

HUGS for Hawaii's Seriously Ill Children and Their Families Summary

Mission: To support families caring for seriously ill children.

Category: Health & Wellness

Contact: Maureen Purington, Executive Director

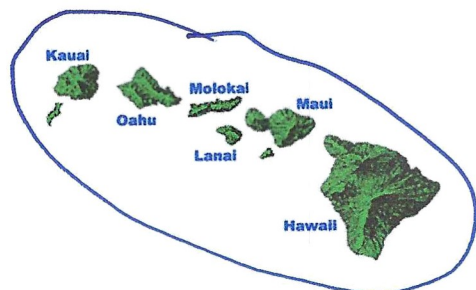
Address: 3636 Kilauea Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96816

Grant History: 2022: \$20,000
2024: \$20,000
TOTAL GRANTS TO DATE: \$40,000

2025 Request: \$25,000 for general operating support.

Notes:

- **H**elp, **U**nderstanding & **G**roup **S**upport
 - HUGS created to support children facing life-threatening illnesses and their families by providing case management, financial assistance, respite services, support groups, hospital visits.
 - Created in 1982.
 - Serves entire State of Hawaii.
 - Children served from birth to age 21. Many have complex serious illnesses.
 - Provides support to entire family.
 - Serves 400 families each year.
 - All services provided to families free of charge.
 - 7 trained professionals on staff; 900+ trained volunteers.
- 2024:** New executive director as of December. 2023 year of leadership turmoil.
- 2024:** 2202 family members served.
- Cancer and cardiac conditions are most common illnesses but many others served as well. Also supports family survivors until deceased child would have been 21.





For Hawaii's Seriously Ill Children
and their Families

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3636 Kilauea Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96816-2318
Tel: (808) 732-4846
Fax: (808) 732-4881
Email: HUGS@hugshawaii.org
www.hugshawaii.org



AUW Designation #96590
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January 27, 2025

Tammy Davis Cownie
Laurence H. Dorcy Hawaiian Foundation
81 East 7th Street, Suite 125
St. Paul, MN 55101

Dear Tammy,

Thank you for the opportunity to apply for funding from the Laurence H. Dorcy Hawaiian Foundation. HUGS (*Help, Understanding & Group Support*) for *Hawaii's Seriously Ill Children and Their Families* respectfully requests **\$25,000 in general operating support** to help strengthen Hawaii's families and enhance their quality of life as they navigate the emotional and financial challenges of caring for a seriously ill child.

A diagnosis of a serious illness presents profound challenges for families, including lengthy medical treatments, financial strain, emotional distress, and heightened anxiety. Each family member navigates this journey uniquely. HUGS programs are thoughtfully designed to provide peer support that fosters meaningful connections, alleviates isolation and stress, and promotes resilience and a sense of community. National research highlights the critical role of peer support systems in improving overall family well-being and positively influencing the health outcomes of seriously ill children.

HUGS is the **only organization in Hawaii providing comprehensive, long-term support services for children with life-threatening illnesses (birth to age 21) and their families.** Established in 1982 as "The Center" and later renamed the Young People's Support Center, it became HUGS (Help, Understanding & Group Support) in 1989, inspired by the experiences of families it supported. Pleaman Shaver, a dad whose son had a cancerous tumor, shared, "*When your child is diagnosed with a terminal illness, sometimes the only thing even a doctor can do is give you a hug. There are days when I wake up wanting nothing more or less than a big hug. It says so much—'I care, I hurt with you, hang in there.'*"

HUGS stands apart in several key ways:

- **Serving a variety of serious illnesses**, not just a single condition (e.g., cancer).
- **Supporting the entire family**—the ill child, parents, and siblings—through individually tailored programs.
- **Operating solely as a local nonprofit**, unaffiliated with any national organization, ensuring that all funds raised remain in Hawaii to support local families.

