



December 2022 Newsletter

News and Updates

Dear Carole,

When Founder Brooke Brown, PhD, started Nā Keiki O Emalia, she galvanized this community's desire to offer bereavement services to keiki of all backgrounds — children who were grieving and had little or no support.

Over the years, you have provided that support. You've volunteered. You've donated. You've advocated for children's grief programs on Maui. We are better able to serve Maui's bereaved children. **Thanks to you, we have much to celebrate this season.**

Nā Keiki O Emalia is expanding our grief groups and trainings across Maui County to 5 new areas -- Hana, Lana'i, Moloka'i, Lahaina, and Upcountry. We are looking for parents, teachers, community leaders and friends of Nā Keiki O Emalia to help us set up grief support teams in these new locations.

Nā Keiki O Emalia is hiring a part time program coordinator so that we may expand our grief services and training to under-served areas of Maui County. Many areas of our County have been hard hit by the pandemic, by overdose, suicide and other deaths but have few resources to deal with the grief experienced by families and children.

Nā Keiki O Emalia is hosting in-person grief support groups in the schools. We hear from families that our grief support groups are crucial to the families and children who participate. Several local schools are partnering with us to add grief programs starting in the New Year.

Our board president Laura Fortin Schwing has offered Nā Keiki O Emalia a matching gift of \$100,000. Thanks to many of you, we have raised nearly \$82,000 towards our goal! With \$18,000 more to raise by December 31st, I hope you can make your gift today. These funds will allow Nā Keiki O Emalia to expand and grow exponentially. Remember, your gift will be matched dollar for dollar, doubling the impact of your donation.

Regardless of the holiday you celebrate, the board and staff wish you a lovely holiday season. Let's work together so we can better serve all the grieving children on Maui. Thank you for your support that will allow us to expand across Maui. So many good things are ahead in 2023!

With our keiki in mind,

Carole



Donate today and double your impact!

You can make a big difference for grieving children on Maui

This year we have a unique opportunity to strengthen and expand our programs across Maui.

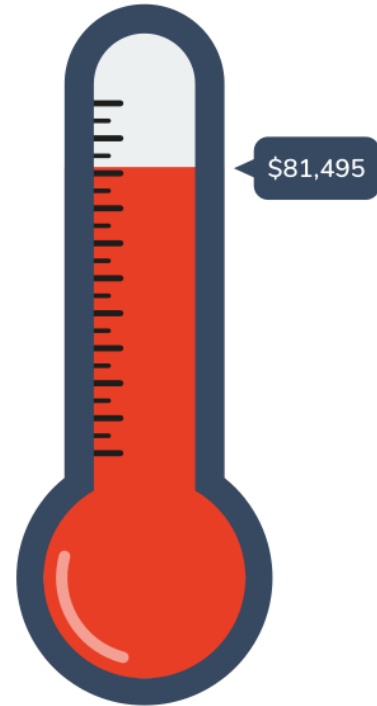
Nā Keiki O Emalia's own Board President, Laura Fortin Schwing, is matching all donations received through December 31 up to \$100,000!

Your gift will be matched dollar for dollar!

Help us meet our goal.
Call 808-214-9832 or click below.

[Donate to the Match](#)

GOAL: \$100,000



Program Highlights

Testimonial from one mom on the value of the program:



Showing off memory-star artwork

Participating in the Na Keiki group has helped [our daughter] open up more about her experience of losing her mother and becoming more comfortable speaking about it... the fact that she can listen to other kids who have experienced a similar thing has been so helpful.

She now not only knows,
but I think better understands,
that she is not alone.



Carole Zoom meeting with School Counselor Martina Rice and students in Hana



Closing circle during the grief support program



Board member Marnie Masuda-Cleveland training behavioral specialists from the Canoe Complex schools



Making stress buddies

Holidays can be fun and full of tradition, and when grieving the death of someone important, holidays can feel stressful, lonely, confusing, and difficult, especially for children grieving loss.

Here are some tips that may help your family navigate the holidays by recognizing and talking about the changes that are happening.

- Talk about traditions and favorite holiday memories as a family
- Include conversation about the person who died (Ignoring the loss doesn't help.)
- Plan to remember the person who died in some way
- Create a new tradition as a family
- Light a candle
- Say a prayer, recite a poem or share a story or a memory
- Make a scrapbook
- Look at photographs together

The Dougy Center's Holiday Tips and Worksheet available at dougy.org

Nā Keiki O Emalia | 808-214-9832 | contact@nkoemaui.org | nkoemaui.org

[Donate Today](#)

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