



GREAT FUTURES START HERE.



*"Never underestimate the power of a small group of committed people to change the world.
In fact, it is the only thing that ever has."
~ Margaret Mead*

Aloha mai kākou,

Now more than ever, Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii (BGCH) is committed to the youth and families of Hawai'i.

As BGCH moves forward in these difficult times, our hearts and concerns remain with all of our Club members and families but especially our youth from underserved communities that will be hardest hit, as 83% of our families come from low to very low income households.

That 83% is more than a statistic...

It's the 7-year-old BGCH Club member in Waianae who received his evening snack and got help with his homework.

It's the 17-year-old BGCH Club member in Honolulu who received leadership guidance to stay out of trouble after school and had a safe place to be with caring adult mentors.

It's the 11-year-old BGCH Club member in Kapa'a who says "the Club made me feel better about myself because the staff respects me as me!"


These are unprecedented times, calling for all of us to work together in unique and creative ways to ensure that we continue to serve all communities in Hawai'i, including our nearly 5,000 members on O'ahu and Kaua'i.

Please remember, we are in this together and the safety and well-being of you, our youth, their families, and our community are our number one priority.

In following suit with Hawaii school district, we are adhering to the social distancing guidance from the Hawaii Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommending no more than 10 people be gathered in one place. We have made the very difficult decision to close all Club locations on O'ahu and Kaua'i, effective March 18 through April 6, 2020. While we hope to reopen on April 7, 2020, we are assessing the situation day by day and will open only if it is safe to do so.

Building our reserves-During this closure period, here is what we are doing to serve our youth and families:

- We are deep cleaning the Clubs and vehicles to ensure that all kids, staff, and volunteers are safe when the Club reopens.
- We are reviewing long term plans to stabilize education in the event schools must remain closed. BGCH has developed virtual programming to engage our youth members from home and will be rolling it out beginning March 23.
- BGCH is working on partnerships with other community partners and CBO's to utilize our clubhouses as distribution centers so that we can help distribute food and supplies to our communities. We have already earned the trust of the communities we serve and will be honored to become a conduit, especially to those who are vulnerable.
- We are sharing resources on unemployment income, school breakfast and lunches, support and opportunities from other organization and government entities, and critical resources on COVID-19 from Department of Health, CDC and other expert sources.
- Club staff are gathering together resources and activities that your child(ren) may work on at home.
- Training and professional development for our staff is already happening so they are even better prepared when our Clubs re-open.



You can make a difference. You have heard me say that it takes a village to raise a child. At BGCH, our village remains our Kukui Tree. From the seed (our mission), to the roots and trunk (our board and support staff), through the branches and leaves (our Clubhouses and parents), the flowers (our youth) and, finally, the light from the lit kukui nut (the potential of our youth). We continue to depend on you. You are the sun and the rain, providing the nutrients our tree needs to stay alive!

Your support will ensure we continue to serve the children who need us most.

To learn more about how you can give, please go to www.BGCH.com/get-involved/give

Resources for our Club communities.

BGCH website: www.BGCH.com/covid19resources

National Child Traumatic Stress Network Guide to Helping Families Cope with COVID-19:

https://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/resources/fact-sheet/outbreak_factsheet_1.pdf

Student Meals During Extended Break:

During the extended Spring Break period, a total of 38 Hawai'i public schools will be providing breakfast and lunch to children who are 18 years or younger. They will be able to stop by one of the designated schools to pick up a grab-and-go meal. Below are locations and start dates within our Club communities. **Click here for further details.**

Following is a list of locations near BGCH clubhouses and start dates.

For a FULL list, please click on the link above.

O'AHU

Waianae Intermediate: March 25

Maili Intermediate: March 25

Nanakuli High School & Intermediate: March 25

Kapolei High School: March 25

Campbell High School: March 25

Kailua Elementary: March 24

Waimanalo Elementary & Intermediate: March 23

King Intermediate: March 23

Kahaluu Elementary: March 23

McKinley High School: March 23

Kaimuki High School: March 23

Farrington High School: March 23

KAUA'I

Waimea High School: March 23

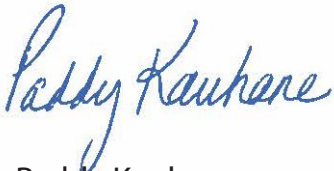
Chiefess Kamakelei: March 23

Kapaa High School: March 23

BGCH will continue to monitor the COVID-19 issue and will provide additional guidance to you, our community, as we learn more. As always, we place the safety of our youth and staff at the highest level.

Thank you for being our partner as we navigate through this unprecedented situation together. Please take care and know how much all of us at BGCH care about you, our children, and our community. **We will get through this crisis together!**

Mahalo piha,



Paddy Kauhane
President & CEO