THE FAMILIES WE SERVE

In 2024, HUGS supported 397 families (2,202 family members) across Hawaii, providing a vital lifeline during their most challenging times. Over 70% of these families live on low to moderate incomes, often facing financial strain as one parent leaves work to care for their seriously ill child.

Families served by island:

- **Oahu:** 276 families
- **Big Island:** 53 families
- **Maui:** 40 families
- **Kauai:** 22 families
- **Molokai:** 5 families
- **Lanai:** 1 family

The serious illnesses of HUGS keiki include:

- **Cancer** (34%)
- **Cardiac conditions** (29%)
- **Neurological disorders** (12%)
- **Chromosomal conditions** (9%)
- **Other serious medical conditions** (16%)

In addition, 15% of HUGS families are bereaved. In 2024, we mourned the loss of 13 beloved HUGS keiki. HUGS remains steadfast in supporting these families, offering compassionate programs and services until the child who passed would have turned 21. We walk alongside them on their journey of healing and remembrance, ensuring they never feel alone.

HUGS PROGRAMS

HUGS programs are designed to strengthen family coping skills and resilience while addressing the unique needs of each family member.

1. **Peer Support Activities:** Monthly family gatherings and parent-specific events create safe, welcoming spaces where families can connect with others who truly understand their journey. These activities, which engaged over 1,100 attendees (duplicated) last year, foster mutual understanding, strengthen supportive networks, and provide much-needed comfort and encouragement, helping families feel less isolated and more resilient as they navigate the challenges of serious illness.
2. **Respite Services:** Provides parents and caregivers much-needed personal time away from the demands of caring for a seriously ill child. We offer free childcare for children ages 6 months to 12 years in a safe environment. Each child is paired with a trained "Big Buddy" for fun and attentive care, giving parents the freedom to relax, recharge, or handle personal needs with peace of mind. In 2024, we provided respite care for 222 children (duplicated) across 9 sessions.
3. **Hospital Visits:** Weekly visits and activities support hospitalized children and their parents/caregivers. Last year, over 200 hospital visits brought joy and relief to families during challenging times.

4. **Case Management Services:** Families are connected with community resources, including food baskets, rental assistance, utility payments, and employment resources. In 2024, services were provided to 85 families.
5. **Emergency Airfare Assistance:** Support for neighbor island families traveling to Oahu for specialized medical treatment and for Oahu and neighbor island families traveling to the mainland for treatment unavailable locally. In the past year, 44 families (111 family members) received airfare assistance, ensuring they could be present as their HUGS keiki received life-saving treatments.
6. **Sibling Support Activities:** A 3-day/2-night SibCamp helps siblings process their emotions and build peer support in a nurturing environment. Last year, 24 siblings participated in this impactful camp, gaining life skills and tools to cope with their unique challenges.

All HUGS programs are provided free of charge. A dedicated HUGS team of seven professionals, supported by 900+ trained community volunteers, delivers nearly **50 annual activities**.

IMPACT OF DORCY FOUNDATION FUNDS

Support from the Laurence H. Dorcy Hawaiian Foundation will ensure Hawaii's seriously ill children and their families receive vital care during their most challenging times. This funding will directly strengthen core programs, such as peer support, respite care, and sibling support, which alleviate stress, foster resilience, and build a sense of community.

It will also sustain critical infrastructure, including IT and communication systems essential for coordinating programs, expanding outreach, and serving families in remote communities.

By addressing both programmatic and operational needs, the Dorcy Foundation's investment will enhance HUGS' capacity to provide life-changing support, offering families hope, connection, and relief as they navigate the challenges of serious childhood illnesses. We are deeply grateful for the Foundation's commitment and respectfully request your support to continue bringing hope, strength, and aloha to those in need.

