identified by all focus groups. A summary of the key community challenges are highlighted:

- **High cost of childcare** – The rising costs in childcare makes it difficult for many families. In most modern families, both parents work. But the high cost of childcare has families weighing whether it pays for both parents to work. When parents cannot afford childcare, they are left to make tough decisions. One parent may opt to stay at home to take care of the children – at the expense of their current career. Other parents may choose to set working hours around their children’s part-time childcare hours.
- **Lack of affordable housing** – The lack of affordable housing makes it difficult for every age demographic in Oahu. It is difficult for seniors to afford rising rent and maintenance fees while living on a fixed budget. Young people starting their careers are priced out of the rental market. For parents with children, they have to make do with living accommodations that are smaller than ideal.
- **Homelessness** – Unsurprisingly, homelessness was mentioned in every focus group conducted. The presence of homeless people at bus stops, on beaches, and near roads can be seen in many of Oahu’s neighborhoods. As noted by one respondent, homeless encampments sweeps by authorities do not eradicate the problem: the homeless are still on the island, searching for the next encampment area to make home.
- **Youth Problems** – Various concerns about the younger generation growing up in Oahu were voiced by several respondents in several different focus groups. These include mentions of the lack of extracurricular activities and programs for school-aged children after school, limited parent or guardian supervision and involvement, and youth unemployment.

C. Recommendations

Appendix D of this report provides an expanded listing of the recommendations identified by all focus groups. A summary of the key recommendations are highlighted:

- **Provide more affordable housing and transitional shelters** – There is a consensus among focus group participants that the lack of affordable housing has played a substantial role in the rise of homelessness on Oahu. Many respondents believe that government should play a role in helping individuals and families priced out of the rental market: interventions include building more subsidized housing for the low-income population and more transitional shelters for the individuals who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness.
- **Provide more drug rehabilitation programs and mental health facilities** – Besides high cost of housing, mental illness and substance abuse were also attributed to homelessness. Several respondents in the focus groups believe that addressing the aforementioned issues would help

some homeless individuals who are not only burdened with financial issues but psychological ones as well.

- **Remove barriers to obtaining affordable childcare** – It was suggested by several respondents in the Head Start focus group that while they are thankful to be receiving the services from HCAP Head Start, they would like other working families to receive the benefits of a program similar to Head Start. One recommendation was to increase the income poverty guidelines to qualify for such programs, so that more needy families would benefit from affordable childcare.
- **Empower youth and young adults with extracurricular programs and services** – With the rise of two-earner households, many parents do not spend as much time with their children as they would like. Several respondents believe after-school programs may help reduce juvenile delinquency. There were also recommendations about allocating funds and resources for young adults. Some respondents mentioned the importance of vocational training for young adults who are seeking skilled trades, which usually pay better than average.

IV. QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH: SURVEYS

A. Community Survey Process and Results

HCAP distributed the 2018 Community Survey to staff, partners, clients, and community members. All invited respondents were asked to fill out the survey online or given a paper version of the survey to fill out. The Community Survey consisted of 31 questions. **Appendix E** of this report provides the community survey form in its entirety.

The Community Survey is divided into two sections. The first section asked demographic questions as well as questions on knowledge of HCAP programs.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION	Relationship with HCAP
	District
	Gender
	Age Range
	Number of Adults Living in Household
	Number of Children Living in Household
	Highest Level of Education
	Employment Status
	Annual Household Income

The second section is broken into eight community issue areas. The main purpose of the Community Survey was to gather data to determine significant areas of need in their community. What are the biggest barriers to employment? What expenses does the respondent need assistance for? If the survey participant was not a client and did not need any services, then the participant was asked to answer the question on their community's behalf.

COMMUNITY ISSUE AREAS							
Employment	Education	Housing	Nutrition	Income	Transportation	Health	Community

The survey results reinforced many of the key findings from the focus groups. The majority of respondents (nearly 87%) cited increased cost of living as one of the primary causes of poverty. 68% of respondents said that their salary is not high enough to pay all expenses. Nearly half of respondents (49%) reported that income is enough for rent/mortgage, utilities, and food, but does not leave money for unexpected financial needs. **Appendix F** of this report provides results of how the respondents answered for all 31 questions.

