



Pacific Birth Collective

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



PACIFIC BIRTH COLLECTIVE

OUR BIRTH STORY

Born in 2016, Pacific Birth Collective (PBC) was founded by a group of community advocates and birth workers who recognized the need for enhanced support during the crucial life events of pregnancy, birth, and postpartum. What began as a grassroots initiative has evolved into a thriving community-centered movement with numerous robust programs.

OUR MISSION

Pacific Birth Collective is a community-based maternal health organization rooted in respect, inclusivity and care. Our mission is to expand birth and wellness choices through education, support and advocacy for families and practitioners across Hawai'i.

OUR 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sonya Niess
Kristina Statler
Makalani Franco-Francis
Haley Rabago Callahan
Wyonette Wallet
Kiana Rowley

OUR 2024 STAFF LEADERSHIP TEAM

Morea Mendoza
Director of Leadership & Operations
Becky Lind
Director of Finance
Ki'inaniokalani Kaho'ohano
Director of Advocacy & Culture
Mariah Strong
Director of Programs & Communications



REFLECTIONS FROM LEADERSHIP

DIRECTOR OF LEADERSHIP & OPERATIONS

Our ninth year at Pacific Birth Collective has been one of deep growth, clarity, and commitment. At a time when reproductive rights, bodily autonomy, and access to care are under increasing threat, staying grounded, doing the work, and standing in solidarity with our neighbors has never been more important. We have and will continue to provide critical support to families, uplift community-based practitioners, and advocate for a more compassionate, equitable, and restorative model of maternal healthcare. That impact is only possible when we practice what we preach by modeling the systems of support we wish to see in the world.



I'm incredibly proud of how we've sustained our all-women team - not just by keeping the lights on, but by creating an organizational culture rooted in care. We've continued to create family-centered policies that allow us to show up for all the kuleana we hold - as parents, partners, professionals, family and community members. This investment in our team is a reflection of our priorities: to build an organization that is healthy from the inside out, that is resilient enough to serve our community for generations to come.

I'm deeply grateful to our team, families, partners, and supporters for believing in this work and walking this path with us.

With aloha,

Morea Mendoza

REFLECTIONS FROM LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD & CO-FOUNDER OF PACIFIC BIRTH COLLECTIVE

As we near our 10th anniversary this coming Labor Day, I am filled with immense pride reflecting on how far Pacific Birth Collective has come. What began as a grassroots vision has grown into a thriving community resource rooted in integrity, strength, and the shared commitment to accessible, holistic birth care.

Over the past decade, we've expanded our reach, deepened our impact, and remained true to our mission: empowering families through education, advocacy, and support. I am so grateful for every hand that has helped build this collective - our volunteers, practitioners, and families alike.

This past November, I welcomed twins into the world at home with the support of a compassionate team of midwives from diverse training backgrounds. This deeply transformative experience reminded me just how powerful it is to have the freedom to choose who supports us during one of life's most sacred transitions, and that we must protect this freedom by advocating for our rights.

Thank you for walking this path with us and may we continue to grow while honoring the wisdom of birth and the strength of our community.

