The Hawai‘i SFEC believes that family engagement is an equity and learning strategy to support student academic success and school improvement. The Center’s mission is to implement high-impact family engagement strategies, programming and policies that build powerful partnerships among family, school, and community, leading to enhanced child development and student achievement.

SERVICES OVERVIEW

- Parent/Family Training
- Teacher/Administrator Training & PD
- Conference
- Tip Sheets/ Printed Materials
- Learning Packets/Books
- Webinars
- Videos
- Newsletter
- Social Media

ISSUES ADDRESSED

- Family Literacy/Early Literacy
- Financial Literacy
- Distance Learning
- Social Justice/Equity/Cultural Responsiveness
- Safety
- Mental health, social-emotional resource
- Resources provided in languages other than English
- Family/Parent leadership
- Family engagement capacity building
- Building Social Capital

SPECIFIC RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR

- Birth-to-Three
- Preschool/3-to-5
- Elementary School
- Middle School
- High School
- Post-Secondary
- English Learners
- Children with Special Needs
- Homeless/Vulnerable Populations
- Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islanders, and other cultural groups

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Community of Practice School Cohort Training Program: This intensive training is school-based professional development on the Dual Capacity-Building Framework and embedding family engagement strategies into written school policy through the annual academic school plan. The technical assistance (TA) includes an assessment of school-wide family engagement practices, to guide school teams as they develop and implement an action plan to create effective partnerships with families to support student and school improvement.

Statewide Dr. Karen Mapp Symposia: The Center coordinates statewide symposiums, in partnership with Dr. Karen Mapp (author of the Dual-Capacity Framework), the Hawai‘i State Department of Education (DOE), Kamehameha Schools, Leadership in Disability and Achievement of Hawai‘i, and other community partners. These gatherings serve to share best practices on family engagement in education and to engage a broad range of education stakeholders.
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Parent, Family, and Community Capacity Building: The Center partners with several Hawai‘i education and child-focused non-profits to build the capacity of parents, families, and communities, as well to present and provide consultation and TA to non-profits and community groups. One Center partnership resulted in Parenting During a Pandemic, a 9-part webinar series, developed through a parent and family-centered collaboration with the Hawai‘i DOE Kailua-Kalāheo Complex.

MAKING SYSTEMIC CHANGE

Pre-Service Teacher Training: The Center developed instructional modules based on the foundational work of Dr. Karen Mapp to introduce pre-service teachers to the theory, research and practice of family engagement and how it is linked to school improvement and student achievement. The instructional modules, which continue to be piloted and refined, include “how to” videos on: First Phone Call Home, Funds of Knowledge, Attendance/Homework Completion, and Hybrid Schedule Scenario.

Embedding Family Engagement in Annual School Academic Plans: After a school team completes the Community of Practice School Cohort Training Program, the Center provides intensive TA to schools on embedding family engagement strategies into their existing academic plans. As an additional support to schools, the Center is exploring a partnership with district and state multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) leadership to embed family engagement strategies into MTSS that is to be implemented statewide by the Hawai‘i DOE.

TOP WEB RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES:

- Education: A College Prep Savings Toolkit for Families with Students in Grades 7-12: This toolkit educates on how to create a savings plan for your family’s college education goals. http://bit.ly/FEmpow

TOP WEB RESOURCES FOR PRACTITIONERS:

- Welcome Back Package: Family Engagement for Educators 2020: Adapted by several other SFECs for use in their jurisdictions, this guide provides a foundation on how to connect with families and promotes equitable practices, such as support of special education students and access to translation resources. http://bit.ly/WBPfee
- AFFECT Modules: These are culturally-responsive asynchronous modules to activate educators’ focus on family engagement as central to teaching. http://bit.ly/AFFECTHI
- Family Engagement Webinar Toolkit: This Google Drive Template has everything you need to start your own family engagement webinar series. http://bit.ly/FETEMPLATE