V. COMMUNITY RESOURCES

A. Resources Provided by HCAP

For over 50 years, HCAP has assisted low-income residents to overcome the challenges of poverty through a holistic approach. There is no "one-size-fits-all" solution. HCAP strives to provide comprehensive programs and services that address the various facets of a person's life. These facets overlap with many of the community issue areas raised in the community survey.

HCAP will use the results from this Community Needs Assessment to evaluate if the following programs and services are still fulfilling the needs of the community. HCAP realizes that as community needs evolve, HCAP's programs and services need to evolve as well.

HCAP offers the following programs and services as of December 2018:

The **Na Lima Hana Employment Core Services (ECS) Program** provides employment preparation training, personalized case management services and job placement for unemployed and underemployed individuals.

The **Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)** provides part-time subsidized training to low-income seniors aged 55 and older and assists program participants in finding regular jobs.

HCAP Head Start is comprised of the Head Start preschool program for children 3 to 5 years old and the Early Head Start program for infants, toddlers, and pregnant women.

The **Hā Initiative: Creative STEM After-School Program** offers Science, Technology, Engineering & Math programming for kids in grades 2 through 8 at 5 locations throughout Oahu.

The **Competency-Based Community School Diploma Program (C-Base)** provides an option for individuals (16+) who do not have a high school diploma to obtain the Hawaii Adult Community School Diploma.

The **Kumuhonua Transitional Living Center** provides housing for adults and couples (18+) who are homeless or at-risk for homelessness.

The **Rapid Re-Housing Program** provides rental and utility subsidies to individuals and families who are transitioning into permanent housing.

The **Ohana Produce Food Distribution** distributes fresh produce and non-perishables to individuals and families in need.

The **Income Tax Services/Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) program** helps working families and individuals get the federal tax credits they have earned.

The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** assists households by applying an energy assistance grant directly to the energy provider on behalf of eligible households to keep their utilities (gas or electric) on.

The **Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** reduces energy costs for eligible low-income households through a home energy audit and provides a selection of cost-effective energy efficient measures.

The **Kupuna Independent Life Series** provides seniors, age 55 and older, with health and wellness workshops, support groups, and free nutritious breakfast and lunch.

In addition to the programs and services listed above, HCAP’s five District Service Centers (Central, Kalihi-Palama, Leahi, Leeward, and Windward) also provide case management, emergency assistance (i.e. food, clothing, and hygiene kits), and other wraparound services. The District Service Centers also provide referrals to community partners that address community needs such as employment, education, housing, and health.

Each of HCAP’s five District Service Centers appoint a **District Advisory Council** to serve as a forum for low-income residents to discuss poverty-related issues and to voice their needs, concerns, and opinions about HCAP programs and other matters. Each District Advisory Council elects an HCAP Board Representative to represent the entire District Council on the HCAP Board of Directors.

Similarly, HCAP Head Start appoints members to participate on the **Head Start Policy Council**; the Policy Council Chairperson represents HCAP Head Start on the HCAP Board.

TABLE 9: COMMUNITY RESOURCES PROVIDED BY HCAP

Resource	Program or Service Title
Employment Placement and Support Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Na Lima Hana Employment Core Services (ECS) Program • Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)
Preschool Services and Infant Toddler Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCAP Head Start Full-Day/ Full-Year • HCAP Head Start Part-Day/Part-Year • Early Head Start Home Based Program
After-School Programs for At-Risk Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hā Initiative: Creative STEM After-School Program
Adult Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competency-Based Community School Diploma Program (C-Base)
Housing Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kumuhonua Transitional Living Center • Rapid Re-Housing Program

Resource	Program or Service Title
Food Assistance & Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ohana Produce Food Distribution
Income Tax Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income Tax Services/ Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) program
Energy & Utilities Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) • Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) • Rapid Re-Housing Program
Senior Health & Wellness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kupuna Independent Life Series
Community Development & Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head Start Policy Council • District Advisory Council