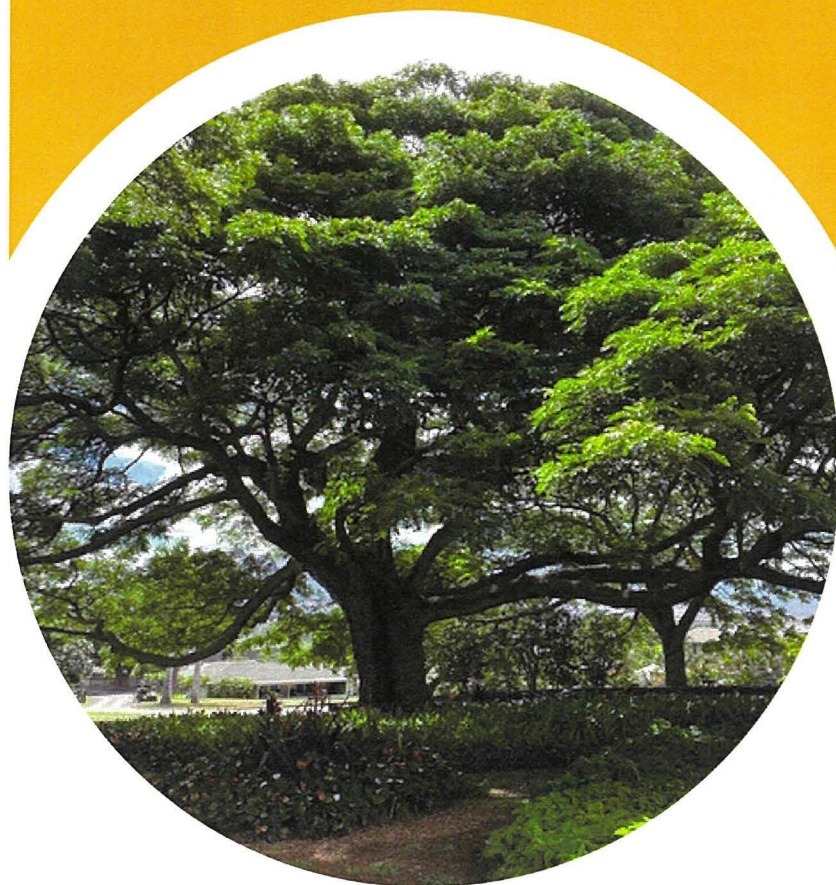




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Us!***




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# DISCOVER IMUA



care • community • play

The mission of Imua Family Services is to empower children and their families to reach their full potential. To achieve this, Imua will focus on creativity and culture beyond its existing programs and services.

RECEIVED 10/02/2023  
WASSP Committee Meeting  
From Dean Wong

**2024**

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# The Imua Manifesto

The spirit of "imua" invites and emboldens us to forge forward.

Since 1947, Imua Family Services has thrived on cultivating a culture of creativity. Today, Imua celebrates how play is at the heart that drives children's success onwards.

When we invite our community to Imua, we create spaces for children and their families to discover, nurture, and share a love for learning and the joy of caring for themselves as much as they do for others.

When we promote play, we promote a lifelong process of inner and outer discovery, helping each child (and every inner child) to learn and love something new about themselves, their community and culture, and their planet.

And since play can look, feel, and mean something different for everyone, championing play means - **every child** - **of any ability** - has the right to, and a place for, play.

Imua believes every child should have the opportunity to play, to experience the world through exploration and artistic expression, and to play their way to their full potential.





# The Imua Way


*"So at the very center of Imua:  
Creativity and Culture  
Integration of Play and Experiential Learning  
Trends for thriving in a 21st Century context"*

With the permanent acquisition of the Imua Discovery Garden in 2020, Imua Family Services has ensured that many new generations will be touched by The Imua Way.

In context of 2023–2028, Imua can shift mindsets in the greater scheme, beyond the nonprofit community, into community development trends, and engaging partners regionally and globally who are committed to the future of play and play integration.

The uniqueness of Imua's Wailuku property happens to fall within this context, itself embarking on a new history. Living histories will be made as it opens for the first time to the public for the enjoyment of children and their families.