With gratitude,

Sonya Niess





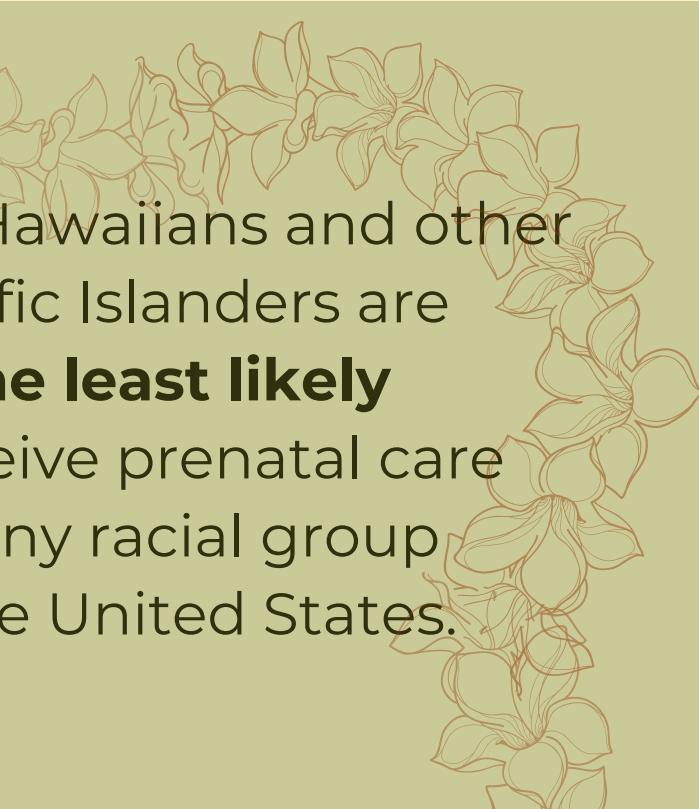
PBC is working
to improve
perinatal and
family health by
addressing key
disparities and
barriers in
Hawai'i's unique
landscape.



One in three of Maui's keiki are affected by food insecurity



One in six women report experiencing mistreatment during childbirth



One in seven mothers experience postpartum depression (PPD)



Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders are **the least likely** to receive prenatal care of any racial group in the United States.



OUR IMPACT

COMMUNITY BIRTH PROJECT

The Community Birth Project connects Maui families with vital services, including birth and postpartum doula support, midwifery care, and lactation assistance. This year, pelvic floor therapy was added as an offering in the program. This program enhances the well-being and health outcomes of vulnerable mothers and infants throughout the critically important stages of pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period.

DOULA TRAINING

Through direct aid scholarships, four Native Hawaiian women completed a three-day birth doula training with Maui Doulas, gaining expert guidance on supporting women in hospital and home births. Expanding this vital workforce addresses the rising demand for birth support while creating economic opportunities for women.

BIRTH PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

In 2024, PBC's island-wide online directory expanded to 112 members, connecting the Hawaii community with skilled practitioners for pregnancy and postpartum needs. The directory has become a valuable resource, ensuring families have access to trustworthy professionals.

IMPACT SNAPSHOT

66

families received transformative care

35%

of families were displaced by the Maui fires

112

professionals on our directory





OUR IMPACT

WELLNESS & EDUCATION INITIATIVES

The Healing Center is a sanctuary for families, offering healing services, community support, and a space for connection. It hosts hundreds of mothers, families, and babies through diverse events and workshops.

WELLNESS EVENTS

Every Wednesday, the Healing Center comes alive with pregnant mothers, babies, and women gathering for Wellness Wednesday. The community receives healing through massage, acupuncture, and holistic care, while our staff lovingly hold babies, allowing mothers to receive the physical and emotional support they need.

In partnership with Maui Behavioral Health Resources, our 2024 Therapeutic Thursdays featured expert-led activities like sound healing, breathwork, acupuncture, lei-making, art, and more, promoting mental wellness and strengthening community connections.

WORKSHOPS & CLASSES

The Healing Center held a variety of events in 2024, including breastfeeding and childbirth workshops, prenatal and mother-baby yoga, professional meet-ups, and community circles supporting pregnancy, postpartum, and grief.

NAVIGATOR PROGRAM

Our Navigator, a Licensed Social Worker,

IMPACT SNAPSHOT

1308

participants enjoyed our events & classes

71

total wellness events

138

workshops & classes





OUR IMPACT

WELLNESS & EDUCATION INITIATIVES CONT.

We proudly partnered with local organizations to host events centered on family support, community building, and maternal health education.

BABY2BABY SHOWER

In partnership with Baby2Baby and community partners, we distributed car seats, strollers, diapers, and other baby essentials to 185 Maui families.

LABOR DAY

Our annual Labor Day event celebrated Pacific Birth Collective's 9th anniversary at beautiful Ka'ehu. Hundreds of community members gathered to enjoy delicious food, entertainment, a silent auction, a keiki zone, and a bake-off featuring tasty lactation treats.

