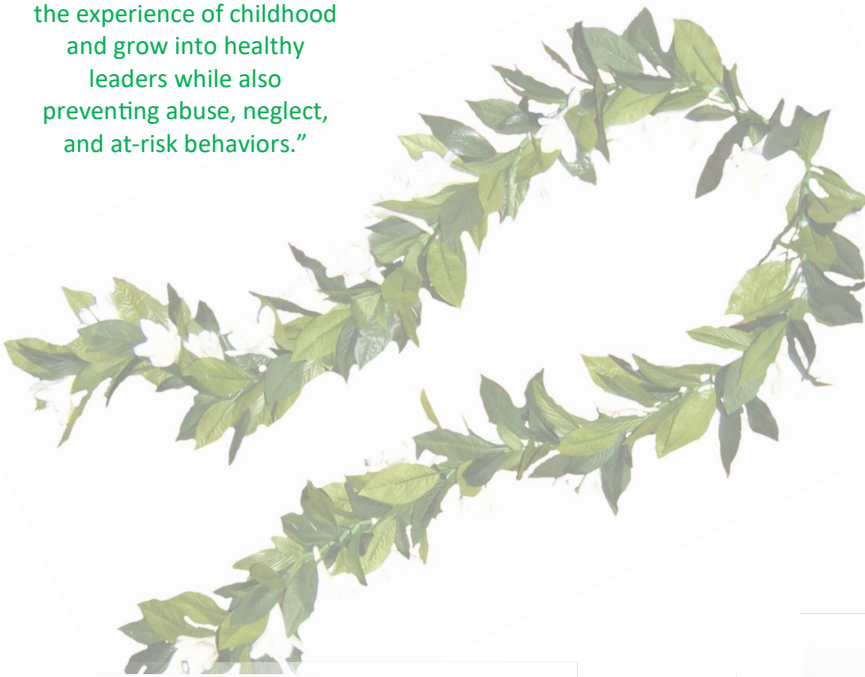




Friends of the Children of West Hawaii

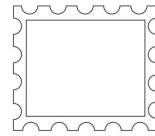
**PO Box 9041
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96745**

“Ensuing the youth of our community have the support necessary to enjoy the experience of childhood and grow into healthy leaders while also preventing abuse, neglect, and at-risk behaviors.”



Charity Trees @ Mauna Lani

Friends of the Children of West Hawaii will be taking part in the 2017 Charity Trees at Mauna Lani. Vote for your favorite tree (US!) at Mauna Lani for \$1. Vote as many times as you like between December 7 and December 22. The tree receiving the most votes wins \$2000 from Mauna Lani. Second Place wins \$1000 and third place wins \$500. All other participants will split the money raised through the voting. Help support us and all the great non-profit organizations of the community in this great annual event sponsored by the generosity of the Mauna Lani Bay Resort and Bungalows.



While Friends of the Children of West Hawaii is extremely excited about our new office space, we face some significant challenges in furnishing it. By contract and grant requirements, more than 80% of our grant funding goes directly to benefitting the kids we serve. This does not leave much room for administrative costs. With this in mind we are asking our community supporters to consider making a donation to help us furnish our new office space. Here are some of the items we are trying to fund...

Executive Desk (need 2) \$500 each
Reception Desk (need 2) \$350 each
Conference Table Component (need 6) \$120 each
Conference Chairs (need 12) \$50 each
Book Shelves (need 4) \$150 each
Storage Racks (need 3) \$100 each

We are, of course grateful for any contribution of any size which will assist us in funding the purchase of the furniture which will empower FCWH to continue to serve our community. Donations can be made at www.fcwh.org, or by using the enclosed donation card to make donations by check or credit card. MAHALO



Since 1989 an organization has existed to provide services and assistance to children who have been abused and neglected in West Hawaii and to help to reduce and prevent abuse and neglect. This organization has gone through many names, including the *Friends of the Children's Advocacy Center of West Hawaii*, the *Friends of the Children's Justice Center of West Hawaii*, and now the *Friends of the Children of West Hawaii*. We have evolved and changed over the years, but in the end it has always come down to one simple philosophy best expressed by Frederick Douglass: "It is far easier to raise strong children than to fix broken men".

