

Better Together

SUMMER 2021

Aloha

Welcome to our inaugural issue of *Better Together*. With summer in full swing, we hope you are finding a bit of fun and some calm wherever you can. Though the pandemic has brought us many challenges, we have also seen opportunities and been inspired by the dedication of our practitioners, the patience of the people we serve and the generosity of the community around us. With that, we would like to share a little about what we learned over the past several months and how our programs are evolving to best support the individuals and families we serve across Hawaii. When we join forces in support of others, like so many did over the past year, we can achieve great things – we are truly better together.

OUR PROGRAMS

Early
Intervention

Autism
Services

Adult Home &
Community-
Based Services

HIGHLIGHTS



2,111
families served
in 2020



218,510
hours of services
in 2020



300+
staff maintained
through the pandemic



Introduced
hybrid care
and telehealth

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Learn how Nalu's access to critical Medicaid community-based services through Easterseals allowed him to receive the medical attention he needed, find housing and access to friends, training and support.

In February 2015, doctors diagnosed Nalu with stage 4 cancer and initially suggested he might only have months to live. After extensive treatment, all signs of cancer were gone! Since then, Nalu has been thriving, thanks in part to Medicaid-funded adult day health and personal assistance and habilitation

services provided through the Easterseals Hawaii Employment Services program and landed a job at Pizza Hut where he worked for several years until its closure. Nalu is now happily employed at iHop. **"This is a dream come true!"** —Nalu after receiving the keys to his new apartment



Hear about Kaizen from his mom, Jenna, and how they were able to continue reaching his goals despite the challenges of the pandemic.



"At first I didn't know how we were going to do physical therapy through the computer – and make sure he is meeting his goals and milestones. It has been unreal – he is cruising by himself and standing. It worked out and he is doing so great! It's a blessing and we love it." —Jenna, Kaizen's Mom

MAHALO SAFEWAY!

Please shop at Safeway this month to support their *Boost their Ability* campaign.

Boost their ABILITY

Everyone should have an opportunity to succeed. Your donation will support programs and services designed to inspire and enable people living with disabilities.

DONATE Today!
Thank you for your donation to help better the lives of people in our neighborhoods.

SAFeway Foundation
SafewayFoundation.org

This campaign is managed by Albertsons Companies Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization, 4/25/19 Safeway Foundation.

SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY

If this last year has made you feel more inspired for progress and inclusion, consider joining us by supporting our programs and services. With a community rallying behind the keiki, individuals and families in our care, we get closer to building a world where everyone feels they belong and are equal.

What's on the horizon:

We are excited to share that we will be launching a new respite program over the next few months. Respite is an invaluable service where our expert practitioners provide fun and engaging activities for keiki and adults, while their caregivers enjoy some much-needed time for themselves. Be on the lookout for an update on our respite services in our fall edition of *Better Together*!

I'M INSPIRED!

Mahalo for being *Better Together* with us!

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