MANA MOVING FORWARD: FROM BIRTH TO REBIRTH

As part of Mana Moving Forward: From Birth to Rebirth, the Maui County Committee on the Status of Women's 2024 health conference, Pacific Birth Collective hosted Navigating Hānau: Perspectives on Maternal Healthcare in Hawai'i. This powerful panel of diverse birth workers shared personal and professional insights into birthing in Hawai'i, addressing cultural relevance, systemic barriers, and the value of both traditional and clinical care. The discussion offered a meaningful look into maternal health across the islands and called for shared responsibility in improving care for Hawai'i's families.





OUR IMPACT

DISTRIBUTION CENTER

Our Distribution Center is a community resource hub that provides essential items and food support to families during pregnancy, postpartum, and early childhood. Designed to ease daily burdens, it offers access to needed supplies in a welcoming and supportive environment.

DONATION & DISTRIBUTION CENTER

Our donation center supplies hundreds of families across Maui with essential items, including diapers and formula. We had the honor of serving over 700 families, many of them affected by the fires.

FARM TO MOTHER

Farm to Mother was launched in the summer of 2024 in partnership with Maui Food Bank and Common Ground Collective, with the goal of curating weekly food boxes tailored to the specific nutritional needs of pregnancy and postpartum. By the end of 2024, the program secured enough support to include locally sourced proteins and produce in every weekly box throughout the entirety of 2025, nourishing families with fresh, island-grown food during their most critical seasons of growth and healing.

IMPACT SNAPSHOT

981

boxes distributed

1,280

orders delivered

15,899

items distributed





OUR IMPACT

ADVOCACY

In 2024, Pacific Birth Collective strengthened its statewide presence through strategic partnerships, public education, and community-led initiatives.

Among other initiatives, Pacific Birth Collective:

- Hosted an *Advocacy Talk Story* forum, offering a platform for families and birth workers to learn how legislation impacts reproductive rights and birth access across the state. This forum empowered attendees with tools to engage in advocacy and emphasized the importance of community voice in shaping equitable, informed birth policies.
- Supported efforts to expand access to midwifery education and licensure pathways, emphasizing cultural integrity, workforce development, and family-centered care, alongside the Hawai'i Home Birth Collective and the Hawai'i Chapter of the American College of Nurse-Midwives. Ultimately bills HB 2649 and SB2969, aimed to address the shortcomings of HRS 457J, were not scheduled for hearing.
- Became a member of the Hawai'i State Women's Coalition, advocating for perinatal health, birth equity, and community-centered care.
- Joined the Hawai'i Birth Center Working Group, in collaboration with the State Department of Health, to address barriers to care and improve access to safe and diverse birth settings.





OUR IMPACT

KUPU & PACIFIC BIRTH COLLECTIVE

Under the mentorship of PBC's Director of Advocacy and Culture, PBC is honored to host four staff members from Kupu, a Hawai'i nonprofit, in hybrid roles that blend cultural practitioner apprenticeship with disaster relief coordination. Over the past year, they have become integrated team members to PBC's on-site and mobile efforts, supporting operations at the Donation and Distribution Center, Wellness Wednesdays, and events.

Our Kupu staff are actively studying lomilomi, lā'au lapa'au, and birth work, having completed doula training with Doulas of Maui, performing lomilomi in partnership with the Maui Medics Healers Hui, and learning traditional and customary Native Hawaiian birthing practices under the guidance of our Director of Advocacy & Culture and pale Keiki, Ki'i Kaho'ohanohano. They have provided in-home prenatal and postpartum care grounded in cultural knowledge, nourishment, and community support, while also helping families secure housing, relocate, and even build homes. Their presence and collaboration has been vital at wellness, education and outreach events such as Lā Kumu, Mana Moving Forward: from Birth to Rebirth, Wisdom Circles of Oceania, Mālama Kā'ehu, Keiki o Ka 'Āina, Lā Ku'oko'a, and the Pu'uhonua o Honokōwai Remembrance Gathering, among others - strengthening connection and advancing collective healing.





Our approach is as multifaceted as the communities we serve.

