

HFEC NEWSLETTER

Hawai'i Statewide Family Engagement Center



Acknowledgements

Mahalo from the Hawai'i Statewide Family Engagement Center team. We are proud to be a part of this community, and we are excited to continue working toward greater family engagement in Hawai'i's schools. We look forward to the many upcoming opportunities to work in partnership with our parent-majority advisory council, partners, families, schools, and community-based organizations throughout Hawai'i to advance family engagement practices, policies, and infrastructure.

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COMMUNITY RESOURCES

SPIN Conference



The Special Parent Information Network invites you to attend the 38th Annual SPIN Conference!

Click on this [link](#) to fill out a Conference Registration Form. Send completed form(s) with payment as soon as possible to: SPIN, 1010 Richards Street, Room 118, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

- Fax: (808) 586-8129
- E-mail: spin@doh.hawaii.gov

Questions? Call (808) 586-8126 or visit the conference website: www.spinconference.org
Limited Conference day registration!

In-person space and lunch are limited, and registration may close early.

The SPIN Conference includes a delicious buffet lunch, a keynote speaker, informative live workshops, and the SPIN Awards. All registered participants will be eligible for awesome door prizes! Can't make it to the conference? Access SPIN's virtual option, where you can enjoy all the live workshops and participate in the fun from the comfort of your own home. Visit their [website](#) to learn about airfare scholarships, award nominations, resource table applications, and more!

This newsletter is based on a program and materials developed under a grant from the US Department of Education - The Hawai'i Statewide Family Engagement Center (U310A180056) - Dr. Chuan Chinn, PI, Center on Disability Studies, College of Education, University of Hawai'i at Manoa. Funding agencies endorsement of the ideas expressed in this website should not be inferred.

Hawai'i Statewide
FAMILY
ENGAGEMENT CENTER

39th Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability and Diversity



Follow this [link](#) to register for the Pac Rim Conference & to review options for attendance, accommodations, and more!

Hosted by the [Center on Disability Studies](#) (CDS), College of Education, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa since 1988, Pac Rim has evolved into an international conference that has welcomed thousands of presenters and attendees from across Hawai'i, the nation, and the world.

Learn more about the [Pac Rim 2023 Conference](#) or view their [program archive from 2022-1989](#).

You're invited to the premiere of...

“NOTHING MICRO ABOUT MICRONESIA”

A Theatrical Touring Performance by TeAda Productions

Presented by Honolulu Theatre for Youth, “Nothing Micro About Micronesia” is a new play celebrating Micronesian culture, history, and the geography of the Pacific. Come and watch the play in Honolulu this spring! All are invited to join this frank conversation that centers the diversities and complexities of the Micronesian experience in Honolulu, the Federated States of Micronesia, and abroad.



Public Performance Dates

Opens Friday, March 22 @ 7:00 PM*

Saturday, March 30 @ 4:00 PM*

Sunday, April 7 @ 2:00 PM*

(*All times HST)

Performances will be held at the Honolulu Theatre for Youth, 229 Queen Emma Square, Honolulu, HI 96813. Interested in attending? Click [here](#) to learn more and to reserve your tickets today!

TeAda Productions is a Los Angeles based non-profit theater of color rooted in the stories of immigrants and refugees. They are committed to healing and honoring the lives of the displaced, exploited and overlooked. Their artistic process starts and ends with conscious listening, community building, and creative courage. Through theater workshops and performances, TeAda offers acts of service that are transformative and impactful. For more information, please visit <http://www.teada.org>.

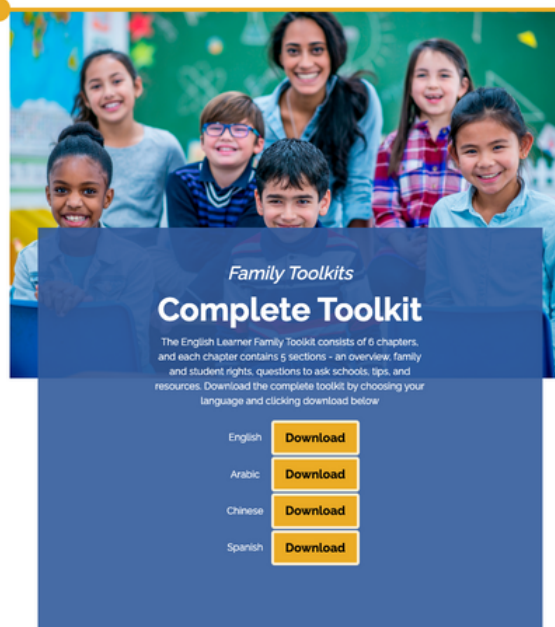
FAMILY RESOURCES

English Learner's Family Toolkit App!

Are you a family member of an English learner? Are you yourself an English learner supporting a student in the U.S.? You may be interested in the FREE English Learner's Family Toolkit App!

