



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

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Hawaii receives federal grant for child support projects

(HONOLULU) The Child Support Enforcement Agency of the Department of the Attorney General has received a federal grant for a three-year project that will address outreach programs aimed primarily at securing voluntary acknowledgements of paternity and promoting healthy marriages for better outcomes for children. The award covers \$325,200 over this three-year period, which qualifies the State for additional federal funding such that the total benefit to the State would amount to approximately \$1.2 million.

The Child Support Enforcement Agency will administer the grant using collaborative strategies with programs directed by the state Department of Human Services (DHS). A significant part of early intervention services, which includes improving parenting behavior, will be delivered through DHS.

"We are very pleased that Hawaii has been selected for this program," Attorney General Mark Bennett said. "This project will help improve child support enforcement in Hawaii, and help promote stable families for Hawaii's children."

"This grant will help us better convey that child support is the responsibility of both parents for the child's sake," said DHS Director Lillian Koller.

The grant to Hawaii is one of several grants announced this week by the Administration for Children and Families of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The grant is awarded under the authority of Section 1115 of the Social Security Act and is designed to improve the financial well-being of children and improve the operation of the child support enforcement program. Section 1115 authorizes states to conduct demonstration projects aimed at promoting the objectives of the Social Security Act.

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