



# Nā Leo 'Ōhana

March 2022

## Patricia “Patty” Duh

By Nicole Trost



Patricia Duh is an employee with EPIC ‘Ōhana, Inc. primarily as the Pono Process Lead. She has served 7 years as the HI H.O.P.E.S. Youth Leadership Board president on Kaua‘i since 2013. Patricia has also been an active Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Young Fellow since 2016 and is a member of the National Advisory Committee since 2018. Patricia is passionate about ensuring visitation between siblings in foster care and ensuring that youth in foster care are afforded the opportunities to engage in normal activities and experiences. Patricia recently obtained her Bachelor’s Degree in social sciences – Psychology.

### *What were some of the challenges as a young person in foster care?*

“Not being able to connect with my siblings.” Patty entered foster care twice since the age of 13 years old and was placed in 6 different foster homes. Some placements were challenging however the last one made a positive impact on her life. The family took an interest in her “whole life.” She found it shocking that this family not only cared for her but also her siblings and parents. Patty recalled times when they asked her, “How is your family doing? Have you checked in with your sister lately?” Although separated from her family and siblings, they still encouraged and valued her connection with them and it made a profound impact on her life.

As an adult, Patty decided to become a resource caregiver and strives to make change in other young people that are in foster care. She stated, “I knew that I wanted to do something bigger than me.” Patty has been able to help create and experience many facets of change in the Child Welfare System including Normalcy & Prudent Parenting, Foster Youth Bill of Rights, the Pono process and advocacy done across the state.

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***What is some advice you'd like to share with current resource caregivers?***

"It's really important to get to know young people in care, not just understanding their trauma, but seeing them as young people, getting to know their family, encouraging that connection, and provide stability for them. Understanding our role and recognizing the importance of their connection with their parents and siblings."

***What are some changes seen across our system?***

"Recognizing parents, young people in care, and resource caregivers as team players. It's encouraging to see effort and changes being made. There has been much more communication with the child welfare team, service providers, and the community working together to better our community."

***Any last thoughts?***

Just remember, "You could be the vision holder for a youth in care."



**DID YOU KNOW...**

**Travel has been restricted for all children in foster care**

**For exceptions and more information, please review the Memo for TRAVEL FOR CHILDREN DURING COVID-19 or contact your CWS licensing worker or child's CWS caseworker**

Rhea Lana's®  
THE NATION'S PREMIER CHILDREN'S CONSIGNMENT EVENT VENUE™

Rhea Lana's Honolulu would like to invite Oahu's licensed resource caregivers and permanent families to come "shop" at the close of their Children's Consignment Event for FREE!

- Open to all licensed resource caregivers, adoptive, and legal guardianship families.
- Please honor the intent and generosity of Rhea Lana's consigners by shopping only for the children in your immediate family.
- Share this event with other eligible families.
- Items cannot be put on hold.
- For more information, visit their website at: [www.honolulu.rhealana.com](http://www.honolulu.rhealana.com)

Date:

Monday March 7, 2022

Time:

5:30pm—6:30pm

Event Location:

Pearlridge Center— Former Toys R Us Location  
98-211 Pali Momi St. #B  
Aiea, HI 96701

To participate you must

RSVP at: <https://www.facebook.com/events/288213169958480>

Bring a printed copy of this flyer or show this event flyer on your mobile device.

Bring your issued DHS foster care license

No guests, please.





**FOSTERING BEGINS HERE.**

PROJECT PILINA LAUNCHES

# "I BELONG" Campaign

**STATEWIDE GENERAL-LICENSE RECRUITMENT EVENTS**



STUDENTS K-12 ARE ASKED TO REFLECT IN THEIR ENTRY  
**what "Belonging" means to them.**