By supporting both families and maternal health providers alike, our programs aim to reach a common goal of improving perinatal and family health outcomes.

FINANCIALS 2024 - 2025

REVENUE

Services, Dues & Other
8%

Contributions
33%

Grants
59%

Administration
15%

Fundraising
3%

Programs
82%

EXPENSES



92%

of revenue was from
generous grants &
donations.

PBC envisions a future where every birthing person across Hawai‘i has equitable access to culturally responsive and comprehensive care.

Mahalo Nui to all our generous grantors, donors, and partners who share our vision and make this work possible

Ua ola loko i ke aloha
Love gives life within
‘Ōlelo No‘eau, Mary Kawena Pūku‘i #2836



OUR 2024 DONORS & GRANTORS

KAHUA DONORS (\$50,000+)

Maui United Way
Hawai'i Community Foundation
Kupu

ALAKA'I DONORS (\$10,000 - \$49,999)

Nuestro Futuro
Connecting Consciousness
Pledgeling Foundation
Network for Good
Atherton
Women's Fund of Hawai'i

KULEANA DONORS (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Planned Parenthood
Rebecca Nolan
Doris Howell

MĀLAMA DONORS (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

Benton Schools Credit Union
Jessica Brazil
The Hart Family Foundation
National Philanthropic Trust
Jodi Min
Hawaii Hotel Industry Foundation
Solomon Descollonges
Charles K Serpinas and Linda Harrison
Tomoko Okazaki

ALOHA DONORS (\$500 - \$999)

Fir Lawn Lutheran Church
Jennifer L. Frohring Charitable Fund
Ohana Ocean Adventures
Tomihiro Kameda
John E Goerlich Charitable Trust
Joshua Miller
Karen M Swartz



OHANA DONORS (UP TO \$499)

Sarah Porter
Makawao Union Chruch
Marianne Regan
Akari Ueoka
Colleen Works
Elizabeth Ditmore
Bright Fund, Inc
Gerald Lee Cross Jr
Leon Marielle
Carol Thomason
Esnes-Varga Family Fund
J Raymond
Patricia Parcells
Paul R Vecchi
Kelsey Amos
Lila Williams
PS Wood-Rinkus
Wolfgang Dengler
Kristin Komar
Jescelle Major
Julia Landes



"As a single mother, it has been so important to have this kind, loving, and supportive resource. I feel blessed to be a part of the Pacific Birth Collective community. The support from the supplies offered helps my little family immensely. I don't know where my mental health would be without the distribution center, Wellness Wednesdays, Therapeutic Thursdays, my Navigator, and the mommy and baby classes."

'OHANA SPOTLIGHT

"From the moment I joined the Pacific Birth Collective community, I felt an immediate sense of connection and belonging that will stay with me throughout my entire journey of motherhood. Pacific Birth Collective has supported me and my babies from prenatal to postpartum. It has been a pillar for my family and me throughout parenthood. From picking up food boxes to nourish me and my family, to attending Therapeutic Thursday and Wellness Wednesday to physically, mentally, and emotionally heal my body; it has been an amazingly transformative experience for us. I also had the incredible privilege of receiving a grant through the Community Birth Project to support me in having a doula with my pregnancy, which was such an unforgettable experience. I truly believe I couldn't have had a better journey."



SHAE LA SAKAMOTO AND KEIKI

WAYS TO GIVE TO PBC

GENERAL FUND

These unrestricted funds help fill the gaps in our programmatic and administrative costs.

SPONSOR A FAMILY

For \$100, you can support a mother's breastfeeding journey.

For \$600 a year, you can sponsor a family to ensure their access to necessary items and holistic care.

For \$1,000, you can ensure a mother has the care she needs to feel empowered during pregnancy or postpartum.

For \$2,000, you can support a family's access to home birth through midwifery care.

ADVOCACY

Advocacy funds allow us to amplify community voices, drive systemic change, and ensure that policies reflect the needs and values of our community.



Venmo



Paypal



Website

Donations by check can be made out & mailed to:
Pacific Birth Collective
PO Box 1121, Haiku, HI 96708





Pacific Birth Collective



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