



Samaritan Counseling Center Hawaii

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i Awarded
A 2018 Safety Net Grant from Aloha United Way**

Honolulu, HI, February 22, 2018 – Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i was awarded a one-year \$15,000 Safety Net grant from Aloha United Way (AUW), allowing the Center to continue to provide mental health services for individuals, youth, and families, regardless of their ability to pay.

The Safety Net funding, which provides basic human needs and support for people experiencing crisis, is one of 38 grants totaling \$1,000,000 awarded nonprofit agencies and programs in Hawai'i that deliver services in the areas of disaster/crisis, food, rent/utility, and shelter.

“Mental health is critical to our community’s health, and we look forward to the good work that the Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i will provide as part of their ongoing counseling and treatment to Hawai'i's vulnerable populations,” said Cindy Adams, Aloha United Way President and CEO.

With this grant, Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i will replenish the Client Assistance Fund, which subsidizes mental health counseling for uninsured, underinsured, low-income, and elderly clients. In 2017, over 13% of all clients seen were uninsured or had insurance that contributed \$0 to their mental health care. The Safety Net grant will allow the Center to offer 300 counseling hours to clients who might otherwise not receive mental health care.

“We greatly appreciate Aloha United Way’s confidence in us,” said Andrew Bates, Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i's Board President. “The number of uninsured and Medicaid clients has greatly increased in recent years, and the Safety Net grant helps us continue our mission of providing mental health counseling to everyone who seeks care.”

About Aloha United Way

Aloha United Way brings resources, organizations and people together to advance the health, education and financial stability of every person in our community.

About Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i

Established in 1989, Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides professional and accessible mental health counseling that is sensitive to the spiritual traditions of individuals, families, and communities in Hawai'i. For more information, call (808) 545-2740 or visit www.samaritancounselingcenterhawaii.org.

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Celebrating Over 25 Years of Service

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