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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AS GRADUATION SEASON BEGINS, CLOTHING DRIVE WILL HELP SEND LOCAL STUDENTS TO COLLEGE

HONOLULU — This Mother’s Day weekend, the [United Cerebral Palsy Association of Hawai’i](#) and the [Hawai’i Government Employees Association](#) (HGEA) are teaming up to help send local students to college. Together, they will host a clothing drive on **Saturday, May 8, 2021** to help fund HGEA’s [Charles R. Kendall Scholarship and Russell K. Okata Education Fund](#) that has given more than 2,000 scholarship awards since 1966.

The drive also helps fund the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Hawai’i’s work to create a life without limits for the estimated 4,100 people in Hawai’i diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy. The United Cerebral Palsy Association of Hawai’i buys back all clothing donations from community fundraising drives, and sells the items in partnering SAVERS stores. Clothing drive partnerships with community leaders like HGEA generate nearly 70% of the funding for the nonprofit’s annual programs.

“Teaming up with HGEA is a win-win,” said **Keane Akao, Executive Director of the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Hawai’i**. “This drive will help HGEA fund valuable scholarships for local families,

and help us continue to provide outreach and support programs for nearly 4,100 people in Hawai'i with Cerebral Palsy."

"As a public school educator, I am proud to play a part in helping students achieve their goal to go to college. Yet rising costs have made that goal out of reach for too many," said **Derek Minakami, HGEA CR Kendall Fundraising Chair and Kaneohe Elementary Principal**. "On May 8, you can play a part by simply cleaning your closets of the clothing and household items that no longer spark joy and donating it to our HGEA - United Cerebral Palsy Clothing Drive."

Donation Requirements:

- Acceptable donations include: Clothing, outerwear, shoes, bedding, pillows, curtains, towels, tablecloths, and accessories like purses, belts and scarves. No large appliances, mattresses, furniture, and food can be accepted.
- HGEA kindly requests separating clothing and textiles from footwear and accessories.

Event Details:

- **Date:** Saturday May 8, 2021
- **Time:** 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
- **Location:** Drive by donations will be accepted by HGEA staff at 888 Mililani Street (Pedestrian Mall)*

Appointments: Drop off appointments can be made at <https://unitedcerebralpalsyhawaii.org/hgea-sign-up/>. Day of drop offs are also welcome.

**No parking is available on Mililani Street. Please stay in your vehicle when dropping off donations, wear a mask, and follow social distancing guidelines.*

The Charles R. Kendall Scholarship and Russell K. Okata Education Fund is available to HGEA members and their dependents who are attending or plan to attend on a full-time basis a university, college, community college, vocational or trade school, or pursue other post-high school study. HGEA is Hawai'i's largest public-sector labor union, with approximately 37,000 members across the state.

Cerebral Palsy is America's most common motor disability in childhood; it's a condition caused by damage to the brain usually occurring before, during, or following birth, affecting both body movement and muscle coordination.

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About the United Cerebral Palsy Association

Founded in 1959, United Cerebral Palsy Association of Hawai'i (UCP Hawai'i) is a Honolulu-based 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. Its mission is to positively impact the quality of life for children and adults with a cerebral palsy diagnosis or other disabilities with similar service needs in Hawai'i. Its vision is to empower individuals with choices that provide opportunities for independence and success: a life without limits for people with disabilities.

UCP Hawai'i provides specialized therapy for children and support services for families, serving as an indispensable resource for individuals with cerebral palsy, one of the most severe childhood motor disabilities.

For more information visit unitedcerebralpalsyhawaii.org.