

September 15th, 2023

Attn: Douglass Adams
c/o Douglass.Adams@hawaiicounty.gov
Director of Research and Development
County of Hawai'i
25 Aupuni St. Suite 1301
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

**SUBJECT: Cover Letter to County of Hawai'i
Professional Services (RD.8)**

Category: Professional Services (RD.8)

Full Legal Name and Address of Organization:

Collaborative Support Services Inc.
700 Bishop St. Suite 1701
Honolulu, HI 96813

I will be the contact for this solicitation. You may email me at kerrie@ecashawaii.org for future notices.

Aloha,

Kerrie Urosevich

Kerrie Urosevich PhD
Executive Director and Network Design and Innovation Lead
Hawai'i Early Childhood Action Strategy
808-381-9635
kerrie@ecashawaii.org

Statement of Qualifications

The name of the firm, or person, the principal place of business, and the location of all of its branch offices in Hawai'i.

Name of the firm: Collaborative Support Services Inc.

Principal place of business and sole location of firm:

700 Bishop St. Suite 1701
Honolulu, HI 96813

The age of the firm and its average number of employees over the past year.

Age of Firm: 5 years but age of the Early Childhood Action Strategy (ECAS) is 11 years. ECAS was previously housed in Governor Abercrombie's and Governor Ige's Administrations.

Average number of employees over the past five years: 5 employees

The education, training and qualifications of key members of the firm.

We feel Collaborative Support Services (CSS) Inc., through the Early Childhood Action Strategy (ECAS) and its staff, meets the qualifications for Professional Services to support the Kāu-Kea`au-Pāhoa (KKP) School Readiness Continuum coordination, data collection, evaluation and support to participating organizations. In addition to the qualifications of the ECAS backbone staff, ECAS receives back-end administrative supports from The Omidyar Group.

Kerrie Urosevich, MA, PhD, is the Executive Director and Network Design and Innovation Lead for for the Early Childhood Action Strategy. She previously served in both Governor Neil Abercrombie's and Governor David Ige's Administrations under the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL). Before joining EOEL, Kerrie worked for 15 years in systems building, conflict resolution and violence prevention, through her mediation and facilitation consultancy. She was selected to the Omidyar Fellows Executive Leadership program in 2014 to learn strategies for better supporting Hawai'i's children and families.

Kerrie serves as Affiliate Faculty at the Matsunaga Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution at the University of Hawai'i-Mānoa, and is co-founder of Ceeds of Peace, focused on creating a more peaceful and just humanity. She serves on various Hawai'i-based and international Boards working on early development, education, family resiliency and women's empowerment opportunities. Kerrie received her Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Hawai'i-Mānoa; Master's Degree in International Policy from the Monterey Institute of International Studies; Graduate Certificates in Nonprofit Management and Conflict Resolution and BAs in Psychology and Japanese Studies from Gustavus Adolphus College.

Doug Imig, PhD is the Evidence and Outcomes Lead for ECAS. Previously, Doug directed research and evaluation for the Indianola (Mississippi) Promise Community and was a professor of political science at the University of Memphis.

Doug was a resident fellow at the Urban Child Institute, director of Memphis Data Partners for Children and Director of the Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change at the University of Memphis. He was a Research fellow at the University of Oklahoma's Infants, Toddlers, Twos and Threes (IT3) Research Center, a visiting scholar at Harvard University's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs and was on the faculty of political science and

public administration at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Doug received his PhD in political science from Duke University. He is the author of books and articles on children's advocacy, social movement mobilization and political representation.

Jennifer Elia, DrPH, is the Maternal and Infant Health Lead for ECAS. She has worked in public health and clinical research for more than a decade, most recently on the faculty of the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine. Through community engagement and qualitative and quantitative methods, her research has focused on pregnancy intention, contraceptive use, and maternal/child health. Jennifer is passionate about better understanding and ameliorating health disparities among Native Hawaiian and other populations, while partnering with community organizations and healthcare providers to improve the accessibility, effectiveness, and cultural relevance of health services, systems, and education.

Raised in rural Puna on the Big Island of Hawai'i, Jennifer currently lives with her husband and two sons in Honolulu. Jennifer received her BA in the History of Science & Medicine and her MPH in Health Policy & Administration from Yale University, and her DrPH in Community-Based & Translational Research from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

Hide Wu is the Early Childhood Action Strategy Logistics, Support, and Coordination Lead for ECAS. Hide has been working with keiki, youth, and families in Hawai'i since 2016, most recently as the Homeless Outreach Coordinator at People Attentive to Children (PATCH) prior to joining ECAS. Her focus was on supporting families and young keiki experiencing homelessness by connecting them with resources that include child care, child development, health related programs and services, and more. Hide is currently also involved in the work of the Association for Infant Mental Health in Hawai'i (AIMH HI) as their administrative coordinator.

Born and raised on Oahu, Hide obtained her Bachelor's of Art in Public Health from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, with an emphasis on education for economically disadvantaged youth. Hide is passionate about helping her community and advocating for improving the quality of health, education and care for children.

