

STATE OF HAWAII

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION**

**REPORT TO THE 2003 HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE ON THE SPOUSE AND
CHILD ABUSE SPECIAL ACCOUNT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS
OF SECTION 2(d) OF ACT 232 OF THE SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE OF THE
STATE OF HAWAII, 1994**

**SUBMITTED TO THE
TWENTY-SECOND STATE LEGISLATURE**

SPOUSE AND CHILD ABUSE SPECIAL ACCOUNT

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

DECEMBER 23, 2002

BACKGROUND

Act 232 of the Seventeenth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, 1994, created a Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account in the Department of Human Services (DHS). The Act specified that "the proceeds of the account shall be reserved for use by the department of human services for staff programs, and grants or purchases of service . . . that support or provide spouse or child abuse intervention or prevention as authorized by law." The funds come from fees for marriage licenses.

Act 216 of the Nineteenth Legislature, 1997, increased the Department's Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account by adding revenues from increased fees for certified copies of birth and death certificates and marriage licenses.

Act 177 of the Twenty-First Legislature, 2002, increased the Department's Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account by raising the ceiling from \$300,000 to \$450,000 to allow the Department to fund additional program needs.

ACCOUNT BALANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002

As of July 1, 2002, the balance in the special account was \$745,510.93, of which \$590,484* were carryovers from Fiscal Years 2001 and 2002.

PLANNED USE OF FUNDS

A. Standby/On Call Services in Maui County

DHS continues to use a portion of these funds to maintain an after-hours child protective services intake and crisis intervention program in Maui County. Originally DHS could only fund this program on the Island of Maui. In fiscal years 1995 and 1996, funds from this special account enabled us to expand this program to Molokai at a cost of \$75,000 per fiscal year. Beginning July 1, 1997, this program covered Lanai. The total cost of maintaining the service on Molokai and Lanai is \$100,000 per year. This program has been chosen for funding because Molokai and Lanai have been underserved in this regard and because DHS' staffing analysis has indicated that Maui County is understaffed relative to other areas of the State. This service relieves the staff from having to provide after-hours coverage.

B. Nurse Coordinator Position for Child Death Review Teams

At the request of the Department of Health (DOH), DHS agreed to transfer \$59,000 in SFY 2002 to DOH from this special account to fund a nurse coordinator position for the State and county child death review teams. The actual transfer was \$4,000 since the Department was able to use other federal funds that would have lapsed if not used in FY 2002. This meant that \$55, 000 was set aside for a specific purpose and then not needed at the end of the fiscal year. The \$55,000 was carried over into FY03.

C. Teenage Victims of Domestic Violence

Teenage girls who have run away from home or who are being abused by their boyfriends cannot come to the domestic violence shelters because those shelters are not licensed as child caring institutions under State law. Although they could go into existing youth emergency shelters, the staff there is not skilled in domestic violence intervention, and support and funding for these shelters are insufficient to adequately serve this additional target group.

DHS worked with a Special Committee on Youth Violence (SCYV) to develop a statewide program to address the needs of teenage victims of domestic violence. The Committee included representatives of the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline, the Hawaii Youth Services Network, and a number of provider agencies. SCYV also sought input from members of the Women’s Coalition and the Commission on the Status of Women. \$100,000 per year is used for this project.

BUDGETED USE OF AVAILABLE FUNDS FOR FY 03 - 05

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
Standby/On Call Services in Maui County (Purchase of Services)	\$100,000
Nurse Coordinator Position for Child Death Review Teams	\$4,000
Teenage Victims of Domestic Violence (Purchase of Services)	\$100,000
Oahu Comprehensive Services (Purchase of Services)	\$246,000
TOTAL:	\$450,000

*With the increase in ceiling from \$300,000 to \$450,000, all carryover funds will be expended by FY 05.