

Deborah Kobayakawa

PROFILE

I'm a former Special Education teacher and I continue to remain active in the field of disability awareness, education, and programs to help individuals and their families to navigate the systems of care. I have the great joy of being the parent of a son with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. I've watched him grow into an independent, dynamic and contributing member of his community. It is my hope that all individuals with ID/DD will be able to realize their potential and live their life to the fullest.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Group Facilitator, Ho'omana Parent Support Group, (1/2018-Present)

(808)426-6879

hoomanagroups@gmail.com

<https://goo.gl/oTW8kz>

Supervisor: Dr. Aletha Sutton, District Education Specialist Autism, Windward HI-DOE

Co-Facilitator of parent support groups in the Windward District area of the Hawaii to address the needs of parents with students on the autism spectrum. Myself along with a co-facilitator have been able to create three groups from the ground up. We lead groups as parents of adult children with disabilities. We are funded via a contract with the Hawaii DOE through my business. We provide childcare, refreshments, and speakers.

Owner Operator, Heart To Heart Parent Consulting, (3/2016 to Present)

P.O. Box 5305

Kaneohe, HI 96744

debbie@Heart2HeartConsulting.net

As a Parent Consultant I assist parents experiencing difficulty navigating the systems of care for their child with a disability. This is often with the DOE and/or the DOH-DDD. I also assist families with understanding their documents like the ISP, IEP reports as well as assessments and how to be prepared for meetings. My focus is always on how to give them the skills they need to advocate for their child and how to find their voice.

Personal Assistant, Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, (8/2014-6/2016)

2610 Kilihau Street

Honolulu, HI 96819

(808) 836-0313

(PAB Worker)1:1 support to a young woman with ID/DD. Supported her during classes at community college, on campus and in the community. Responsible for monthly data sheets and case notes as well as implementing goals in the Individual Support Plan.

Parent Consultant, Learning Disabilities Association of Hawaii, (9/2009-1/2014)
245 N. Kukui Street, Suite 205 Honolulu, HI 96816
(808) 536-9684

As a Parent Consultant I provided case advocacy, parent training, and ran trainings and workshops state-wide on all PTI curriculum. In addition, I was responsible for coordinating an annual mini-conference. This involved working with multiple non-profit agencies, community resource groups, then finding and arranging all guest presenters.

Teaching Work Experience

Special Education Teacher, Queen Lili'uokalani School, (2008-2009)
3363 Waiialae Avenue Honolulu HI 96816 (school closed in 2010)

Direct instruction for Language Arts and Math instruction grades 4-6. Care coordination, educational programming and behavioral supports related to special education. Creating all individualized education programming, progress reports, annual reviews, conducting and facilitating IEP meetings.

Special Education Teacher, Heeia Elementary School, (2005-2008)
46-202 Haiku Road Kaneohe HI 96744

Direct instruction for Language Arts and Math instruction grades 4-6. Care coordination, educational programming and behavioral supports related to special education. Creating all individualized education programming, progress reports, annual reviews, conducting and facilitating IEP meetings.

Special Education Teacher, Queen Lili'uokalani School, (2001-2005)
3363 Waiialae Avenue Honolulu HI 96816

Fully self-contained classroom for students with significant disabilities, primarily Autism, grades K-3. Direct instruction for core academics, functional life and communication skills, positive behavioral supports and interventions. Providing highly individualized educational programs and creating highly structured classroom environment.

Special Education Teacher, Holualoa Elementary School (1997-2001)
Mamalaho Highway Holualoa HI 96745

Direct instruction for Language Arts and Math, grades K-5, with a full range of educational placements from resource room to fully self-contained. Care coordination, educational programming, behavioral supports related to special education.

EDUCATION

RISE PROGRAM (Recertification in Special Education; Aug 1997-June 1998)

Received certification in Special Education grades K-12, endorsed by Hawaii Department of Education and the University of Hawaii @ Hilo

University of Hawaii Hilo, (Jan 1993-Dec 1995)

200 W. Kawili St, Hilo HI 96720

Degree received: Certificate in Teaching Elementary Education

California College of Arts & Crafts,

5212 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94618

-Degree received: Bachelor of Fine Arts in Photography

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Parent Leadership Training Institute, Hawaii Children's Action Network, 9/2019-3/2020

Twenty week training program focusing on giving parents of all ages the skills they need to become and Parent and Community Leader. The program focuses on teaching parents to become change agents for the next generation.

Special Olympics Hawaii, Ohana Task Force (OTF) Windward Parent, 2006-Present

Volunteer at all Special Olympics State Games assisting family members with information, food, and resources. Serve as a point person for Windward families.

Windward Community Children's Council, 2010-Present

I am an active member of the Windward Community Children's Council both as a parent and a community resource with Ho'omana.

State Rehab Council (SRC), 2017-2018

Served as a representative for the Parent Training Information Center (PTI) as a parent volunteer to lend a parent perspective to the council as well as report on parent issues.

Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), 2010 to 2016

Represented the Parent Training Information Center (PTI) from 2010-2013, then from 2014- 2016 as just a parent representing the Windward area of Oahu. As a rep for the PTI I was also able to share parent experiences and concerns when relevant to the council.

-Personal references available upon request.