**Hawaii Youth Opportunities Initiative (EPIC ‘Ohana, Inc.)**

**HI H.O.P.E.S. Youth Leadership Board Application**

**What is the HI H.O.P.E.S. Youth Leadership Board?**

The HI H.O.P.E.S. Youth Leadership Board is part of the Hawaii Youth Opportunities Initiative and the Youth Advisory Council for the Department of Human Services-Child Welfare Services division. They are made up of a select group of current and former foster youth between the ages of 14-26th birthday. The Board works to provide successful transitions into adulthood for foster youth. Some activities of the Board include monthly board meetings, various trainings, presenting legislative testimony, speaking engagements, participating in community events, developing an advocacy agenda and grant-making. HI H.O.P.E.S. Board members receive compensation for their work.

**Eligibility Requirements:**

* You are currently or were formerly in foster care
* You are between the ages of 14 and 25, AND
* You live on O’ahu, AND
* **You have the time and willingness to ATTEND and PARTICIPATE fully in monthly meetings and other trainings, events and advocacy work.**

**STEP 1: FILL OUT APPLICATION**

**Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Nickname/What You Want to Be Called: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Age: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Still in Foster Care? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Social Worker: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Ethnicity/Nationality (optional): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Current School (if attending): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Hobbies/Talents:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Why Do You Want to Serve on the Youth Leadership Board?**

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**Please tell us anything else about yourself that you would like to share:**

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**STEP 2: WRITE A SHORT ESSAY ABOUT AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:**

**1) Your suggestions for improvement in the foster care system.**

**2) The challenges of young people aging out of foster care and what should be done to assist them in this process.**

**STEP 3: SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION AND ESSAY**

**STEP 4: INTERVIEWS: If you are selected to be interviewed, you will be contacted by Delia Ulima to set up an interview with the HI HOPES board on O‘ahu. You will be notified after the interview regarding your selection status for the Board.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Submit all applications/essays to:**

**Delia Ulima, EPIC ‘Ohana, Inc.**

**Email: dulima@epicohana.org Phone: 748-7052 Fax: 748-7919**

**Mail: 1130 N. Nimitz Hwy, Ste. C-210, Honolulu, HI 96817**

Thank you for your application! You will be contacted about the status of your application via email, phone or mail. Please contact Delia Ulima with any questions regarding the HI HOPES Youth Leadership Board. Mahalo!