

# If I could go back...

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**HOW TO BETTER PREPARE FOR NATURAL  
DISASTER AND BEYOND.**

Kate Ducheneau, Director of H&V Hawaii, Fire Survivor

Jennifer Clark, Secretary of H&V Hawaii

Paula Pittman, SKI-HI

"Because you never know  
when the day before ... is  
the day before. Prepare for  
tomorrow."

— Bobby Akart

## OUR MISSION

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To evoke conscious thought & conversation on pre-disaster preparedness and beyond for guardians and professionals whom work with the guardians of deaf & hard of hearing children on educational plans.

# MEET THE TEAM

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*Hands & Voices Hawaii  
Director*

## **Kate Ducheneau**

Kate's two children & spouse are Hard of Hearing. She is an advocate in the State of Hawaii and her local community for D/HH rights and access to equal and equitable education for D/HH individuals. Following the Lahaina Wildfires, Kate found calling in assisting families within her community and creating a guide for displaced families like hers as well as preparing other D/HH caregivers for natural disaster within their own communities.



*Hands & Voices Hawaii  
Secretary*

## **Jennifer Clark**

Jennifer Clark, M.A. is an Early Childhood Deaf and Hard of Hearing Specialist for the state of Hawaii. Jennifer is involved in many D/HH programs within the State of Hawaii including, Hands & Voices, Listen To Me! and State Early Intervention Programs. Her favorite part of working with families with deaf and hard of hearing children is connecting them with other families and helping them to build a network of support and resources.



*SKI-HI*

## **Paula Pitman**

Paula Pittman is the director of the SKI-HI and Deaf Mentor Outreach and Training Programs at the SKI-HI Institute at Utah State University, and has served as a National Trainer for the SKI-HI Institute since 1992. She was a co-creator of the Deaf Mentor Program and was involved in the development of the SKI-HI and Deaf Mentor Curriculum Manuals. As an early intervention practitioner, she has had the honor to serve families who have children who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf plus or deaf-blind since 1983.

# PLAN FOR THE BEST, PREPARE FOR THE WORST

## C.L.I.P.

### *Create.*

Create a separate email to have the child(ren) educational documents sent to. This makes the child's documents easily accessible in digital format and available for transfer across; schools, districts, and states.

Example:

S.D.IEP@gmail.com

R.D.504@gmail.com

### *Locate.*

Locate the next closest D/HH program to the child's current placement. Considerations for this placement should include: The child/families chosen communication modality, access to qualified professionals in the areas of need as identified on the child's educational plan and the amount of access to other D/HH peers .

### *Identify.*

Identify documents to request a digital copy of (these can be sent directly from the child's care coordinator to the created email)

Including but not limited to:

The child's communication plan

The child's IEP or 504 Plan

All Assessments Conducted

All PWN's

Specific Clinical or Educational recommendation's for the child.

### *Plan.*

Create a plan to keep the child's emailed documents organized. Using subject lines for easy search or organizing subjects into folders. Examples for folders or subject lines:

24-25 SY IEP

Current Assessments

Clinical or Educational

Reccomendations

Audiologist/ENT

PWNs

24-25 SY Contacts



## **C.L.I.P. APPLIED DAILY**

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- Natural disaster preparedness**
- Pediatric to adult transition of care**
- Preparation in the event of a medical emergency of the primary caregiver**
- Seamless transition of documents from guardian to guardian**
- Legal documentation for advocacy purposes**
- Transitioning children to and from foster care**
- Seamless educational transition from IFSP/IEP/504 and across districts or states**
- Easily accessible way to share documents across specialists, therapists, doctors and case workers (DOH/DOE/EI/MD)**

# FINAL THOUGHTS & ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

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The ultimate goal of our team is to create thought provoking conversation within communities on preparedness and to inform caregivers and those whom work with the caregivers of D/HH children of the things we have found to be the most essential to preparing themselves and their families in the event that a disaster were to occur.

## Additional Considerations:

- While email was discussed during this presentation, any easily accessible electronic storage space can be set up to store the child's medical and educational records and documents & be passcode encrypted for safety.
- If ever presented with an emergency evacuation situation, please ensure that the child(ren's) hearing devices are on the list of items evacuated with. Access to new audiological devices can take weeks to months.
- Families have the right to request a FEMA interpreter to be present during ANY conversations they may have, this ensures that the D/HH child has the same access to information that a hearing child would have.

# Mahalo Nui Loa!

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(THANK YOU SO MUCH)

For requests of any digital files from today's presentation  
please email:

[HV.Hawaii@gmail.com](mailto:HV.Hawaii@gmail.com)