The mission of Friends of the Children of West Hawaii is to ensure the youth of our community have the support necessary to enjoy the experience of childhood and grow into healthy leaders while also preventing abuse, neglect, and at-risk behaviors. Our past endeavors have included annual school supply and Christmas gift drives for children who have been removed from their homes or who have experienced abuse or neglect, the "Friend Bag" which provides a backpack or duffle bag with basic needs, clothing, and comfort items to children as they are removed from the home, and education and advocacy efforts to raise awareness of the issues related to abuse and neglect in order to reduce and ultimately eliminate these issues in our community.

As Friends of the Children of West Hawaii continues to evolve and to develop new programs we are working to establish youth enrichment programs, life skills education, and case management services for at risk youth. It is our belief that providing services which prevent at-risk behaviors also help to reduce the tendency toward abuse and neglect, as well as serving to strengthen the children who will become the leaders of our community in the future.

Office Blessing & Keiki Craft Day

Saturday, November 11, 2017

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

74-5599 Luhia Street, Suite E4
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740

Office Blessing
Keiki Christmas Crafts
Hot Dogs
Games
Soft Drinks
More!

Join Friends of the Children of West Hawaii on Saturday, November 11, 2017 for the official blessing of our new offices on Luhia Street as well as a fun filled day for the entire family! We will be holding Keiki Craft Workshops (parents are welcome to join in as well) to make Christmas ornaments—each Keiki gets to make two or three, take home their favorite, and the rest will adorn the Friends of the Children of West Hawaii's Charity Tree at Mauna Lani in the 2017 competition. Displays will be up to help the community learn about our various programs and services, and staff and board members will be available to discuss the organization and answer questions. Freshly grilled hot-dogs and soft drinks will be available at no charge while supplies last. For more information, please visit our website at www.fcwh.org or call 331-2425. You can also email info@fcwh.org with questions.



Olelo o Aikane: Voice of the Friends

OCTOBER 2017



Aloha!

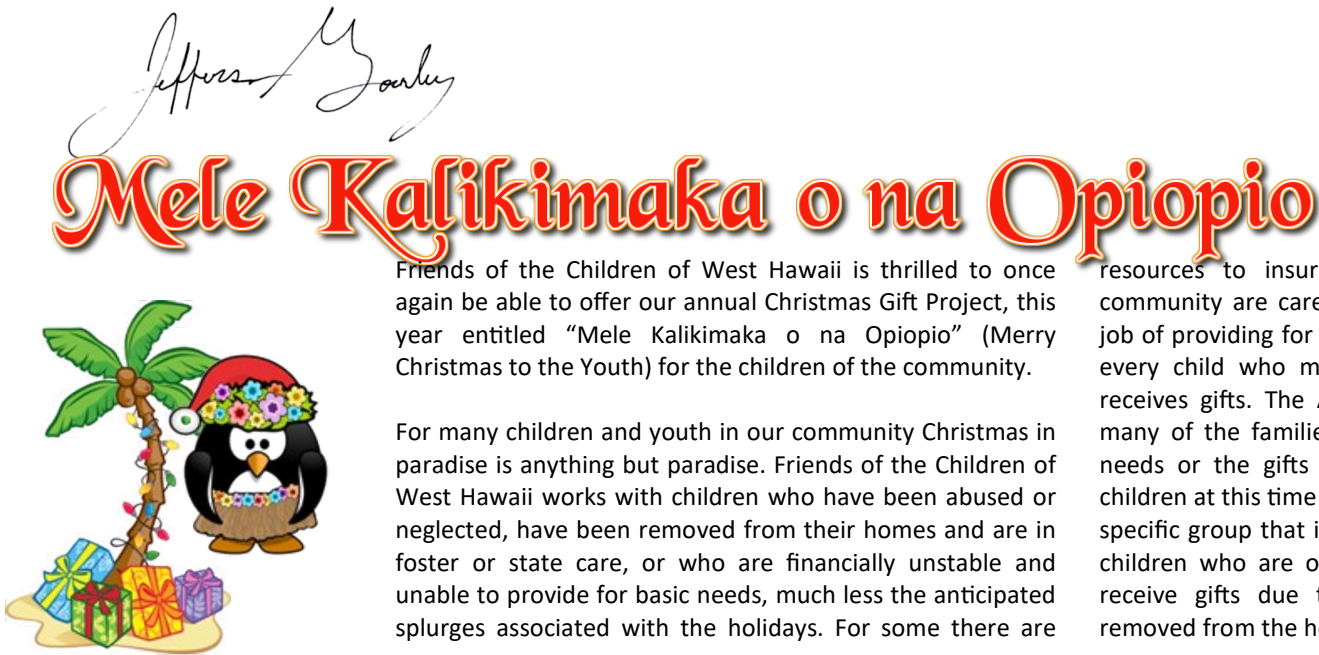
As the newly named Executive Director of Friends of the Children of West Hawaii I would like to share some information on my background, as well as some information on the vision that the Board of Directors and I share for coming changes for the Friends of the Children of West Hawaii.

