

Contact:
Katy Chen,
Executive Director, PATCH
Phone: (808) 839-1988
Fax: (808) 839-1799
kchen@patch-hi.org

Oahu (Main) Office
650 Iwilei Rd Suite 205
Honolulu, HI 96817
www.patch-hi.org



PRESS RELEASE:

PATCH will assist families who need child care due to Waipahu Head Start closure

PATCH can help the families facing closure of the Waipahu Head Start preschool.

Those that need a child care provider or preschool can contact PATCH to get the most up-to-date list of referrals for child care. Call PATCH for help at (808) 839-1988, or go to their website, www.PatchHawaii.org to receive online assistance and referrals.

PATCH Executive Director, Katy Chen, wants parents affected by the closure to be aware of their services: "We understand the difficulty of finding quality, affordable child care in Hawaii and hope we can assist all families with this process." Here at PATCH we are concerned by the news of yet another preschool closure.

The Waipahu Head Start, run by the Honolulu Community Action program, offers low cost child care to the community and has a current enrolment of 30 children, aged 3-5. Scheduled for eviction this Friday, the Preschool is an original tenant of the Waipahu Community Adult Health Day Care and Youth Day Care Center, which opened in 2003. The 6,000 square foot center was built with \$2.7 million of State funds and a \$245,000 grant from the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation.

As Hawaii's only statewide resource and referral agency, PATCH also offers: enhanced referrals to military families; free child care training for parents and child care providers; recruitment, scholarships and professional development assistance for early childhood education professionals; and operates Quality Care and USDA Food Programs.

PATCH has been helping Hawaii's families balance work and family responsibilities since 1976. The mission of PATCH is to support and improve the quality and availability of care for the young people of Hawaii. To learn more, visit www.PatchHawaii.org.