Most Sincerely,



Maureen Purington
Executive Director

Attachments:

- HUGS IRS tax exemption 501(c)(3) determination letter
- HUGS 2024 financial statement including balance sheet, revenue, and expenses
- 2024 primary funding sources



2024 Primary Funding Sources

1. Contributions (Donations) - \$620,299.93

- Trusts & Foundations: \$402,824.69
- Individual Donations: \$129,076.41
- Corporate Contributions: \$45,111.46
- Service Groups: \$10,002.57
- Aloha United Way: \$27,053.87
- Combined Federal Campaign: \$4,776.73
- Other: \$1,454.20

2. Government Grants - \$162,742.08

- City Grant-in-Aid: \$162,742.08

3. Fundraising Income - \$249,747.34

- Gala: \$241,474.91
- Other Fundraising Events: \$8,272.43

4. Investment & Other Income - \$58,642.80

- Interest/Dividend Income: \$87.40
- Investment Income: \$33,650.41
- Unrealized Gains/Losses on Investments: \$24,904.99

Total Income: \$1,091,432.15

HUGS FOR HAWAII'S SERIOUSLY ILL CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2024

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1000 Checking - Bank of Hawaii	59,868.92
1110 Cash Clearing	0.00
1120 Cash in Bank - MMS	292,225.28
1350 Petty Cash	158.90
1355 Petty Cash - Programs	1,332.73
Total Bank Accounts	\$353,585.83
Accounts Receivable	
1200 Accounts Receivable	61,462.02
Total Accounts Receivable	\$61,462.02
Other Current Assets	
1250 Other Receivables	0.00
1400 Prepaid Expenses	9,981.17
1405 Pledge Receivable	105,986.00
1420 Prepaid Fundraising Deposits	5,890.00
1440 Accrued Interest	0.00
1499 Undeposited Funds	0.00
1500 In-kind Airline Miles	0.00
1510 Inventory - Gala Items	985.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$122,842.17
Total Current Assets	\$537,890.02
Fixed Assets	
1600 Fixed Assets	
1605 Cost	
1610 Office Equipment	40,524.47
1620 Furniture & Fixtures	20,152.75
1630 Autos & Vans	28,381.20
1640 Leasehold Improvements	89,371.00
Total 1605 Cost	178,429.42
1690 Accumulated Depreciation	-106,034.46
Total 1600 Fixed Assets	72,394.96
Total Fixed Assets	\$72,394.96
Other Assets	
1170 Endowment Fund	96,311.77
1180 Raymond James Investment (DY875)	153,189.66
1181 Raymond James Investment (X754)	258,138.84
1182 Raymond James Investment (F461)	549,666.83
Total Other Assets	\$1,057,307.10
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,667,592.08

HUGS FOR HAWAII'S SERIOUSLY ILL CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2024

	TOTAL
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	10,270.98
Total Accounts Payable	\$10,270.98
Credit Cards	
2005 Hawaiian Miles Mastercard	0.00
2006 American Express	0.00
2010 Hawaiian Miles Mastercard (New)	-35,763.92
2011 Hawaiian Miles Mastercard (MP)	29,228.79
2012 Hawaiian Miles Mastercard (SK)	10,571.52
Total 2010 Hawaiian Miles Mastercard (New)	4,036.39
Total Credit Cards	\$4,036.39
Other Current Liabilities	
2000 Accounts Payable	0.00
2105 Payroll Taxes Payable	0.00
2110 Federal/FICA Withholding	0.00
2120 State Withholding	0.00
2130 Accrued SUTA	0.00
2140 Accrued FUTA	0.00
Total 2105 Payroll Taxes Payable	0.00
2150 Accrued General Excise Tax	0.00
2160 Simple IRA	976.93
2200 Health Insurance Withheld	0.00
2350 AUW Withheld	1,378.00
2400 Accrued Vacation	6,452.63
2450 Accrued Payroll	23,386.11
2600 Deferred Revenue	0.00
2700 SBA PPP Loan	0.00
Direct Deposit Payable	0.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$32,193.67
Total Current Liabilities	\$46,501.04
Total Liabilities	\$46,501.04
Equity	
3500 Net Assets	498,670.83
3900 Retained Earnings	916,273.60
Net Income	206,146.61
Total Equity	\$1,621,091.04
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$1,667,592.08