First, about me...I am a born and raised Kona Boy and proud of it! I have spent most of the past ten years working in various positions with the middle school I attended as a young teenager in Kona. Following my graduation from Kealakehe High School in 2003 I went to work immediately for a local youth service organization while also pursuing my education through online universities. In the subsequent years I gained experience in direct service, case management, grant development, program management, and organizational management while also earning my Bachelor of Sciences degree in Child and Adolescent Development and my Master of Sciences in Organizational Psychology. For much of the past year I served as a member of the Board of Directors for Friends of the Children of West Hawaii, and was proud to be asked by my fellow board members to step into this new role as the hands on daily leadership of an amazing organization that has been serving the children of West Hawaii since 1989.

Much has changed in the world of non-profit organizations since I began working with them in 2003, much less since Friends of the Children of West Hawaii was incorporated in 1989. There is less funding available for our services, there is more demand for measurable results from funding providers, and there is much need to serve more children with less funding. My mandate from the Board of Directors in taking this position has been to do everything possible to maintain the services we have always offered while meeting the increasing demands for measurable results, and to develop new programs to serve more children in new ways which stretch funds to more clients. We have ABSOLUTELY NO INTENTION of discontinuing any of the services we have offered for decades and are proud of our dedication to maintaining them. Our goal is to improve services by increasing service opportunities and developing new programs to meet the needs of the community which are currently under-met.

I personally am very excited to move forward with Friends of the Children of West Hawaii. I have seen the impact that the services we offer have on the lives of the children we serve, and I have seen the impact that programs we are proposing have not only on the lives of others, but on myself personally in my youth. We can't do this alone, though. We continue to rely on our community partners, our funders, and our friends to help us to continue in our vital mission.

Mahalo, and I look forward to working with all of you!



Friends of the Children of West Hawaii is thrilled to once again be able to offer our annual Christmas Gift Project, this year entitled “Mele Kalikimaka o na Opiopio” (Merry Christmas to the Youth) for the children of the community.

For many children and youth in our community Christmas in paradise is anything but paradise. Friends of the Children of West Hawaii works with children who have been abused or neglected, have been removed from their homes and are in foster or state care, or who are financially unstable and unable to provide for basic needs, much less the anticipated splurges associated with the holidays. For some there are

resources to insure that the keiki and ohana of our community are cared for. Toys for Tots does an AMAZING job of providing for children 10 and under and insuring that every child who makes a request of them and qualifies receives gifts. The Angel Trees around town take care of many of the families who are unable to provide for their needs or the gifts that parents would like to offer their children at this time of year. Friends of the Children targets a specific group that is not generally served otherwise...those children who are over the age of 10 who are unlikely to receive gifts due to financial hardship or having been removed from the home.



Friends of the Children of West Hawaii is proud for the guidance and leadership provided by the dedicated members of our Board of Directors.

