

Imua Family Services
Early Childhood Development Program
Demonstration Project
Fiscal 2009 Annual Report

On June 30, 2009 Imua Family Services completed the second fiscal year of the Early Childhood Development Program Demonstration Project (ECDP). During this second year the program provided continued therapeutic services in the areas of speech, occupational and physical therapy along with special instruction and care coordination to 178 children age 3 to 6 with developmental delays who did not meet Department of Education Special Education Preschool (DOE) eligibility requirements. During this second year ECDP demonstrated the previously unmet need in our community for continued therapeutic support for children age 3 to 6 with mild to moderate developmental delays. In addition, the information we will share with you reflects ECDP's success in meeting or exceeding many of the goals and objectives set forth at program inception. The following information includes data, case examples and reflection upon the successes and continued opportunities faced in a pilot program of this nature.

The Early Childhood Development Program Demonstration Project set forth 3 primary objectives for the second year of the pilot program:

- Provide therapeutic services to 100 children age 3 to 6 who do not meet age appropriate developmental milestones and fall outside the scope of Department of Education Special Education Preschool services.
- Provide training and strategies to 100 parents and caregivers and 15 preschool teachers, and daycare providers so that they may support the development of the child.
- Document the effects of continued early intervention services for children in ECDP via establishment of a data collection system.

Program design was built upon these three objectives.

In addition to these objectives we identified 4 main outcomes for the demonstration project:

- 90% of children in ECDP will show improvement on age appropriate developmental skills.
- 75% of children in ECDP who attend preschool or daycare will show improved participation.
- 90% of parents and caregivers will report increased knowledge of strategies to improve the home environment.
- 90% of preschool teachers and daycare providers will report increased knowledge of strategies to improve preschool and daycare environments.

Imua utilized several techniques in order to measure the success of these outcomes. The techniques used included annual developmental evaluations supplemented by observation and documentation of the child's progress and review of the child's Individual Support Plan with the family on 6 month intervals. In addition, Imua utilized an annual survey of parents, caregivers, preschool teachers and daycare providers completed in June 2009 in order to assess satisfaction. These tools helped formulate our assessment of the second fiscal year performance against the outcomes outlined for the demonstration program.

During the second fiscal year of the Early Childhood Development Program Demonstration Project (ECDP) 178 children age 3 to 6 were referred by parents, caregivers, pediatricians, preschool teachers, daycare providers or other community programs. 100% of these children received developmental support. Of the 178 children, 6.7% reached age 6 and continued to need support and 47.4% remained in the program on June 30, 2009. Of the 49.1% who were discharged from the program, 15.3% reached age appropriate milestones prior to reaching age 6;

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71.8% of the children discharged from the program exited for family reasons such as moving from Maui or were unreachable and 12.9% were referred to DOE.

During the second fiscal year of ECDP over 218 parents and caregivers received training providing them with strategies to support the healthy development of their child. This year, 100% of parents and caregivers reported increased knowledge of strategies they can use to improve the home environment for their child. Here is what one mom said about the services they receive through ECDP:

“I have noticed an impressive change in my son Achilles and I know that I have this program to thank for it. He has made incredible improvements in his speech, social skills and behavioral patterns-shown daily in his interaction with us, friends, and school. If every child makes this same progress, I can only see greatness in the future of our children and our children’s children.”

During this second fiscal year of ECDP, a total of 39 teachers and daycare providers received training and strategies for working with a child who has developmental delays. Teachers and daycare providers were provided with support which helped integrate children with developmental delays into their classrooms and daycare settings. Preschool teachers and daycare providers reported 92% of children receiving support through ECDP showed improved participation in the classroom environment. In addition, 91% of preschool teachers and daycare providers reported increased knowledge of strategies to improve the preschool and daycare environment for children. Here is an example of how ECDP provides support teachers and caregivers:

When 4 year old Lani first entered preschool she was having behavioral challenges, difficulty interacting with other children at school, struggling to communicate, and hitting others. Her teachers recognized these concerns and made a referral to ECDP for support. After receiving a comprehensive developmental evaluation, individual Speech and Occupational therapy services were recommended for Lani. Since services began three months ago, Lani has significantly reduced hitting others, is using words to express herself, initiating conversations with peers and making great strides in preschool classroom activities. In addition to individual services, Lani’s teachers also receive training during sessions enabling them to learn strategies that can be incorporated into Lani’s daily preschool routine resulting in a more productive and enjoyable preschool experience for all children in class.. Lani’s parents also receive support outside of preschool and shared that they see a change in her behavior in the home environment. Lani continues to make progress in her social development and interaction with peers.

During the second fiscal year of ECDP Imua Family Services continued to collect data through a system customized for the program. responsible for data collection, monthly reporting and tracking each child’s progress. This individual is well versed in database management. Imua’s existing client database system was utilized as a starting point for data collection and program monitoring. The system has been customized to accommodate the data collection needs of ECDP.

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Funding support in the second fiscal year of ECDP has been extremely positive. Imua Family Services received financial support from 16 funding sources; 14 foundations and 2 private donors. Fifteen foundations were approached to support the program, 13 funded ECDP at 100% of the request, 1 funded the program at a reduced level and 1 declined to fund the program. In addition to private foundation and donor support, ECPD is partially funded through the County of Maui, a grant from Maui United Way, and through program fees paid by families who receive support through the program. The extraordinary level of support from Hawaii's private foundations has allowed Imua Family Services to help 178 very special children and their families during the second year of the program.

Moving forward, Imua Family Services has begun laying the foundation for long term sustainability of the program. Imua continues to see the strong support in our community for this much needed program. The program continues to receive funding from many private foundations which have provided third year funding to support the ECDP. The program also continues to receive funding from the County of Maui and Maui United Way. The agency has also begun work towards a research study that looks at long term effects of ECDP. Imua has continued discussions in our community and at the state level on how to better support children with mild to moderate developmental delays. Imua Family Services Early Childhood Development Program remains on the forefront of therapeutic services and support for children age 3 to 6 in our community and state. The information provided within this report serves to demonstrate the need for this innovative program in our community. We look forward to the continuing the development of the Early Childhood Development Program and work towards ensuring that therapeutic support is available for every child in need.

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Type of Therapeutic Service needed	Number of Children Served 2008	Number of Children Served 2009
Occupational Therapy (OT)	19	19
Physical Therapy (PT)	9	10
Speech Language Pathology (SLP)	62	61
Special Instruction (SI)	8	5
Combination of SLP/OT	19	24
Combination of SLP/PT	1	4
Combination of SLP/SI	8	2
Combination of OT/PT	3	2
Combination of OT/SI	4	3
Combination of SI/OT/PT	5	0
Combination of SLP/OT/SI	2	7
Combination of SLP/PT/OT	0	1
Combination of SLP/PT/OT/SI	0	1
Unknown type of service needed*	33	39
Total Number of Children Served	173	178

*Families exited the program prior to determining the specific developmental need of the child.