
The YMCA has been active on the island of O'ahu since 1866 providing recreational, educational and cultural activities for the youth of Hawai'i. The Kalihi Branch was established in 1946 and has been serving teens and children since that time. In recent years, families have had to face new challenges that have had an impact on child rearing: 1. In many households, both parents have to go out and work; 2. The majority of schools have shifted to a year-round schedule. To support parents of elementary age children, the Kalihi YMCA has offered structured supervision, recreational opportunities and educational activities for their children. These services are delivered at schools around O'ahu, at our facility on Kalihi Street or at other appropriate locations.

Children's Services:

The A+ Program at Alvah Scott School



This project, begun in school year 2001-2002, is designed to provide complementary recreational and educational activities for the students after school. The Kalihi YMCA A+ program enhances the formal DOE educational program, and it provides structured activities for the children until the early evening when parents end their workday.

The Kalihi YMCA has many years of experience operating children's programs in the Farrington complex of schools and had already gained experience at Alvah Scott by operating the Before School, Holiday Fun and Intersession programs.

The Intersession Program

The Holiday Fun and Intersession programs were developed for children kindergarten through sixth grade. The program provides structured activities for children during the Fall, Winter and Spring break periods. This is a comprehensive, all-day program that includes swimming, safety awareness, excursions, music, dance, crafts and outdoors fitness activities. The program alternates between Gus Webling and Pearlridge Elementary and Moanalua and Makalapa Elementary.



Summer Fun

Kalihi YMCA summer programs are designed to offer children a fun and enriching experience while school is out. We offer our Summer Day Camp program that includes swim lessons, a camping experience, weekly excursions, arts and crafts and a number of other activities. Many families prefer our Summer Time program that has a weekly swim activity, two excursions during the summer, a weekly story time activity at the Kalihi Palama Library, arts and crafts and a variety of other activities. Finally, we offer a Summer School program for children enrolled in summer school. We pick up students from selected schools, and they take part in our afternoon programming at two sites.

Fees

All children's programs charge a fee. We would be happy to send you information specific to the program you are interested in. Please call our office, and we will mail a brochure to your home.

Program Scholarships

The Kalihi YMCA Board, and other volunteers, raise money each year to support our scholarship fund. If you are interested in filling out a scholarship application, please contact our business office and one will be sent to you.

Teen Programs

In 1962, the board of the Kalihi YMCA founded the first outreach program to work with teen gang members in Honolulu. Over time, the Kalihi Y has added adolescent substance abuse programs funded by the Family Court, the Office of Youth Services and the Department of Health. The Kalihi Y has been providing substance abuse services for O'ahu teens for over twenty years.

Our philosophy is to provide positive peer and adult support for teens, both at their schools and in their communities. This year-round support aims to reconnect them to family, school and recreational resources in the community.

School-Based Substance Abuse Treatment

Through funds provided by the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Division of the Department of Health, the Kalihi YMCA provides substance abuse treatment services in targeted schools throughout O'ahu. At-risk youth between the ages of 12 and 18 can participate in the program, receiving up to 96 hours of substance abuse treatment services. Enrollment is voluntary and program goals include abstinence, increased education about how drugs and alcohol can

effect their lives, and help learning problem-solving and relationship skills. The Kalihi Y has been able to develop long-term credibility with both staff and students at the schools where this program operates.

Court Related Substance Youth Abuse Treatment

Through grants from the Office of Youth Services and the Hawai'i Family Court of the First Circuit in Honolulu, the Kalihi Y operates substance abuse treatment services for the wards of the Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility, where the program provides assessment and appropriate treatment planning for youth whose have patterns of substance abuse involved in their law-breaking activities. Follow-ups are done at three- and six-month intervals after completion of the program.

The Y also provides assessment, treatment and follow-up to minors referred by the Family Court in Honolulu. These youth may not be incarcerated, but may be in need of close supervision and active substance abuse treatment to prevent recurrence of legal problems and to improve the school and family situations of these teens. Services include assessment, individual and group therapy, as well as recreational opportunities and relapse prevention. Clients may continue in the program until clinically discharged.

Outreach

The Office of Youth Services provides the Kalihi YMCA with funding for a community outreach program targeted for youth 10 to 18 years of age in the areas including Honolulu, Waipahu/Ewa, Aiea/Aliamanu and Kalihi/Palama. Youth receive services based on referrals from community members, school personnel or their own peers. The program targets youth who are experiencing school failure due to truancy, family, legal or delinquency problems. The programs aims to connect these at-risk youth with existing resources in the community.

After School Teen Drop In Program

The Kalihi Y Drop-In program is available after school for all teens that live in Kalihi, Wahiawa and Waipahu. The services are provided from the time school is out until the early evenings and on the week ends. With activities focused both at the Kalihi Branch and in the community, these teens receive counseling, educational assistance, and experience with positive peer and adult relationships. The activities offered include study hall, dance classes, sports, arts and community volunteer services.

