



FSS Newsletter

Feb - May | 2026

Spring Cleaning for Success!

Spring isn't just for tidying your home, it's the perfect time to declutter your finances, goals, and routines! Here are some practical tips to help you start fresh!

Declutter Your Finances

- **Organize Bills & Statements:** Gather all your bills and set up a system, digital folders or a binder to keep track of due dates.
- **Cancel Unused Subscriptions:** Review streaming services, apps, and memberships you no longer use.
- **Set up Auto-Pay:** Avoid late fees by automating recurring payments for utilities and loans

Refresh Your Budget

- **Review Spending Habits:** Look at where your money went in the past 3 months and adjust your budget for spring.
- **Plan for Seasonal Expenses:** Factor in things like graduations, summer activities, or travel.
- **Start a Savings Challenge:** Try saving \$5-\$10 a week for an emergency fund or summer goal.

Digital Declutter

- **Clean Your Inbox:** Unsubscribe from emails you do not read and organize important messages.
- **Update Passwords:** Secure your accounts with strong, unique passwords.
- **Set Reminders:** Use your phone or calendar to track deadlines for bills, appointments, and FSS goals!

Home Organization

- **Donate or Sell Items:** Clear out clothes, toys, and household items you no longer need.
- **Create a Calm Space:** A tidy environment can reduce stress and boost productivity.

 **24/7 HOTLINE**

YWCA Kaua'i Hotline.....(808)245-6362
 Sexual Assault Crisis Line.....(808)245-4144
 The Crisis Line of Hawai'i.....1(808)753-6879
 National Suicide Prevention.....1(808)273-8255
 Hawaii CARES.....Dial 988

**Tax Season Tips:
 Get Ready Before April 15!**

Tax season is here!

Here are some tips to make the process easier:

1. **Gather Your Documents Early**
 - a. W-2s, 1099s, and any other income statements.
 - b. Receipts for deductible expenses (childcare, education, medical costs).
 - c. Last years tax return for reference.
2. **Check for Credits & Deductions**
 - a. Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC): If you qualify, this can boost your refund.
 - b. Child Tax Credit: Families with children may be eligible.
 - c. Education Credits: For tuition or training expenses.
3. **File Electronically & Choose Direct Deposit**
 - a. E-filing is faster and reduces errors.
 - b. Direct deposit gets your refund quicker.
4. **Avoid Common Mistakes**
 - a. Double-check Social Security numbers.
 - b. Make sure your bank info is correct.
 - c. Sign and date your return (or verify e-signature).
5. **Plan Ahead**
 - a. If you owe taxes, set up a payment plan with IRS.
 - b. Consider adjusting your withholding for next year to avoid surprises.

Homebuyer Program

**Requirements for
 Kaua'i Affordable
 Home Buyer Program**

1. Must be a Kaua'i Resident and a first time home buyer.
2. Register for Home Buyer Education with a HUD-approved agency
3. After completing the class, submit your Certificate of Achievement with the Affordable Home Buyer Registration Form to KCHA to join the Affordable Housing Waitlist (AHWL).
4. You will receive a Home Buyer Number and notifications of affordable homes or projects for sale.

For more information, scan the QR code to visit the KCHA website!



Contact your FSS Coordinator!



Brylyn 'Aiwohi, FSS Program Coordinator
baiwohi@kauai.gov | 808-241-4447
Office Hrs. Monday - Friday | 7:15 AM - 4:00 PM



Kaua'i Local Resources

Start & Grow Your Business



Hawaii Small Business Development offers expert help for entrepreneurs and small business.

- ✓ **One-on-One Advising**
- ✓ **Workshops & Training**
- ✓ **Access to Capital & Loan Guidance**
- ✓ **Market Research**
- ✓ **Special Programs**

 hisbdc.org

2970 Kele St. Suite 101
Lihu'e, HI 96766



808-241-3148

SCAN HERE



Doing the Most Good



DOING THE
MOST GOOD

Serving Hawai'i Communities
with Compassion!

