

# FRIENDS OF THE CHILDREN'S JUSTICE CENTER OF KAUAI

Newsletter April 2017

Aloha from the desk of Holly Walker, President Board of Directors. I would like to share my recent reflection of the Children's Justice Center (CJC) with you. The CJC has been described to me as **pu'uhonua, a place of refuge**, for the children and families that enter there. The staff and team who interact with these children serve to make this office a **safe place** for them to tell their story of the abuse that they experienced. I can only imagine the amount of trust it takes to assure children that this is a **safe place, a place of refuge**. These children are allowed to share their account of the abuse they experienced without fear during the interview process. At the same time, their parent or guardian could be comforted, helped or guided through this process in the front office by crisis counselor. The children are offered a safe and child friendly place to wait as well. The book and toys in the waiting area may occupy their time before and after the interview, as well as any other children accompanying them to the CJC. I am told that their favorites are the toy phone and puzzles.

A visit to the Children's Justice Center can be the first step in the healing process for an abused child. Thank you for helping support this **pu'uhonua, safe place or place of refuge** through your continued support of the Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Kauai. Let the healing begin!



## Find FCJC Kauai at:

Website: [www.fcjckauai.org](http://www.fcjckauai.org)

Email: [fcjckauai@live.com](mailto:fcjckauai@live.com)

Phone Message: 808.246.6214

Board of Directors: Holly Walker, President, Margaret Smith, Vice President, Tom Lodico Treasurer, Mark Hubbard, Secretary, Jeannie Camelo, Kalena Serreon, Angie Erfurth-Ivan, Dana Hazelton, Terri Russell

## CHEERS FOR CHILDREN

Mahalo to Kauai Beer Company for sponsoring Cheers for Children on March 29. We appreciate all who came out to support this event. Mahalo to Midweek, For Kauai Magazine and FM97 for getting the word out to our community as well.

If you were not able to attend Cheers for Children at Kauai Beer Company but would like to make a donation by credit card, go to [fcjckauai.org](http://fcjckauai.org) and click the 'donate' button; or mail a check to FCJC Kauai, 4473 Pahee Street, Suite M, Lihue, HI 96766.



Your donations help:

- Provide Direct Enhancements to Children
- Support Training
- Support the Children's Justice Center of Kauai
- Builds Awareness Here on Kauai

We are an all-volunteer board so there are little or no administrative costs for FCJC Kauai.



## APRIL WAS NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

April 4 - Kauai kicked off this national awareness with a proclamation by Kauai Mayor, Bernard Carvalho

April 12 - Girl Scouts planted pinwheel garden with Department of Health and American Medical Response

You can view their gardens at 3040 Umi Street and across from Wilcox Hospital.

The blue pinwheels are a symbol of Child Abuse Prevention adopted by the National Children's Alliance, which helps fund the Children's Justice Center nationwide. The pinwheels are a reminder of the happy childhood we want for our keiki. Many in our community strive to protect their innocence.

## ALOHA TO JESSELL PASCUA, PROGRAM DIRECTOR

After 4 years as Program Director at the CJC it is time for us to wish a fond alonga to Jessell. We wish you success in the next chapter of your professional development. Jessell has initiated a great deal of collaboration among agencies in our community that serve abused children. Thank you for building relationships among the professionals who utilize the CJC in serving children on Kauai. We know that your heart is dedicated to serving children which will continue in your new position. Mahalo and Aloha for all you have given to the CJC of Kauai.

## WELCOME MIA CRUZ MCNEIL

The Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Kauai welcomes Mia Cruz McNeil to the CJC. Mia came onboard as secretary in December 2016. Mia and her husband, Tim, moved to Koloa in June 2016 from California. Prior to joining the CJC she worked in human resources in law firm and hotel industries. Mia hopes to contribute to the success of the CJC and the services provided there.

