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PRESS RELEASE

PATCH will assist parents who need child care due to closures of Oahu Preschools

PATCH, Hawaii's only statewide child care resource and referral agency, can help the families facing closure of their child's preschool. Those that need a child care provider or a preschool facility can contact PATCH to get the most up-to-date list of referrals for child care, including preschools. For those who need assistance, or for any questions or concerns about child care, we are available to help at (808) 839-1988.

At PATCH, we are saddened and concerned by the news of the forthcoming closures of several Oahu Preschools:

- St. Timothy's Children's Center and Infant/Toddler Center in Aiea, open since 1977, which had an enrolment of over one hundred (100) children aged 2-5, will close on June 30th for renovations, and is not expected to reopen.
- Waipio Community Baptist Church Preschool in Waipahu, which served forty (40) 3-5 year old children, and has been open for 18 years, will close on 27th June.
- Ohana Baptist Church Preschool, serving forty-eight (48) 3-5 year olds at Salt Lake/Airport area, will also close at the end of August.

Ohana's Pastor, Patrick Smith, says that they are losing their lease and have not been able to secure a new place for their church and preschool, however "the preschool has been a very productive and good ministry and (they) would like to continue their mission" of providing Academic, Social, Physical and Spiritual skills.

PATCH's Executive Director, Katy Chen, wants parents of children who are being displaced by these closures to be aware of our services: "We here at PATCH understand

