



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
25 HIPPY Wk 1	26	27	28 First Play & Learn Group 10-12	29	30	31 Halloween Hoiday Food Drive 9-5 Safeway
1 HIPPY Wk 2	RIF Distribution #1 & "The Art of Reading Aloud" Workshop					7
8 HIPPY Wk 3	9	10	11 Play & Learn Group 10-12 UKU Training Veteran's Day	12	13	14
15 HIPPY Wk 4	16	17	18 Field Trip: Kailua Kona Library 10:30	19	20	21
22 HIPPY Wk 5	23	24	25 Play & Learn Group 10-12 Craft: Stone Soup Book Thanksgiving	26	27	28
Get Ready To Read Pre-test (Age 4)						
29 HIPPY Wk 6	30	 <p><b>HIPPY Play &amp; Learn Group</b> Old Airport Park-Na Kamalei Playground Wednesdays, 10:00 am -12:00 pm</p> <p>Schedule 10:00 am Center Play 10:30 am Role Play (Ages 3, 4, 5) 11:15 am Craft / Guest / Story Time</p>				



# HIPPY TIMES

## Fall 2009

Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters  
75-127 Lunapule Rd. Ste. 11 Kailua-Kona, HI 96740  
ph: (808) 334-4111 fax: (808) 329-4730



### Coordinator's Comments


Welcome new and returning HIPPY participants. I would like to introduce myself, my name is Shannon Ramirez and I am the HIPPY Coordinator at Family Support Services of West Hawaii. I have thirteen years experience with the HIPPY program as a participant, home visitor and coordinator.

There are many wonderful opportunities for parents, children and staff enrolled in the HIPPY program to get involved in. Talk to your home visitor about HIPPY enhancement activities for those of you that feel like you could use a little extra HIPPY. We are also running a weekly Play and Learn group every Wednesday from 10:00am to 12:00pm at the Old Airport Na Kamalei Playground. This is a great chance to let the kids have some fun while meeting other families with young children.

Funding to support the 2009-2010 continuation of our now thirteen year old Big Island HIPPY program was awarded by the Federal Department of Education's Office of Innovation and Improvement. HIPPY is free to participating families but costs up to \$2500.00 per child.

If you have any questions or need assistance in any way please feel free to call on me at 334-4111. On behalf of the HIPPY team I want to thank you for participating in the HIPPY program and taking the time to work with your child.

### 2009-2010 HIPPY Staff



L-R: Nohea Lelewi, Ann Marie Pargett, Heather Takaki, Stacy Jones, Maria Cisneros, Consuelo Cortes, Leina Henriques, Christy Aragon, Shannon Ramirez


### HIPPY Play & Learn Group

Old Airport Park-Na Kamalei Playground  
Wednesdays, 10:00 am -12:00 pm

HIPPY Play and Learn groups are offered weekly. Parents enrolled in HIPPY and from the community have the opportunity to meet and build relationships. Crafts, special guests, and presentations are provided on issues of interest and current events.

HIPPY staff provide play "centers" for children who attend the Play and Learn Groups. These centers may include Dramatic Play, Blocks, Writing, and Messy Play, and will vary according to a chosen theme or concept. HIPPY always provides a "Reading Is Fundamental" Literacy Center, complete with comfy couches and puppet friends.

Please remember that child supervision is minimal while role play is going on. We look forward to seeing you at our weekly Play & Learn Group!



### HIPPY Mission Statement

HIPPY programs empower parents as the primary educators of their children in the home and foster parent involvement in school and community life to maximize the chances of successful early school experiences.

## Partners in Literacy

The 2009 Book A Brighter Future campaign, a national partnership between Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) and Macy's to raise awareness and support of children's literacy, has raised \$6.5 million for RIF thanks to the generosity of more than 2 million Macy's customers and employees.

Since 2006, this campaign has taken place at Macy's stores during the back-to-school season to help raise money for local RIF programs and to provide reading resources to the children who need them most.

Family Support Services of West Hawaii has been awarded the RIF Family of Readers Program Grant since 1999. This grant provides staff and volunteer training, special events, literacy workshops, lending libraries, a literacy center, and book distributions to FSSWH programs serving young children.



## Home Visitor Spotlight: Christy Aragon



Returning for a fourth year with the HIPPY program, Christy is excited about the upcoming year. "There are so many fun and interesting things planned for our HIPPY families!" Christy is instrumental in helping coordinate the Play & Learn Groups as well as helping our program become more green via electronic information. She is a graduate of Kamehameha Schools and has been married to husband, David, for almost 17 years. Together they have four children ranging in age from a high school freshman to a preschooler. Christy and her youngest daughter will be working on the Age 4 Curriculum this year. Christy plans to return to school this spring to continue her education using her AmeriCorps educational award.



## Home visitors getting ready for the new year



## HIPPY Skills Box

### Literacy:

*Having the ability to read and write.*

### Book Knowledge:

*Understanding the components of a book, such as the cover, title, author, front, back, etc.*

## Coming Soon

\* New HIPPY website \* Electronic newsletters and updates \*

Please let your home visitor know if you would like to receive electronic notices.

## HIPPY: Our first generation of success

By JoAnn Freed, Executive Director [jfreed@fsswh.org](mailto:jfreed@fsswh.org)



This past summer Family Support Services of West Hawaii celebrated the high school graduation of our very first HIPPY child—Shannel Ramirez—who entered as a 4 year-old in 1996. Shannel will be attending the University of Hawaii, West Hawaii Campus this fall. She has been a great supporter of our HIPPY program over the years, attending and helping with the graduations of more than 1,000 five-year-olds from FSSWH's HIPPY programs on the islands of Hawaii, Oahu and Molokai.

Shannel's mom Shannon (seen at right with daughter Melina who graduated from HIPPY in 2005) became Hawaii's first HIPPY Home Visitor in 1996, and since that time has gone on to complete her degree and become FSSWH's HIPPY Coordinator. She is also the Hawaii Site Director for the partnership between Americorps and HIPPY USA. This collaboration allows our HIPPY Home Visitors (themselves parents in the program) to earn educational stipends for the community service work they perform during the year. Many have used their education stipends to complete their college degrees in Early Childhood Ed., Hawaiian Studies and Human Services. We have seen many move into jobs in the teaching profession as a result of their HIPPY experience.



The Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) program works to increase parents' knowledge of and confidence in child-rearing activities, to strengthen partnerships between parents and professionals and to enhance the developmental progress of the children assisted under the program. Outreach strategies and services are designed to emphasize local priorities and conditions and overcome the traditional barriers to participation in school readiness activities. They encompass a rich variety of practices including parent-to-parent training activities, book and toy lending libraries, support groups, playgroups, and information and referral networks. Most importantly, the program provides support to families with preschool children through the internationally acclaimed 30 week curriculum used in HIPPY. These strategies promote family strengthening in many ways, leading to improved inter and intra family communications, enhanced coping and problem-solving skills, increased readiness for school success and, as we have witnessed, an increased sense of appreciation for both the family members and the school community in which the family lives.



We have had the opportunity over the years to witness many, many success stories like the Ramirez', and we hope we will see even more over the next generation of services.



The Mission of Family Support Services of West Hawaii is  
To Support Families and Communities in Providing Love and Care for Our Children

[www.fsswh.org](http://www.fsswh.org)