**Contact us for more information about  
Fostering & Statewide recruitment events!**

**WWW.PIDF.ORG**  **PROJECTPILINA**

## GENERAL LICENSE RECRUITMENT TEAM



**KAUA'I  
MONICA**

**O'AHU  
BRANDON**

**EAST HAWAI'I  
MICHELE**

**MAUI COUNTY  
GABRIELLA**

**WEST HAWAI'I  
CHELSEA**

# RESOURCE CAREGIVER SUPPORT SERVICES



## Resource Caregiver Warm Line

Contact information:

O'ahu: 808-545-1130

Neighbor Island: 1-866-545-0882

Email: [warmline@catholiccharitieshawaii.org](mailto:warmline@catholiccharitieshawaii.org)

- Available 365 days a year
- Learn about community programs and services that are available to develop your skills as a resource caregiver
- Receive non-crisis emotional support
- Register for events, trainings and/or support groups
- Have questions about Hawai'i's foster care system? Then give us a call

## Training

- Pre-service H.A.N.A.I. Training Schedule (required for all new resource caregivers)
- Developed for resource caregivers to enhance your skills to meet the needs of children in foster care
- Training options include: live webinars, access to recording of past resource caregiver conferences, online videos, interactive multimedia, on-demand courses and more
- All trainings have been vetted by DHS and you will receive training hour credits (required to renew your license)

## Support Groups

- Offered monthly
- Topic focus (Grandparents, Taking Care of Teenagers, Statewide Groups)

You can also access on-demand trainings and register for upcoming trainings, at any time, through a mobile app for Hawai'i's resource caregivers (Hawaii Foster Care Connections).

Download the app for FREE in the Google Play or Apple's App Store.



HAWAII  
**FOSTER CARE  
CONNECTIONS**



**AVAILABLE NOW**

Hawaii Foster Care Connections is a place for Resource Families to connect with helpful support services, community resources, and most importantly, each other.



Available on the  
**App Store**



GET IT ON  
**Google Play**



## SIBLING CONNECTIONS CORNER

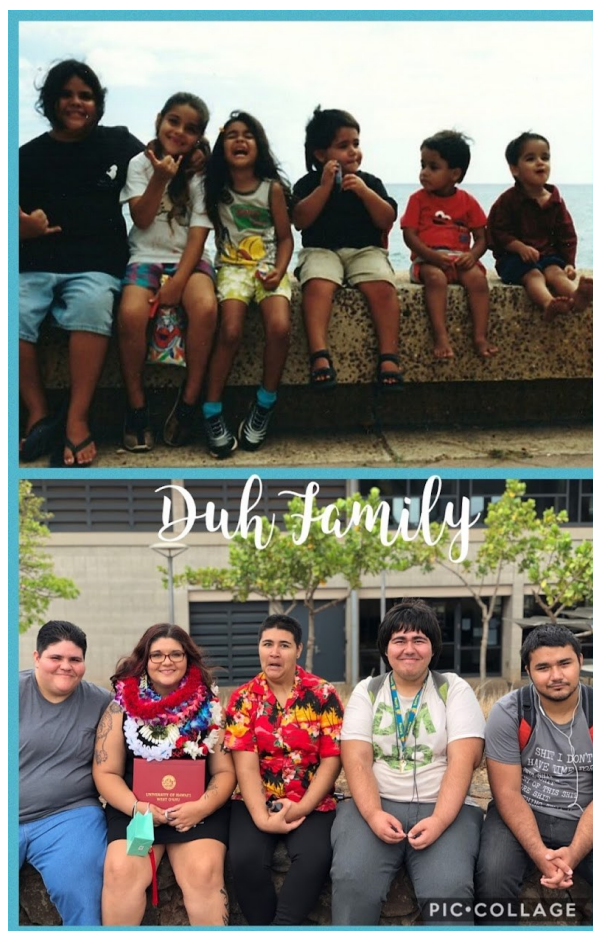
Our first Sibling Connections Corner story comes from a young leader, advocate, and professional with lived experience in the foster care system in Hawai'i. Her words remind us all, as caregivers, of the vital importance of ensuring that siblings remain connected throughout their time in care. These relationships have life-long impacts on their well-being and sense of family.