PRESIDENT ELIZABETH ROLLINS: A passionate supporter of her community and the organizations that serve it, Elizabeth Rollins is owner of 4Good Enterprises (including 4Good Fashion in Kainaliu and 4Good Thrift in the old Kona industrial area) and makes a living by promoting the environment through up-cycling used items and sharing the success of her business with local non-profits, including Friends of the Children of West Hawaii, PFLAG Kona/Big Island, Dress a Girl Around The World, the VFW, and more.

VICE PRESIDENT LISA MOORE: Nurse by day, children's advocate by whatever time she has available, Lisa Moore is a staunch supporter of children and brings her medical expertise to the table when considering the needs of the children FCWH provides services to, as well as when considering programs and events to hold in furtherance of our support for the children of West Hawaii.

SECRETARY CLAUDETTE KAPIOLANI MAHONEY: No stranger to serving the community of West Hawaii, KC is manager for Employment Experts Kona Office, providing human resources and temp employment services to businesses in the community and in her off hours volunteering with Rotary Club of the Kona Sunrise (which she was named President of for the July 2017-June 2018

fiscal year), Friends of the Children of West Hawaii, and PFLAG Kona/Big Island.

TREASURER: At this time the position of Treasurer on the Board of Directors is vacant. We welcome those who would like to submit themselves or another nominee for consideration for this position.

PRISCILLA BASQUE: Recently named to the Board of Directors of Friends of the Children of West Hawaii, Priscilla Basque is no stranger to working with children or with non-profit organizations. For more than a decade Priscilla has served as the Artistic Director for the Miss Kona Coffee Pageant (a prelim to the Miss America Scholarship Pageant) and has instructed kids in the after school dance programs at Kealakehe Intermediate and High Schools. Priscilla is also a talented performer and environmentalist, recently putting that passion to work by opening a honey bee farm and honey shop.

ELIZABETH GOODMAN: As local real estate professional Elizabeth Goodman keeps a feel for the pulse of the community while also providing the perspective of the young professional mother to the Board of Directors of Friends of the Children of West Hawaii.

SHEENA HIGUERA: A recent transplant to the West Hawaii Community, Sheena Higuera is an avid advocate for children and spent much of her time in her former home of Laughlin, Nevada

volunteering with various organizations and programs, including establishing in the Parent Teacher Organization for her children's school. As she settles her roots here in Kona, Sheena is anxious to get back to her volunteerism and put her skills to work for our community.

BRANDON PETERS: Owner of a local commercial cleaning company and a proud new father, Brandon Peters is also a new addition to the Friends of the Children of West Hawaii Board of Directors. He is as passionate about children as he is about cleaning and is anxious to work with FCWH to clean out the issues of abuse and neglect in our community and provide life skills to kids to keep them away from at-risk behaviors.

CHARLES RHOADS: As the retired Chief Financial Officer for a Northern California school district Charles provides a unique perspective to discussions involving service vs. funding. This perspective helps address the compromise between fiduciary responsibility and maximum services to the children served by Friends of the Children of West Hawaii.

Would you like to get involved? We are currently actively recruiting up to six new board members. Friends of the Children of West Hawaii benefits from diverse perspectives, interests, and professional backgrounds and would love to hear from anyone interested in being considered or the Board of Directors. Please email info@fcwh.org or call 331-2425 if this is you!



Through November 14 we will be accepting requests from child advocates and community partners on behalf of these children. We will work to insure that each request receives both the essentials as well as some splurges. While FCWH does have some grant funding available for this project, there is no way for this funding to meet every need request received at this time of year. It takes only a \$25 donation to make a huge impact on a youth. Please consider donating to assist us with this project. You can make donations online through our website, or you can use the enclosed donation card to make a donation by check or credit card. Mahalo for your support, and Mele Kalikimaka to all!

Friends of the Children of West Hawaii is excited to be planning holiday gift wrapping around West Hawaii. Watch our website and the West Hawaii Today for updates on locations and times and support Friends of the Children of West Hawaii in our efforts to support the children by having us do the wrapping for you! Gift wrapping by donation and all proceeds will support the programs of Friends of the Children of West Hawaii.