

# Samaritan Counseling Center Hawaii

Accredited by the Solihten Institute • Serving Hawai'i's Diverse Communities Since 1989

December 2019

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# President's Message George Clifford, President

Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i Board meetings begin with a brief meditation led by a Board member. At our October Board meeting, the Rev. Dr. Robert Steele led the meditation, focusing on pearls, the jewel associated with thirtieth anniversaries. Not coincidentally, Bob has been chairing the Center's \$30,000 for Thirty Years Campaign that

is the centerpiece of our thirtieth anniversary celebration.

Pearls are a great metaphor for Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i (SCCH). Both cultured and natural pearls consist of strata, suggestive of the layers of love and caring that have enveloped SCCH during each of its thirty years. Each layer of a pearl consists of nacre, the source of a pearl's reflective luminescence. SCCH reflects spiritual light through the work of our therapists who turn to the client's spirituality as a source of hope and healing. Board members and other supporters who publicize and financially support SCCH also reflect the same light.

Pearls come in many different colors. SCCH has united individuals and congregations from many different faith traditions in its work. Intriguingly, pearls are important symbols in several of those faith traditions.

The hope and healing that SCCH symbolizes and offers to people is precious and beautiful, like a pearl. On behalf of the over 8,200 clients we have served during these thirty years, mahalo nui loa to all who have helped SCCH become this precious and beautiful pearl.

However, no metaphor is perfect. Unlike natural pearls, the work of Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i need not be a rare gift. Generous support over the last thirty years has enabled SCCH to accept all clients, regardless of ability to pay. Even though we are now on a firm financial footing, unmet need for mental health services and counseling exceeds our capacity. Your contribution to SCCH's \$30k for 30 Campaign or to our annual campaign will help the Center to expand its reach while continuing to honor its commitment to never turn anyone away based upon their ability to pay.

The sixtieth anniversary gemstone is a diamond. With your support, SCCH will in time become a diamond, the crown jewel of Hawaiian non-profits serving mental health and counseling needs.

Best wishes for 2020.

### **Celebrating 30 Years of Service**

1020 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96814

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Website: www.samaritancounselingcenterhawaii.org

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# The Strength of Our Supporters Rachelle Chang, Executive Director

New staff, board members, and volunteers have infused the Center with their strength and energy.

Licensed mental health counselor Christine Bush joined our staff to serve the Ewa community. She is

experienced in bereavement, grief, PTSD, and play therapy; and has a passion for helping military families and veterans.

Five members joined our board of directors. Linda Rose Herman is a pre-planning advisor with a passion to assist families who face challenging decisions. David "Kawika" Rich is the founder and CEO of a motivational speaking and leadership training company. Linda Rich is the chair of the Institute for Healing of Memories and a social worker and substance abuse counselor. Veronica Rich has a background in corporate sales, retail, and field marketing. Rev. Dr. Bert Sumikawa is the minister at Windward Buddhist Temple and a retired pediatric dentist.

Volunteer Rose Chang helps us with filing and newsletter mailing.

Thank you, all of you, who make us stronger and help us thrive!

Nationally accredited by



#### Solihten Institute Accreditation

We are proud to announce that Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i was awarded Full Accreditation for 2019-2023 by the Solihten Institute, an interfaith counseling network of 45 Solihten Centers. The Accreditation Committee commended our hard work and the way in which we utilized our site visit with Dr. Doug Stephens.

"Accreditation is a major accomplishment and demonstrates a Center's commitment to excellence." said Robert Johnson. President/CEO of the Solihten Institute.

We sincerely thank Doug for his guidance, advice, and insightful review of our services, operations, and management.

### Subscribe to Our e-Newsletter:

Be one of the first to learn about news and updates by email (and help us save printing and postage costs).

samaritancounselingcenterhawaii.org/subscribe



# Limits **Gary Augustin, Clinical Director**

It is the holiday season again. Setting limits during this time is important because there are so many activities we would like to do and so many people we would like to please.

The Center also has the task of making difficult choices. Should we remain a small organization or do we reach further out into our community? WH Auden, who wrote from a Christian perspective, frames it as a reflection of the Thanksgiving and Christmas feasts:

There are enough

Left-overs to do, warmed-up, for the rest of the week --Not that we have much appetite, having drunk such a lot, Stayed up so late, attempted -- quite unsuccessfully --To love all of our relatives, and in general Grossly overestimated our powers. Once again As in previous years we have seen the actual Vision and failed To do more than entertain it as an agreeable Possibility, once again we have sent Him away. Begging though to remain His disobedient servant, The promising child who cannot keep His word for long.

As we celebrate this holiday season, I hope we can live within our limits and keep a vision to expand on them.

# Mahalo to Our Supporters June 1, 2019 to December 5, 2019

Dorothy Bloom Rose Chang George and Susan Clifford Barbara Fischlowitz-Leong Foodland Give Aloha Alan and Chizue Goto Peter Hanashiro Tracey and Daryl Harger Maxine and Jeffrey Haun Hawai'i Community Foundation Hawai'i Hotel Industry Foundation Judy Hormell Judith R. Hughes Interfaith Alliance Hawaii Donald and Jacqueline Jones John Kampfer Deborah Candace Love Pacific Health Ministry Pat Miller Nu'uanu Congregational Church

Ethel Aiko Oda Stephen Okumura

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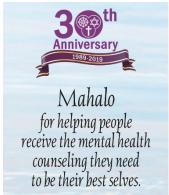
Woman's Board of Missions for the Pacific Islands

Nathan Wong

Beverly and Harold Zane

## For more ways to give:

samaritancounselingcenterhawaii.org/giving







Since 1989, Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i has provided professional and accessible mental health counseling sensitive to the spiritual traditions of individuals, families, and communities in Hawai'i, regardless of their ability to pay. With your generosity and support, over 8,202 individuals and families have received services through 73,844 counseling sessions between 1989 and 2018.