Presented by the National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition, the app is designed to share information about the U.S. school system-- in a way that's easy to understand.

The toolkit content is available in English, Spanish, Chinese, and Arabic. The EL Family Toolkit includes the latest tips, tools, and practical resources to support English learners enrolled in U.S. schools (as well as members of their support networks).



App users can find:

- Resources to assist families with school enrollment, attendance, extracurricular activities, and programs & services
- Ways to support the safety, health, and success of English learners
- Information about creating positive relationships with school staff
- Information about a family's rights in U.S. public schools
- Suggested questions to ask school staff
- ...And other helpful tips!

Download the app today when you visit the App Store on your preferred electronic device & search, "EL Family Toolkit," or [click here](#) to visit the website!

EDUCATOR RESOURCES

Parent-Teacher Home Visits

A **PTHV** is a voluntary appointment between teacher and parent, designed to create & maintain a trusting relationship that supports student growth and learning. Visits can be in-person or virtual. **PTHV is also** a national nonprofit organization that aims to bridge the gap between home and school, foster positive communication, break down barriers of bias and misunderstanding, and accelerate student & school success.

What are the benefits of a PTHV?

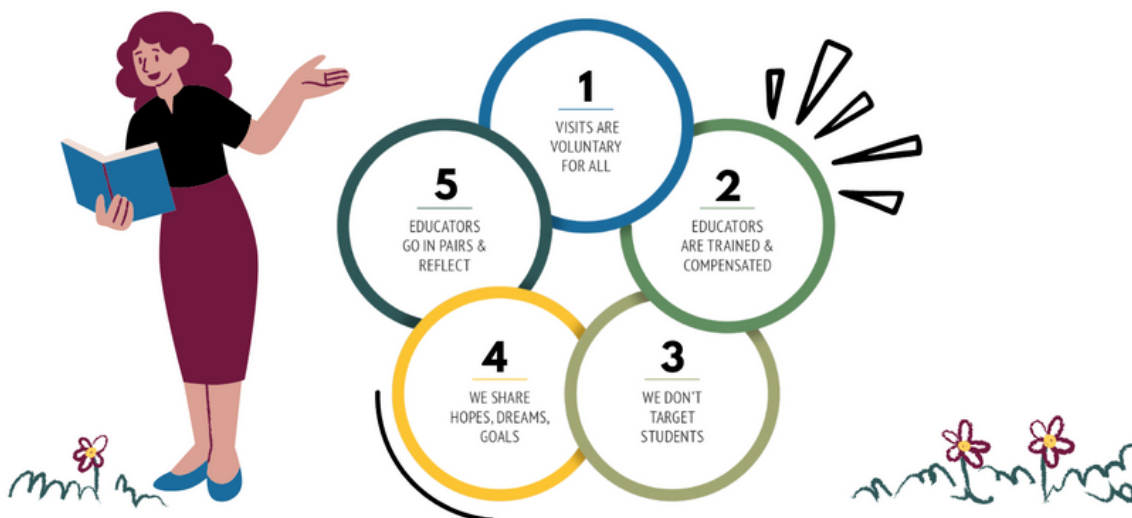
- Increase students' academic and developmental growth
- Build skills and understanding in both teachers & families
- Improve school climate, attendance, and test scores
- Increase cultural competence and connection
- Build community support for local schools



The PTHV 2-Visit Model



The 5 PTHV Core Practices:



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Infographic distributed by the Hawai'i Statewide Family Engagement Center, 2023

BONUS: Click [here](#) to read about how Parent Teacher Home Visits are increasing student attendance in urban and rural areas.

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHT

Featured Cohort School: Lehua Elementary!



Lehua Elementary School, located in Pearl City, O'ahu, hosted a fantastic pumpkin carving event this past Fall. Principal Lance Tanouye kindly invited the HFEC team to attend, and Victoria Timmerman (Co-PI and Project Lead) was excited to be there! Families with children in all grade levels had a wonderful time carving pumpkins, taking pictures in the photo booth, and spending time together.



Featured Cohort School: Lehua Elementary! cont.

Several families generously donated about 20 pumpkins, and Walmart Pearl City donated another 25 pumpkins. The school faculty and staff were very grateful to them for helping to make this memorable event possible.

Margaret Yamamoto, the Parent-Community Network Coordinator (PCNC), expressed her gratitude to the school staff volunteers who made this event so special, and she noted that students loved seeing their teachers participate in the festivities!



She also shared a bit about the family engagement strategies and resources that she, Principal Tanouye, and Daina Kono-Goo (Title I Coordinator) learned in HFEC's ElevatED Training and Technical Assistance series. The series, Yamamoto remarked, helped them to strengthen their efforts in creating an even more welcoming environment for families and students. In turn, family attendance at their events has noticeably increased!

Mahalo!

Victoria extends a sincere mahalo for the invitation to this wonderful event, and she is grateful to have seen Lehua Elementary School's family engagement efforts in action!