HUGS FOR HAWAII'S SERIOUSLY ILL CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

Profit and Loss

January - December 2024

	TOTAL
Income	
4000 Contributions	
4005 Trusts & Foundations	402,824.69
4010 Individual	129,076.41
4015 Corporate	45,111.46
4020 Service Groups	10,002.57
4030 Other	1,454.20
4035 Aloha United Way	27,053.87
4045 Combined Federal Campaign	4,776.73
Total 4000 Contributions	620,299.93
4100 Government	
4110 City Grant-in-Aid	162,742.08
Total 4100 Government	162,742.08
4200 Fundraising Income	
4210 Gala-Tables Sales	143,823.79
4220 Gala-Auction-Live	3,446.74
4225 Gala-Auction-Silent	24,308.11
4230 Gala-Heart of Gold Drawing	1,025.00
4310 Special Event Donations	77,164.00
4325 Direct Benefit Cost to Donors	-31,654.47
4330 Gala-Wishing Tree Donations	23,361.74
4350 Other FR Events	14,384.10
4400 Fundraising/Development Expense	-6,111.67
Total 4200 Fundraising Income	249,747.34
4700 Interest/Dividend Income	87.40
4710 Investment Income	33,650.41
4800 Unrealized G/L on Investments	24,904.99
Total Income	\$1,091,432.15
GROSS PROFIT	\$1,091,432.15
Expenses	
5000 Payroll and Related Expenses	
5100 Salaries and Wages	467,304.11
5200 Payroll Taxes	
5210 FICA	36,744.94
5215 FUTA	365.91
5220 SUTA	15,014.17
Total 5200 Payroll Taxes	52,125.02

HUGS FOR HAWAII'S SERIOUSLY ILL CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

Profit and Loss

January - December 2024

	TOTAL
5300 Employee Benefits	
5310 Health Insurance	73,318.40
5320 Simple IRA Co.	6,434.91
5330 Insurance - TDI	2,020.06
5340 Insurance - WC	4,551.31
5350 EPLI	934.58
Total 5300 Employee Benefits	87,259.26
Total 5000 Payroll and Related Expenses	606,688.39
6100 Accounting	29,956.52
6150 Audit/Tax Preparation	23,560.44
6200 Auto/Van Expense	1,727.75
6300 Bank Merchant Fees	5,733.60
6400 Board Expense	2,193.92
6600 Depreciation Expense	4,620.59
6650 Equipment Lease/Maintenance	4,484.13
6800 General Excise Tax	9,739.86
6850 Information Technology	7,909.01
6851 IT Maintenance & Service	19,987.76
6852 Software and Updates	13,289.05
Total 6850 Information Technology	41,185.82
6900 Insurance	11,982.50
7100 Licenses/Dues & Subscriptions	996.34
7150 Investment Fees	2,775.69
7200 Miscellaneous	519.20
7300 Office	4,735.86
7400 Payroll Service Fees	12,428.39
7500 Penalties	26.13
7600 Postage & Shipping	2,652.63
7900 Program Services	34,908.68
7901 Emergency Airfare	28,317.95
7905 Sammy Keiki Aloha Fund	3,500.00
7915 Program Event Fees	4,281.00
Total 7900 Program Services	71,007.63
7950 Program Supplies	10,279.41
8100 Program Transportation	367.09
8150 Property Equipment/Supplies	11,255.25
8200 Public Relations / Advertising / Development	4,154.75
8400 Repairs & Maintenance	6,816.72
8500 Staff Training	450.00
8600 Staff Travel	
8620 Off-Island	952.84
Total 8600 Staff Travel	952.84

HUGS FOR HAWAII'S SERIOUSLY ILL CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

Profit and Loss

January - December 2024

	TOTAL
8700 Telephone	6,737.05
8800 Utilities	5,624.66
8900 Volunteer Support	1,632.38
Total Expenses	\$885,285.54
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$206,146.61
NET INCOME	\$206,146.61