### Patty's Story

I first entered the foster care system in May of 2005 with 5 siblings. There were 6 of us total. We were always separated, as it was very hard to find a family that was willing to take in 6 children. I personally experienced 6 different homes and I was fortunate enough to have been placed with at least 1 sibling in 4 of those homes. Our connections, early on, were limited to visitations with my parents, in which all the siblings came together for short, supervised visits with them. I recall us “competing” for our parents’ attention because we rarely saw them.

As we grew older, we became disconnected for years. I didn't even know that my younger brothers were just a few roads down from where I lived at the time. My mom did an amazing job at reminding us about the importance of having one another. It was through those reminders that I then started to ask about my siblings to anyone I came across (social workers, GALs, resource caregivers, etc.). I wondered how my siblings were doing. When would I see them? Were they still into drawing or Pokémon? I was lucky that during the latter half of my teenage years, we were able to connect briefly through Family Programs Hawai'i's Project Visitation and I still have photos of those visits.

Unfortunately, once my siblings were reunited with our father, the relationship became strained again and we lost touch. My siblings and I are all adults now and it was traumatic attempting to re-establish a relationship with my siblings who felt more like strangers. Our circumstances were drastically different, ranging from homelessness and living on different islands to military involvement. I'm thankful that we were all willing and never stopped believing in the power of having brothers and sisters and the love we all knew we had for one another. I'm



*Left to Right: Luane Ramos-Dub, Patricia Dub, Duanna White, Duane Dub Jr. Dwight Dub, and Dumvine Dub*

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proud to say that my daughter knows her aunts and her uncles. Sibling connections are so important because at the end of the day, we can lean on one another, we can help each other heal and grow from the trauma we've experienced.

My siblings are an important part of my life and my well-being. Ensuring they are safe, loved, and cared for provides me a sense of peace. Although we lost a lot of precious time together while in foster care, today we can design the kind of connections that work for our individual needs and circumstances. Whether we are sharing a home or playing video games together online, I'm grateful that the value of family that our mother helped instill in us at a young age, continues to guide us through our lives.

***“My siblings  
are an  
important  
part of my  
life and my  
well-being.”***

Patricia Duh

Kauai HI H.O.P.E.S. Advisor/Pono Process Lead, EPIC 'Ōhana, Inc.

**Sibling Connections Corner** is dedicated to uplifting stories and information that highlights and promotes policy, practice and supports which ensure brothers and sisters maintain consistent, quality relationships while in foster care and beyond.



## Faith



**Dave Thomas  
Foundation  
for Adoption®**

**Wendy's  
Wonderful Kids®**

Faith is a sixteen-and-a-half-year-old girl who lights up the room with her smile and her laughter. She has dark brown hair and warm brown eyes, and is currently in high school and excelling in her classes. Faith has a strong desire to learn as much as she can, and although initially shy, can carry on a conversation with anyone she comes in contact with, if given enough time.

Some of Faith's favorite things to do are: dance the hula, participate in martial arts and play volleyball. She has a strong competitive drive, a playful personality, and loves being able to experience new adventures whenever she gets the chance.

Faith has experienced a disrupted placement, but is still hopeful (despite her age) that her team will find her a forever home that is truly the right fit for her. She longs to be in a home that wants her around, and is hopeful she will find a family who shares in the many interests she has to explore the world.

*Wendy's Wonderful Kids seeks to find good homes for great kids in tough situations.  
If you are interested in learning more about Faith and her need for permanent, nurturing connections,  
please contact*

*Mindy Chung, Wendy's Wonderful Kids Recruiter at 808-521-9531 or  
by email at [mindy@familyprogramshawaii.org](mailto:mindy@familyprogramshawaii.org).*



## CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

Aloha Resource Caregivers,

My name is Brandi Yamamoto and I am a Resource Home Licensing Worker on the Island of Kaua'i. I wanted to take this time to say mahalo for providing homes for our foster children in need. With the increase of children coming into foster care and being in the midst of a global pandemic, it may seem like your hard work and dedication is overlooked. I want you to know that we appreciate all that you do to ensure that our foster children are provided with a safe and stable home. You and your families play a key part in the work that we do, and we definitely would not be successful without you!