Being rooted and grounded in place gives Imua unique advantages. From this new place, where internal changes occur, Imua can exert leadership that helps people to shift and thrive and play in early childhood, education, and community revitalization.



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## About Our Company

Established in 1947

Imua Family Services, through its various programs, seeks to help children reach their full potential through child-driven experiences, inspiring them to become joyful, active, engaged, and connected learners.

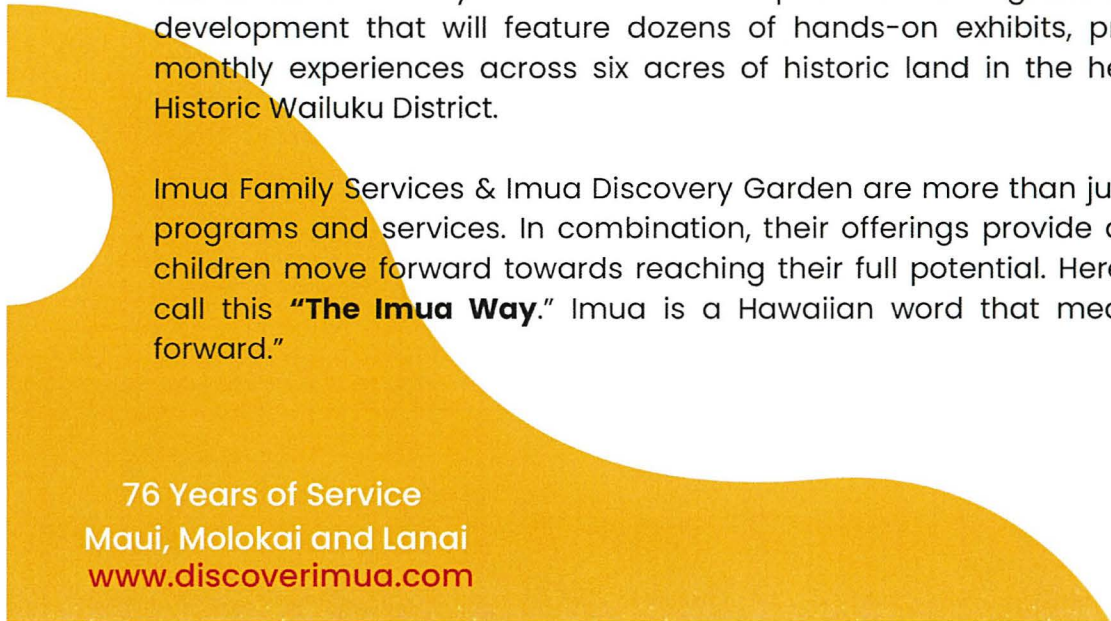
Established in 1947, Imua Family Services is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) committed to serving the early childhood developmental needs of children and their families by providing inclusive CARE services and PLAY programs that stimulate curiosity and motivate learning at developmentally appropriate levels.

**CARE** may include clinical services such as speech language pathology, physical and occupational therapy, applied behavioral analysis, special education, care coordination, and more.

**Play** programs may include Imua's Inclusion Preschool, Play Imua, Camp Imua, Dream Imua, and the Imua Discovery Garden.

The Imua Discovery Garden is a unique children's garden currently in development that will feature dozens of hands-on exhibits, programs, and monthly experiences across six acres of historic land in the heart of Maui's Historic Wailuku District.

Imua Family Services & Imua Discovery Garden are more than just a variety of programs and services. In combination, their offerings provide a way to help children move forward towards reaching their full potential. Here at Imua, we call this **"The Imua Way."** Imua is a Hawaiian word that means "to move forward."



76 Years of Service  
Maui, Molokai and Lanai  
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## Welcome Message

To quote the profound words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "If you can't fly, then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl. Whatever you do, keep moving forward." These words not only embody the spirit of Imua Family Services, they speak to the very work that we do with children each day. Quite literally, not every child can run or walk, not every child is able to speak, and others might have any number of other limitations, but at Imua we do not focus on the limitations - we focus on the possibilities. We strive daily to transform thoughts of the "impossible" into the belief that "I'm Possible."