Hot Meals Soup Kitchen

Tues. Wed. & Thurs. | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Free Shower for Homeless & Wounded Veterans

Tuesday | 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Food Bags & Homeless Bags

Friday | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Bus Pass & Hygiene Kits

Friday | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Community Closet

Friday | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Youth Church

Sunday | 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM

Men's Fellowship & Dinner

Tuesday | 5:00PM - 6:00PM

Women's Ministry

Wednesday | 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Sunday Morning Service

Sunday | 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

 lihue.salvationarmy.org

4182 Hardy St.
Lihu'e, HI 96766



808-245-2571

Kaua'i Local Resources

Hawaiian Community Assets - Kaua'i Office



Celebrating 25 Years

hawaiiancommunity.net



808-587-7886

3116 Akahi St. Lihu'e, HI 96766

Hawaiian Community Assets (HCA) offers both Homebuyer Education Workshops and Financial Empowerment Workshops to help you reach your goals. If homeownership or financial stability is part of your FSS plan, attending one of these workshops is a key step forward. Once you complete a workshop, be sure to send your certificate of completion to your FSS Coordinator to keep your progress on track and mark your goal off as complete!

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

HOMEBUYER & FINANCIAL EDUCATION

SCAN ME



American Job Center Hawaii Workforce Development Division

The American Job Center Hawaii collaborates with state and local organizations addressing the workforce development needs of Hawaii. Services for job-seekers include career counseling, HireNet Hawaii support, skills training, job search assistance and a resource center.



labor.hawaii.gov/wdd/

4444 Rice St. #302
Lihue, HI 96766



808-274-3056

SCAN



Kaua'i Independent Food Bank



EMERGENCY DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

FREE COMMUNITY FOOD DISTRIBUTION FROM THEIR WAREHOUSE IN NAWILIWILI!
EVERY SECOND & FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
VARIETY OF PROTEINS, PRODUCE, DAIRY, AND SHELF-STABLE ITEMS.
NO PROBING QUESTIONS NOR INCOME REQUIREMENTS

3285 Waapa Rd.
Lihu'e, HI 96766



808-246-3809

kauaifoodbank.org

Kaua'i Fun Activities



Keiki Storytime at Kapa'a Public library
Every Wednesday | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
4-1464 Kuhio Hwy. Kapa'a, HI 96746



Join us at Center Stage every first and third Tuesday to dance and sing along with The Showtime Characters. A fun filled event for your little ones, The Showtime Characters bring laughter, smile and aloha to all. Show starts at 11:00 a.m. Stay for lunch, and don't forget to check out the keiki korner play area! Check out some extra special seasonal fun with the little ones as they explore. More info: email info@kukuigrovecenter.com.

BIKES ON RICE
2ND SAT 4:30P
MEET AT KALENA PARK
Ha Coffee
BIKES ON RICE
Hosted by Kaua'i Path
ALL AGES WELCOMED
@downtownlihue
bikesonrice.org

FLAG FOOTBALL

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Visit www.kauaipal.org to sign up, applications close April 1.

Being a SUPER MOM can be tiring!

Join our Moms Support Group for laughs, real talk, and a safe space to admit the things we usually keep to ourselves.

Lihue Library Conference Room |
Every 1st Wednesday of the month
🕒 5:30-7:00 PM

🌟 All moms welcome: single moms, stepmoms, grandmoms, hanai moms, and everyone in between.

FREE!
UKULELE ACADEMY
Intro to
'UKULELE
SUNDAY
12:30 - 1:00 PM

Intro to 'Ukulele Lesson
Learn everything you need to start playing the ukulele!
When: Sunday, 12:30 - 1:00 pm
Where: Kukui Grove Center (suite next to Kim Chee #9, the old UPS Store location)
3-2600 Kaunualii Hwy, Lihue, HI 96766-2040
Who: All ages (6+) including adults welcome
This 30 minute in-person absolute Beginner ukulele workshop is perfect for:

- First time players
- Learning your first few chords
- How to hold and strum the ukulele
- Learning to pick on your ukulele
- A solid foundation & preventing bad habits

Price: FREE
SIGN UP at <https://www.aldrine.com/lessons>



Kaua'i

Fun Activities

Ho'omana i ka Lāhui presents



FROM KEIKI TO KŪPUNA

**EVERY TUESDAYS
STARTING FEBRUARY 2026**

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

WHAT TO BRING:

- PĀ'Ū SKIRT OR PAREO
- BOTTLED WATER

Location: (Ka Hā Coffee Shop)
4286 Rice St.
Līhu'e, HI 96766

Scan QR Code to
register for classes



For more information, or to sign up for the
event please contact kawena@ywcakauai.org

If you need an auxiliary aid/service, other accommodation
due to a disability, or an interpreter for non-English
speaking persons, please contact YWCA Kaua'i at
(808) 245-5959 or info@ywcakauai.org

**FREE
HULA LESSONS**

WITH KUMU KAMALANI

Ho'omana i ka Lāhui

is on a mission to increase support, healing,
safety, and wellbeing in Kaua'i's Native
Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI)
communities including minority victims of
dating violence, domestic violence, family
violence, and/or sexual assault (DDFVSA)
from keiki to kūpuna, through
Culturally-Resonant Services.



