



## DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

### News Release

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GOVERNOR

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For Immediate Release: August 23, 2004 News Release No. 2004-39

#### **FAMILY VISITATION SERVICES INITIATED ON KAUAI**

The Kauai Family Visitation Center (FVC) in Kapaa has formally opened its doors August 23, 2004 for visitation and exchange services between children and their non-custodial parent or family members. The center is part of a network of visitation facilities operated by Parents and Children Together (PACT), which includes centers on Oahu and Maui. Funding for the center is provided by the federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant for the Safe Havens Program awarded to the Department of the Attorney General to establish a statewide system of safe visitation and exchange centers.

Attorney General Mark J. Bennett will be the featured speaker at the Kauai FVC opening. "It has been the vision of the Safe Havens project that every child in Hawaii who is impacted by domestic violence will be able to visit with non-custodial parents and other family members in a safe and secure environment. We are pleased that the opening of the Kauai Family Visitation Center fulfills this statewide vision, with all counties now having the capability to provide a secure and neutral site for the children to maintain contact with a parent, siblings, or grandparents who are not in the home," said Attorney General Bennett.

The Program Coordinator is Anecia O'Carroll, who will be assisted by a visitation monitor and program security personnel. The facility, with area space for the program coordinator's office and one visitation room, is co-located with PACT's Multi-Systemic Treatment program at 4-1579 Kuhio Highway, Suite 210A, in Kapaa. The FVC is considering additional "satellite sites" in other areas of Kauai if client services warrant the expansion for visitation and exchanges. Interested parties should call the Family Visitation Center at (808) 821-0574 for the hours of operation.

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