At Imua, we build experiences with the intent to build connections and turn connections into relationships. In our mission statement, we state that we empower children to reach their full potential. How we define this potential is very important because it is not only defined as "success," it is defined as a child's ability to experience human kindness, joy, laughter, playfulness, and indeed, friendships. These are the human experiences that give us wings to fly.

Within this brief overview of what the Imua family is all about, you will learn that our mission, values, philosophy, services, and programs uniquely embody the Hawaiian word that means to move forward: "Imua." Together, these elements of **Care, Play, and Community** create what we now know as "The Imua Way."

### Dean Wong

Executive Director



The central five-year focus for Imua's growth is not only to be recognized for its advancement of play, but for the specialness of **The Imua Way**. It will create powerful experiences in the now, while evolving its sphere of influence (mission) through Hawaii and beyond. Meanwhile, Imua cherishes and protects what it already has: quality care and community.



# How We Work

## CARE

Since 1947, providing the best of Clinical, Therapeutic, & Developmental services to children, and support to their families.

Direct Services to children in Maui County include:

- Early Intervention
- Early Childhood Development Services
- Imua Autism Services
- Newborn Hearing Screening
- Healthcare Navigator

## PLAY

Imua Inclusion Preschool & all other Education Programs including Play and Space based programs. Including Integration of Alternative and Creative Models.

Learning Models for Play and Well Being encompass Inclusion and Nature.

- Imua Inclusion Preschool
- Play Imua
- Camp Imua
- Dream Imua
- Will Smith Imua Discovery Garden

## COMMUNITY

The agency's reach and visibility includes Partnerships, Community, Collaborations, and Networks (Local, Regional, National, and Global).

- Paddle Imua
- Pedal Imua
- Festivals of the World Signature Gala Fundraiser
- Color Festival Hawaii
- Imua Butterfly Festival
- Imua Keiki Halloween Festival
- Imua Keiki Holiday Festival



# Values & Mission



## Values

- **Cultural generosity** through in-person human experiences.
- Championing **creative vitality** for **all communities** of Maui.
- An unwavering commitment to **sharing joy** with **children of all abilities**.
- Placing **play** at the heart of all these things.

## Mission

Imua is a Hawaiian word that means "to move forward."

**The mission of Imua Family Services is to empower children and their families to reach their full potential.** To achieve this, Imua will focus on creativity and culture beyond its existing programs and services.

Specifically, our task together in a new phase of growth for Imua is to

- Integrate play and experiential learning.
- Be visible and active in emerging trends for thriving in the 21st century.

**Moving forward is experiential.  
Play is experiential.**

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# Milestones

## 2015

Completed the Imua Family Services Early Childhood Development Center in Kahului, Maui. In addition to new state-of-the-art therapy facilities, the new space also became the home of Imua Inclusion Preschool.

## 2020

With the permanent acquisition of the Imua Discovery Garden in late 2020, Imua Family Services has ensured that many new generations will be touched by The Imua Way.

Imua Discovery Garden is a unique children's garden that will ultimately feature more than 20 hands-on exhibits, programs, and monthly experiences across six acres of historic land in the heart of Maui's Historic Wailuku District.

## 2023

Imua Family Services & Imua Discovery Garden are more than just a collection of programs and services. In combination, their offerings provide "a way" to help children move forward towards reaching their full potential. We call this "The Imua Way." Imua is a Hawaiian word that means "to move forward."

Imua is connected to living history. The Imua Way embraces evolving trends for thriving in the 21st century, aware that children are adapting in a fast-moving world.



# Our Plan



## Play it Forward

For the next decade, Imua's growth model is based on championing creativity and experiential learning through the Imua Discovery Garden – a national place for play. With Imua, all are invited to discover the power of play at their own pace, in their own way.

This overview of Imua's next five years (2023-2027) desires to achieve these outcomes:

- Shuffle roles to integrate, preserve, and re-define Imua's unique heritage;
- Develop prototype materials, convenings, and workshops;
- Launch a regional strategy and consulting arm for community inclusion;
- Build brand identity as a progressive leader of play in the Pacific and beyond;

Uniquely, Imua is a social service agency already focused on inclusive play for children of all abilities, which includes children with disabilities, developmental delays, and special needs.

