

6. KU'INA PROGRAM

Maui Community College

KU'INA PROGRAM

Mission Statement

Encouraging and assisting youth to envision and prepare for successful transitions into adulthood.

Significant Issues and Accomplishments

- Due to a major reduction in grant funding from prior award years, major changes in staffing and the service delivery system was necessitated. Staffing was reduced from 2 full-time staffing (program director and administrative assistant), 4 part-time case managers with specific school assignments, a part-time teacher, and MCC faculty / staff hired on over-load to conduct training to only 2 full-time staff; a program director and case manager.
- In addition to the major reduction in program staffing, the decrease in grant funding also resulted in the elimination or significant reduction in funding for program activities / services such as tuition assistance, work experience, supportive services, training expenses, etc.
- As a result, in addition to being solely responsible for providing all case management functions, the current program staff of 2 had to assume greater responsibility for the delivery of training activities for the students. The staff developed curriculum and conducted training on topics such as goal setting, career exploration, e-mail, job seeking skills, etc. A total of approximately 120 students received training on one or more topics during the period of January 1 to December 31, 2004.
- A year-round program of services for youth on Lanai was implemented. In prior years, youth on Lanai participated only in summer work experience activities. In Fall 2004, program staff traveled to Lanai to conduct follow up services and Saturday training activities with youth who participated in the 2004 Summer Work Experience activity. Eight Lanai youth participated in the year-round training program.
- Another significant accomplishment was the enrollment of 18 youth at MCC during the Fall 2004 semester. Ten or 56% of the youth persisted and completed the Fall semester. Of the 8 who did not complete the Fall 2004 semester, 4 left for full-time employment and 1 due to health reasons. Additionally, 9 or 90% of the 10 Fall 2004 completers re-enrolled for the Spring 2005 semester. Although comparative enrollment data from prior years is not readily available, it is believed that this is a significant increase over prior years. The 1 Fall 2004 completer who did not re-enroll in the Spring 2005 semester left for full-time employment.