Please know that we are here to support you in any way that we can. CWS social workers strive to help families work through the difficulties that resulted in their children being taken into care. As a Resource Home licensing worker it's important to ask, "How are you and your family doing? What do you need?" We can also help with bridging the communication gap, if any, between you and the child's social worker. Please know that we will do our best to provide you with any resources that can aid in the foster care process. I encourage resource caregivers to ask questions whenever they arise. If we do not have an immediate answer for you, rest assured that we will be able to find one for you. From my experience in working with resource caregivers, these questions have been helpful, and are the most common, to ask the social worker/licensing worker when preparing to accept a child into your home:

- *How old is the child and do they have any siblings?*
- *What school, if any, does the child attend?*
- *What will the visitation plan be like?*
- *Do/es the child/ren have any behavioral issues or dietary needs/restrictions?*

- *Is the child involved in any community/after-school activities?*
- *Has the child been diagnosed with any illnesses?*
- *Do/es the child/ren take any medications?*

Most of this information should eventually be included in the Child Information Folder that you receive from the child's social worker. However, knowing this information ahead of time can assist for a smoother transition when accepting a placement.

Once again, thank you very much for all that you and your families do to support Hawai'i's children in foster care! We look forward to working with you to provide safe and stable homes for our foster children!

*By Brandi Yamamoto,  
Kaua'i CWS Resource Home Licensing Worker*

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS: Department of Human Services reporting:

**Suspected Child Abuse  
and/or Neglect:  
(808)532-5300 or  
(toll free) 1-888-380-3088**

**Suspected Child Trafficking:  
(808)832-1999 or  
(toll free) 1-888-398-1188  
Toll-free Fax: 1-888-988-6638**

**All numbers available  
24 hours a day  
7 days**

## MAHALO for your Christmas Gifts!

We were fortunate to have donors provide gifts to children and families on O'ahu, Maui, and East Hawai'i.

We appreciate all of your support!

Gifts and donations were provided by Hamakua Baptist Church (East Hawai'i)

Maui United Way,  
St. Anthony-Wailuku,  
St. Theresa-Kihei and Friends of the  
Children's Justice Center (Maui)

Primary Residential Mortgage Inc. and  
Engel and Volkers, Cori Ballow and  
friends (O'ahu )



*Left to Right: Maria, AJ Frost, Sarah Begley, Leilani Frost (Catholic Charities Hawai'i Staff & Volunteer)*



*Gifts from Hamakua Baptist for East Hawai'i*

### APRIL

National Child Abuse  
Prevention Month



### April

National Child Abuse Prevention Month recognizes the importance of families and communities working together to strengthen families to prevent child abuse and neglect.

### May is Foster Care Month



Each May, we take time to acknowledge foster parents, family members, volunteers, mentors, policymakers, child welfare professionals, and other members of the community who help children and youth in foster care find permanent homes and connections and celebrate those who make a meaningful difference in their lives.



### June

National Reunification Month is celebrated in June of each year to recognize the people and efforts around the country that help families stay together.



# Upcoming Events

Please join us for any of our upcoming events, conveniently available online.  
Most of the events listed below will be done on Zoom.

To register for upcoming trainings and/or support groups, visit the Hawaii Resource Caregiver Licensing Website/Portal at <https://rcg.hawaii.gov> or via the mobile app for resource caregivers “Hawaii Foster Care Connections” (download for FREE in the Google Play or Apple App store).