Vivian Eto, MA is the Strategy and Project Management Lead for ECAS. Since moving to Hawai'i five years ago with her family and returning to her husband's roots, Vivian continued to work remotely as Senior Director of Family Support for Child Care Services Association in Durham, North Carolina. In that time, Vivian also became involved with the Early Childhood Action Strategy as co-convenor of the Equitable Access to Programs and Services team and as a member of the Infant and Toddler subcommittee.

Vivian brings 25 years of experience, working in the early care and education field to support ECAS network partners. She has worked on a range of early childhood program areas that span Child Care Resource and Referral, Head Start/Early Head Start, child care subsidy, quality-improvement, workforce-development, and universal preschool initiatives. Vivian has also worked on and led collective impact efforts in both California and North Carolina. Vivian holds a MA in Educational Psychology, Developmental Studies from UCLA and a BA in Psychology from Stanford.



Expression of Interest

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Director of Research and Development
County of Hawai'i
25 Aupuni St. Suite 1301
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

**SUBJECT: Expression of Interest to County of Hawai'i
Professional Services (RD.8)
January 2024- December 2027**

Dear Mr. Adams,

Please accept our expression of interest in responding to professional services to support the health, learning and wellbeing of the County's youngest keiki through its School Readiness Continuum Demonstration Project. Professional services will be coordinated by the Early Childhood Action Strategy (ECAS), a program of CSS. ECAS is a government-nongovernment collective impact effort, focused on improving outcomes for Hawai'i's youngest keiki and their families. ECAS employs five full-time staff who provide project management, data, research, policy, coordination and convening expertise to collaborative efforts statewide. ECAS is in its 10th year and works with over 350 partners, convening up to 25 teams per month. Previously housed within Governor Abercrombie's and Governor Ige's offices, ECAS is now a program of Collaborative Support Services Inc., a local 501c3 organization. Partners to the School Readiness Continuum vision and goals were developed by leaders in the Kā`u-Kea`au-Pāhoa (KKP) and Kailua-Kalaheo Complex Areas and represent the Department of Education, the Executive Office on Early Learning, Head Start, Family Support Programs, Family Child Interaction Learning Programs, Child Care and Preschool Providers and the Community Health Centers. The overarching goal of the Continuum is to ensure that our youngest keiki have a continuum of supports and early learning opportunities from birth to kindergarten entry. Not only will this strategy increase the number of keiki who are developing on-track and who will be ready for kindergarten, but it will also strengthen family engagement, which is critical for keiki success.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to respond to this request.

With gratitude,

Kerrie Urosevich

Kerrie Urosevich PhD
Executive Director and Network Design and Innovation Lead
Hawai'i Early Childhood Action Strategy
808-381-9635
kerrie@ecashawaii.org

CSS-ECAS Expertise and Capabilities

- CSS-ECAS is in its tenth year of operation. ECAS is a multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary network of government and nongovernment partners, working to strengthen the system of care for Hawai'i's youngest children and their families.
- CSS-ECAS, in partnership with Kā`u-Kea`au-Pāhoa (KKP) partners, a vision has been established for the Kindergarten Readiness Continuum
- CSS-ECAS serves as a backbone organization for over 25 working collaboratives, providing planning and implementation support, facilitation, communications, testimony support, neighbor-island travel, data expertise and professional development.
- CSS-ECAS has managed over 70 contracts, matching government and philanthropic funding.
- CSS-ECAS ensures a safe and collaborative environment for working through systems'-level barriers.
- CSS is a Hawai'i-based nonprofit organization with a Board of Directors and staff that reflect the diversity of Hawai'i.
- CSS-ECAS will hire an entity with advanced degrees in education, social work and/or public health to assist with coordination and will provide subcontracting support for a Kā`u-Kea`au-Pāhoa (KKP) Coordinator, based in Pāhoa.
- CSS-ECAS staff and contractors are required to have the following skill sets. For this position specifically, CSS-ECAS will ensure the contractors have extensive experience working in Kā`u-Kea`au-Pāhoa (KKP) In addition, contractors will
 - Have strong communications, facilitation, planning, and problem-solving skills;
 - Have demonstrated, relevant experience working on collaborative early childhood and education initiatives;
 - Have demonstrated, relevant experience in developing priorities, strategies and implementation plans;
 - Have demonstrated, relevant experience in tracking and monitoring the progress and challenges of collaborative projects;
 - Have demonstrated experience in collecting and maintaining data that reflects the successes and areas of challenge for the priorities of a collaborative;
 - Have demonstrated experience in designing and implementing program evaluation
 - Have demonstrated experience in producing reports summarizing the progress of a collaborative

A Kā`u-Pāhoa-Kea`au (KKP) Kindergarten Readiness Continuum (KRC) Coordinator will be subcontracted @ 20 hours/week.