To celebrate our 30th Anniversary, we welcomed donors, partners, and supporters to a Mahalo Reception at Church of the Holy Nativity. It was a delightful evening of renewed friendships and good conversations.

Mahalo for helping us thrive for 30 years. We look forward to continuing our mission over the next 30 years!















Oct. 18, 2019 (Fri)
Youth Leaders
6 pm to 9 pm
Oct. 19, 2019 (Sat)
Community Leaders
9 am to 4 pm



Life-Saving Culture. *Life-Saving Conversations*.

# FOR COMMUNITY & YOUTH LEADERS



Michelle Snyder Soul Shop Director LCSW, M.Div

In October 2019, Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i co-presented Soul Shop: Ministering to Suicidal Desperation, a one-and-a-half day suicide prevention training. The workshops focused on techniques for recognizing people who are hurting and helping them to be heard through life-saving conversations; and were broadcast live to five satellite sites across Hawai'i -- Hanapepepe, Kahului, Kamuela, Puna, and Mililani.

Overall, 160 youth and adults received suicide prevention training. There were 114 participants in the Youth Leaders workshop and 46 participants in the Community Leaders workshop. After the workshops, **81%** of attendees **felt more comfortable** talking about suicide.

















# Mind • Body • Spirit • Community

# Yoga Mat Circa 1971 Chaz Hill

A yoga mat rolled up; to its side a flower waiting to unfold gentle petals; alone yet not alone

on the day my father

died. I remember in high school wrestling flowers and their healing powers

in the lotus position for a long time

tears falling in a different direction than we think possible; they were gratefully

the impossible made

real; touching a yoga mat and the breaking smile that follows

-uwob







# Counseling in Times of Turmoil Mary Simpson\*

Counseling is something I have taken advantage of most of my life.

My beginnings were with a mother who was paranoid schizophrenic, thought of by some of my family as demonized. It took years of counseling to convince me that she had a mental illness and that I did not have the same illness. However, I did have a depressive nature and many insecurities, as you might guess.

Later, counseling helped me separate from a mentally abusive father. The phrase "enlightened self-interest" comes to mind.

As time progressed, I married and had two children. Alcohol became my escape. However, my difficulties never hindered me from getting help from counseling during much turmoil, including suicidal tendencies.

Through the on-going help of Alcoholics Anonymous and with a growing faith in God and much counseling, I have a good life today! I know a peace with my God, and am better able to enjoy people and pursuits, especially writing and helping others.

Today I am 34 years sober and 87 years young.

Mary Simpson (pseudonym) has been diagnosed with cancer and is facing it bravely with treatment. Counseling helps her keep a good attitude and helps with her additional writing projects.



# A Compassionate Ministry Clara D. Priester, Executive Director

Organized in 1871, the Woman's Board of Missions for the Pacific Islands is a compassionate ministry that reaches out in practical ways to women and

children in crisis throughout Hawaii and the greater Pacific Rim. We are governed by uncompromising faith and core values of commitment, **c**ompetence, compassion, character, and community.

Our purpose is to inspire and empower women to become active Christians nurturing the Spirit in their individual lives, homes, community and the entire world; to educate and encourage children in their highest potential; and to be in partnership with sister organizations sharing similar values, including Family Promise Hawaii, the UCCP Pasuquin Learning Center, the Waikiki Youth Outreach Center, the Women's Community Correctional Center (WCCC), Young Life Oahu, and Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i.

The services these organizations provide is life-saving. We honor their vital work immensely. As the needs of our communities and world continue to increase exponentially, more resources and willing servants are required. Together, we can further expand our reach in helping those who require it most.



To learn more about the work of the Woman's Board of Missions for the Pacific Islands, call (808) 791-5647 or e-mail wbmhawaii@gmail.com.



1020 S. Beretania St., Honolulu, HI 96814 www.samaritancounselingcenterhawaii.org





# **Tee up for mental health**

You can help people make positive changes in their lives through Aloha for Hawaii Charities. There are two ways to give:

- 1. **Mail a check** to Friends of Hawaii Charities, 735 Bishop Street, Suite 330, Honolulu, HI 96813, and designate your gift for Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i.
- 2. Online by credit card at friendsofhawaii.org. Click on "See Participating Charities" and "Donate Now." Then enter your information and select Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i.

100% of your tax-deductible donation, plus a bonus boost from Friends of Hawaii Charities and the Sony Open in Hawaii, will subsidize mental health counseling for those who need a hand!

Nov. 15, 2019 - Jan. 15, 2020 (4 PM HST)

#### Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i Locations: **Main Office:**

Aloha for Hawaii Charities participating charities.

**First United Methodist Church** 1020 S. Beretania St., Honolulu

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin 1727 Pali Hwy, Honolulu

**Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church** 1403 California Ave., Wahiawa

**Pearl City Community Church** 933 Lehua Ave., Pearl City

Waiokeola Congregational Church 4705 Kilauea Ave., Honolulu

Windward United Church of Christ 38 Kaneohe Bay Dr., Kailua