## **MARCH 2022**

<a href="#"><u>Pono Process &amp; Adult Self-Advocacy</u></a>	March 3, 2022 at 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Training
<a href="#"><u>Recruitment Info Session</u></a>	March 11, 2022 at 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Recruitment
<a href="#"><u>Grandparents Support Group</u></a>	March 15, 2022 at 12:00 pm - 1:15 pm	Support Group
2022 Hawai'i Spring Break Celebration “After Party” at Wet’N’Wild (O’ahu)	March 19, 2022 at 10:30 am - 9:00 pm	Recruitment
<a href="#"><u>2022 Hawai'i Spring Art Contest</u></a>	Deadline March 21, 2022	Recruitment
<a href="#"><u>Support Group for Caregivers with Teens</u></a>	March 21, 2022 at 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Support Group
<a href="#"><u>Training for Chuukese Families</u></a>	March 31, 2022 at 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Training

## **APRIL 2022**

### **Child Abuse Prevention Month**

<a href="#"><u>Statewide Support Group</u></a>	April 13, 2022 at 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Support Group
<a href="#"><u>Info Session (Statewide)</u></a>	April 14, 2022 at 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Recruitment
<a href="#"><u>Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)</u></a>	April 14, 2022 at 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Training
<a href="#"><u>Grandparents Support Group</u></a>	April 20, 2022 at 12:00 pm - 1:15 pm	Support Group
<a href="#"><u>Trauma in Children and How it Shows Up</u></a>	April 26, 2022 at 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Training

## **MAY 2022**

### **May is Foster Care Month**

<a href="#"><u>Info Session (Statewide)</u></a>	May 2, 2022 at 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Recruitment
<a href="#"><u>Sexual Abuse 101</u></a>	May 5, 2022 at 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Training
<a href="#"><u>Statewide Support Group</u></a>	May 11, 2022 at 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Support Group
<a href="#"><u>Grandparents Support Group</u></a>	May 25, 2022 at 12:00 pm - 1:15 pm	Support Group

## **JUNE 2022**

### **National Reunification Month**

<a href="#"><u>Statewide Support Group</u></a>	June 8, 2022 at 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Support Group
<a href="#"><u>Info Session (Statewide)</u></a>	June 14, 2022 at 9:00 am - 10:00 am	Recruitment
<a href="#"><u>Pono Process: Self Advocacy</u></a>	June 14, 2022 at 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Training
<a href="#"><u>Grandparents Support Group</u></a>	June 15, 2022 at 12:00 pm - 1:15 pm	Support Group
<a href="#"><u>Antecedent Behavior Consequences</u></a>	June 16, 2022 at 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Training

Please contact the Resource Caregiver Warmline  
at (808) 545-1130 for any questions.

# Fun in the Sun

One of the best parts of living on the island is access to the beaches. Other than the occasional jellyfish sting, beach time is about play time, adventure, and enjoying the 'Aina. Another idea to make your outing more enjoyable is to add activities. Here is one that you can use the next time you are out and about. For younger children, finding the items throughout the day can be the goal; for teens, make it into a competition for the fastest or have them use their camera phones to take pictures of the "treasure hunt". Make it fun for every age!

*Submitted by Joey Gomez*

*O'ahu CWS Resource Home Licensing Worker*

## Beach Scavenger Hunt

- ☐ 1. Seashell 
- ☐ 2. Periwinkle shell 
- ☐ 3. Seaweed | 
- ☐ 4. Beach glass 
- ☐ 5. Piece of Litter 
- ☐ 6. Something round 
- ☐ 7. Feather 
- ☐ 8. Beach grass 
- ☐ 9. Crab shell 
- ☐ 10. "Treasure" 

The Nā Leo 'Ohana Newsletter  
is published quarterly by  
Catholic Charities Hawai'i  
1822 Keeaumoku Street  
Honolulu, HI 96822

Contact information:  
WarmLine: (808) 545-1130  
E-mail: [RCGSupportServices@CatholicCharitiesHawaii.org](mailto:RCGSupportServices@CatholicCharitiesHawaii.org)

This newsletter may be viewed  
on the following:  
Website: <https://rcg.hawaii.gov>  
Facebook: Resource Caregiver Support Services



**GO GREEN!**

Contact us today and request an electronic copy!

