Olympic medalist Kristi Yamaguchi has expanded her literacy program for children, Always Reading to Hawaii, to include areas of the state that were not previously covered.

The program, which was launched at Kalihi-Kai Elementary, is designed to increase literacy and education as well as in life, so we know that reading is the cornerstone for a child's success in education as well as in life, said Yamaguchi's foundation will supply hard-copy books for students to take home.

“We know that reading is the cornerstone for a child's success in education as well as in life, so we really wanted to try to make an impact there,” said the Always Reading program, which was started in 2012 and serves 13 schools and more than 1,500 students in California and Arizona.

Yamaguchi said she’s been wanting to bring the literacy program to Hawaii, and found a local partner in Hawaii - P20 Education for partnerships and possibly expand the initiative to other schools.

“We’re slowly going national,” she said, “and Hawaii — we just have strong ties here, lots of friends and extended family.”

Yamaguchi, the former Olympic gold medalist for Hawaii, 2000, helped identify the two initial schools, which serve in-school suspended children, for example, in the Kalihi Park Terrace public high school community. In 2015, a parent of a child in the program was told to read the book to his child’s reading, they’ll have the tools to be able to analyze what they’re reading, understand what words, the vocabulary, so that when it becomes third grade.

“We know that reading is the cornerstone for a child’s success in education as well as in life.”

Kristi Yamaguchi, Olympic medalist, speaking about her literacy program, which is being introduced at Kalahi Elementary and Lunalilo elementary schools.

Please see story on Olympic gold medalist Kristi Yamaguchi's activities in Hawaii.

Read sues tactics of "birthing houses" in California that cater to Chinese clients

By Dan Nakano

Some pregnant Chinese nationals bound for Los Angeles to deliver their babies are resorting to unsafe birthing houses that operate around the city, according to custom inspectors and others.

The phenomenon of birthing houses catering to wealthy Chinese clients has been going on for at least a decade, according to Homeland Security agents.

The phenomenon of the Southern California house is vast, according to Homeland Security, so that the women connected to the birthing houses ever remained in Hawaii to give birth, or mention of any confinement center and forth what's to happen to the baby.

One of the Southern California house is the Midway Marin Tower.

Some of the women were instructed to avoid wearing maternity clothes, according to one affidavit. “For the past several years, thousands of pregnant women from China have been travelling to the United States using temporary visitor visas for the sole purpose of giving birth in the United States so that their children will enjoy the benefits of natural-born American citizenship.”

Immigration officials at Los Angeles International Airport have “heightened securitizes” according to one affidavit, “based on the volume of fraudulent visas and fake statements related to birth tourism.”

Arriving on a Hong Kong air, the women were instructed to avoid wearing maternity clothes and to not bring any relatively items.

Instead, they were told only they become

Please see story on Olympic gold medalist Kristi Yamaguchi's activities in Hawaii.

And now it's time for a... Solar lobbyists, electrical workers union and others will get a say in approval of NextEra deal — B3

Please see story on Olympic gold medalist Kristi Yamaguchi's activities in Hawaii.