**HALE
LIHU'E**

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
Kaua'i



**KauKau
4 Keiki**

2026

**SPRING BREAK MEAL
BOX PROGRAM**

FREE MEAL BOXES FOR KEIKI!

One-time Spring Break distribution on Friday, March 13th for keiki facing food insecurity during school break. Pickup on Friday afternoon is required; times and locations are TBD.

FOR MORE INFO & TO APPLY:

MalamaKauai.org/kaukau-4-keiki

It's a KĀKOU thing - Volunteer Today!



**Volunteers & partners are needed!
Help prepare and pack boxes, load
vans, deliver boxes, or host a pickup
site.**

**Signup to help out at:
<https://tinyurl.com/2026kaukauvols>**


Donate to Help us Serve More Keiki!

Donations to help support the program can be made online at MalamaKauai.org or via check with "Kaukau 4 Keiki" in the memo to: Mālama Kaua'i, 3-3204 Kuhio Hwy, Ste 102, Līhu'e, HI 96766.







COMMUNITY CLOTHING SWAPS





Early Donation Drop Offs
Thursday 2/26 - 4pm to 6pm
Friday 2/27 - 8am to 12pm



Drop & Shop for Free!
Friday 2/27 - 12pm to 6pm
Saturday 2/28 - 11am to 4pm



Accepting clean, gently used women's & kids' clothes—no rips, stains, or used socks/undies. Bring a bag or two and shop free – no donation needed.



Recycle crafters welcome to join on Saturday for a crafting circle to recycle unwanted items through sewing, weaving, re-knitting, etc.



Mālama
Kaua'i

MALAMA KAUA'I
3-3204 KUHIO HWY., LIHU'E
NEXT TO BIG MONSTER SUSHI
(808) 828-0685 X12

Want to volunteer?
Submit your info at
tinyurl.com/2026swaps



Each day, **83,000+** cesspools in Hawai'i pollute
52 million gallons of wastewater into our 'āina!



Mālama I Ka Wai
Protect our waters

\$250

STIPEND AVAILABLE

*There are no fees to
apply for or participate
in the program.*

Work-4-Water

Start Your Future in Water: Free Training for Hawai'i's Essential Workforce!

Jumpstart your career in Hawai'i's water and wastewater industry with our FREE Work-4-Water course! Explore a variety of career paths in this essential field, learn how water professionals protect public health and the environment, and gain access to career services, apprenticeships, and additional stipends for On-the-Job Training.

IT'S TIME TO MAKE A SPLASH
REGISTER TODAY!



Visit our website for
future course dates



Online classes available to
Hawai'i Residents



WAI WASTEWATER
ALTERNATIVES &
INNOVATIONS



waicleanwater.org/work4water

UA HALE A'ELA

RENT TODAY, BUY TOMORROW

*What our clients
can expect*

Client Journey

Attend a Financial Education
or Homebuyer Workshop

Tell an HCA Counselor
you're interested in lease
to purchase options

A unit is identified based
on price range and
desired location

Move in to the new unit

Work with HCA Counselor
to develop a 2-year
purchase plan

Get qualified to
purchase with HCL or
other lenders of best fit

**Transition from renter
to homeowner!**

Continue the journey to
generational wealth





HOMEBUYER *Workshop*

Learn how to establish a solid financial foundation, and gain valuable insights into the home-buying process.

Whether you're a first-time buyer or just need assistance, join us to take the first step toward homeownership with confidence!

Held in-person on the last Tuesday and Wednesday of every month 3-6PM

FINANCIAL EDUCATION *Workshop*

Learn how to establish a solid financial foundation, and gain valuable insights in learning how to create and manage a budget effectively, discover how credit scores work and their impact on financial health and develop habits to save consistently and achieve financial goals.

Held in-person on the first Wednesday of every month 5-7 PM

Registration Required



**Workshop
Information
and Registration**

For more information, visit our website
HawaiianCommunity.net

Call or Text us at
(808)587-7886