How can we best contact you?  
Please click on the link below or scan  
the QR Code from any mobile device  
or tablet.

Here is the link:

<https://forms.office.com/g/mKRJXpKhBQ>



The Nā Leo 'Ohana Newsletter

*Contributing Writers*

*State of Hawai'i Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Services ~ Catholic Charities Hawai'i  
Partners In Development Foundation ~ Family Programs Hawai'i—Wendy's Wonderful Kids ~ EPIC 'Ohana, Inc.  
Resource Caregivers ~ Adoptive Parents ~ Former Youth in Foster Care*





# ONGOING TRAINING RESOURCES

## PRE-APPROVED DHS HOURS

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2022 | *RESOURCE CAREGIVERS, ADOPTIVE PARENTS, LEGAL GUARDIANS, AND SERVICE PROVIDERS*

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**Each** licensed resource caregiver is required to complete ongoing training hours every year in order for their license to be renewed. Please keep a copy of your certificate of completion or “DHS Training Verification” form to verify the number of training hours earned. Please upload all training certificates or “DHS Training Verification” form’s, for every training, into your Resource Caregiver Licensing Portal.

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### Child Welfare Services Live Virtual Training’s

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- Visit the “trainings” page at <http://rcg.hawaii.gov> to register and see a list of all upcoming and live DHS training’s

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### “Hawaii Foster Care Connections” Mobile App

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Visit the Apple App Store (iPhone, iPad) or Google Play Store (Android devices), search for “**Hawaii Foster Care Connections**” and download to your device

- Access previously recorded trainings and conferences under the “training” tab
- To receive training hour credits, complete the short quiz in the Vimeo Description box **OR** complete the “DHS Training Certification” form (only if you did not receive a certificate) and upload to your RCG Licensing Portal account

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### Foster Parent College

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- Online interactive training courses for resource caregivers that is available 24/7 and approved by DHS
- This is a **FREE** service for resource caregivers paid for by DHS. To receive pre-paid credits, contact the **Resource Caregiver Warmline** (808-545-1130 or [RCGSupportServices@catholiccharitieshawaii.org](mailto:RCGSupportServices@catholiccharitieshawaii.org))
- To add more credits, contact the **Resource Caregiver Warmline**
- To receive training hour credits, upload training certificate to your RCG Licensing Portal account

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### Lending Library

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- Review the list of all available pre-recorded trainings on the RCG Website then contact the **Resource Caregiver Warmline** (808-545-1130 or [RCGSupportServices@catholiccharitieshawaii.org](mailto:RCGSupportServices@catholiccharitieshawaii.org)) and a DVD will be mailed to you
- To receive training hour credits, complete the short quiz in the Vimeo Description box **OR** complete the “DHS Training Certification” form (only if you did not receive a certificate) and upload to your RCG Licensing Portal account

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## The Parent Line (Department of Health Service)

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- The Parent Line offers **FREE** monthly virtual trainings. All trainings have been approved by DHS for resource caregivers to earn training hour credits
- Please visit <http://www.theparentline.org/> or call them at (808) 526-1222 for their monthly flyer which includes trainings offered (*Registration is processed by calling The Parent Line*)
- To receive training hour credits, upload your training certificate **OR** complete the "DHS Training Certification" form (only if you did not receive a certificate) and upload to your RCG Licensing Portal account

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## Patch Hawaii (DHS Child Care Licensing Service)

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- Create an account at: <https://collabornation.net/login/patchhawaii>
- For step-by-step instructions to create a FREE account, visit [www.patchhawaii.org](http://www.patchhawaii.org) and click on the "Train with Patch" tab, scroll down and click on "Instructions to Register for Patch Online Course"
- To see a list of FREE courses available, visit [www.patchhawaii.org](http://www.patchhawaii.org) and click on the "Train with Patch" tab, scroll down and click on "Training Catalog"
- To receive training hour credits, upload your training certificate **OR** complete the "DHS Training Certification" form (only if you did not receive a certificate) and upload to your RCG Licensing Portal account