

THE MAUI NEWS

MAUI'S NEWSPAPER SINCE 1900

[Print this Page](#)

[«--back to story](#)

Child weight control program offered

Obesity one of the most pressing concerns in Hawaii

POSTED: May 11, 2008

WAILUKU — A childhood weight control training program, the Hawaii Pediatric Weight Management Toolkit, will be offered by the Pediatric Foundation of Hawaii on Thursday at Maui Memorial Medical Center.

The pediatric weight management training, emphasizing intervention with parent and child, is designed for primary care pediatricians, family practitioners, nurse practitioners, public health nurses and registered dietitians.

There is no cost to participants. The session will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Marion Hanlon room at MMMC.

Developed by the Pediatric Foundation of Hawaii and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Hawaii Chapter, the program seeks to deal with childhood obesity, which the medical agencies say is one of the most pressing health care concerns in Hawaii today.

"Obesity in childhood has been associated with a growing incidence of type II diabetes and other chronic adult diseases," the announcement said.

"Pediatrics Island Style: A Hawaii Approach to Pediatric Weight Management" first was presented to medical practitioners at a session on Oahu last year. Dr. Galen Chock, a pediatrician and member of the Hawaii AAP, said the agencies are extending the training to physicians and pediatrics providers on the Neighbor Islands to provide guidance in evaluating and treating cases of overweight children.

The tool-kit materials take into consideration local food preferences and activities to make the information culturally relevant to Hawaii families, with the Pediatric Foundation saying that "parent-focused interventions show the greatest promise for creating persistent or long-term changes in children's diet and physical activity."

The training program is supported by the HMSA Foundation and Mead Johnson Nutritionals.

Information on the tool kit and the training can be found at www.pfoh.org or by contacting Chock at gchock@aap.net.

[Subscribe to Maui News](#)