Objective: The Pāhoa coordinator will guide the development and implementation of the Kindergarten Readiness Continuum (KRC) in the Pāhoa community. The coordinator's scope of work may include:

- Convening the project design team
- Conducting, facilitating and documenting community conversations
- Conducting research and outreach, which may include landscape mapping of partners and providers in community
- Coordinating with overall project team to develop key data collection and evaluation systems

- Working closely to link community partners across the continuum
- Providing regular updates pertaining to the development of the KRC
- Ensuring the community is fully engaged early, fully welcomed into, and fully supports these discussions about an
- KRC
- Working with the KRC design team to develop system and local metrics of success to track from birth through school entry and into 3rd grade; including incorporating culturally responsive evaluation and assessment (including Kūkulu Kumuhana)
- Identifying primary drivers to build a strong culture that supports early learning
- Conducting an outreach and awareness campaign with parents, families, and the community about the Continuum, how to register, what it will track and why, etc

The Ka`u-Pāhoa-Kea`au (KKP) KRC Coordinator will work closely with the following partners on the KKP Design Team

1	First Name	Last Name	Name	Organization	Title	Email
2	Stacey	Bello	Stacey Bello	HIDOE	Complex Area Superintendent, Ka'ū-Kea'au-Pāhoa	stacey.bello@k12.hi.us
3	Hidi	Boteilho	Hidi Boteilho	HIDOE, Keonepoko Elementary	Vice Principal, Keonepoko Elementary	hidi.boteilho@k12.hi.us
4	Shanna	De Lima-Suganu	Shanna De Lima-Suga	PATCH	East Hawaii Coordinator	sdelimasuganuma@patch-...
5	Susan	Entz	Susan Entz	PATCH	Early Childhood Literacy Consultant	sentz@hawaii.rr.com
6	Doug	Imig	Doug Imig	ECAS		doug@ecashawaii.org
7	Andy	Kahili	Andy Kahili	YMCA	HealthyStart Program Director	
8	Darissa	Kekuawela	Darissa Kekuawela	Kamehameha Schools	[East Hawaii Pre-K]	dakekuaw@ksbe.edu
9	Ben	Naki	Ben Naki	PACT	Vice President of Early Childhood Education Programs	bnaki@pacthawaii.org
10	Yoshi	Otake	Yoshi Otake	Hawai'i County	[HI County Economic Development Specialist]	yoshiaki.otake@hawaiicounty.gov
11	Michelle	Payne-Arakaki	Michelle Payne-Arakaki	HIDOE, Pāhoa Elementary	Principal, Pāhoa Elementary	michelle.payne-arakaki@k...
12	Angela	Thomas	Angela Thomas	Hawai'i County	Early Childhood Resource Coordinator	angela.thomas@hawaiicounty.gov
13	Carol	Wear	Carol Wear	PATCH	Interim Executive Director	cwear@patch-hi.org
14	Marlene	Zeug	Marlene Zeug	Pewa Project		marlene@pewaproject.com

2021-2020 Financial Audits and Financial Statements

*Please find attached.

References

The names, telephone numbers and email address of up to five clients who may be contacted, including at least two for whom services were rendered during the preceding year.

Below is a shortlist of and contact information for five clients who for whom services were rendered within this last year.

Stryker, Weiner and Yokota

Neal Yokota, CEO

neal@strykerweiner.com

(808) 258-7662

Nature of Services: Strategic communications for Commit to Keiki

Parents Attentive to Children (PATCH)

Carol Wear, Interim Director



cwear@patch-hi.org

(808)-224-2542

Nature of Services: Contracted to implement Ka `Upena Shared Services for Child Care Providers and Centers

Kanoe Enos LLC

Founder of A`ali`i Alliance

kanoe@aaliialliance.com

(808) 779-5495

Nature of Services: Contracted to implement Aloha at Home Abuse Prevention Program

Family Hui Hawai`i

Cherilyn Shiinoki, Executive Director

cherilyn@familyhuihawaii.org

(808) 392-3128

Nature of Services: Contracted to implement Words Matter LENA

Rona Suzuki

Commit to Keiki Policy Lead

ronasuzuki@gmail.com

(808) 258-7662

Nature of Services: Facilitate the formation of Commit to Keiki policy menus

Any promotional or descriptive literature which the firm desires to submit

Action Strategy Description: Launched within of the Governor’s Office through the Executive Office on Early Learning in 2012, The Early Childhood Action Strategy (ECAS) is a statewide public-private collaborative designed to improve the system of care for our youngest children and their families. Over 350 partners work across sectors to increase the number of young children in Hawai`i who are born healthy, developing on track, ready for school when they enter kindergarten, and proficient learners by third grade. All strategies identified within the ECAS push on the four key outcomes of 1) increasing the number of babies born healthy, 2) increasing the number of young children developing on-track, 3) increasing the number of children who enter kindergarten ready and 4) increasing the number of children who are thriving by 3rd grade.

Vision: Hawai`i’s young children are healthy, safe and ready to learn.

Mission: To bring together government and non-governmental organizations to align priorities for children prenatal to age eight and to strengthen and integrate the early childhood system by streamlining services, maximizing resources and improving programs to support our youngest keiki.

Areas of Focus: The ECAS work is organized into six cross-disciplinary focus. Teams in the focus areas identify goals, objectives, strategies and implementation partners to address gaps in the system of care for young children. Focus areas are co-convened by public-private partners.

