



Samaritan Counseling Center Hawaii

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

June 2018

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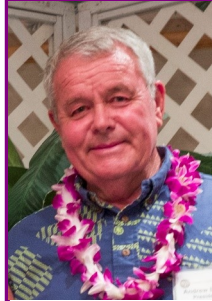
Dr. Alan Buffenstein - *Consultant*

Brittney Henley - *Intern*

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facebook.com/
samaritancounselingcenterhawaii

President's Message Andrew Bates, Acting President



It has been an honor and privilege to serve as President of Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i for the last three years.

I accepted the assignment when the prior President and our inspirational leader, Jolene Gerell, passed away. She left the Board with a concise and well-structured Strategic Plan that has guided our deliberations and plans for the future. By staying true to the plan's three goals, the Center has strengthened partnerships, refined and expanded our services, and become more financially solvent.

The Center has continued to provide mental health services to people without the means to pay through our Client Assistance Fund (CAF). The Jolene Gerell Memorial Endowment Fund has grown incrementally each year. The counseling rooms have been upgraded, and with the help of Pastor David Hirano, we will open a new counseling room at Pearl City Community Church.

Our new Executive Director, Rachelle Chang, brings depth, expertise, and compassion to her new role. And my successor, Rev. George Clifford, has a wealth of experience working in interfaith organizations and managing counseling. He has the full support of the Board and staff and is a perfect fit to lead the Center into the future.

One goal of our Strategic Plan is to raise a million dollars in the next five years. It's an ambitious goal, but it will ensure that interfaith mental health services are available to people without the means to pay for years to come. If you want to make a lasting impact on mental health, I encourage you to make a legacy gift to Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i by contacting the Hawai'i Community Foundation, who can help you support the causes that have the most meaning to you. Mahalo!

Welcome Board Member Maria Carnevale



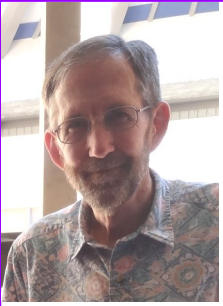
Originally from Rhode Island, Maria moved to Kalaupapa, Moloka'i in 2002 to pursue a career in marine conservation. She currently serves as the State of Hawai'i's Manager for the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. She has a personal interest in supporting the accessibility of mental healthcare, especially in the area of domestic violence, and is pleased to be serving on the Board. In her spare time, she's an avid tennis player and ceramist.

Celebrating Over 25 Years of Service

1020 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96814

Phone: (808) 545-2740 • Fax: (808) 545-2852 • Email: info@samaritanhawaii.org

Website: www.samaritancounselingcenterhawaii.org



Incoming President's Message

Rev. Dr. George M. Clifford, III, President

From 2002-2005, I served on the Board of Directors of the Interfaith Pastoral Counseling Center in Monterey, California. That experience proved rewarding for several reasons.

First, early in my ministry as an Episcopal priest, I recognized that some individuals benefited from seeing a professional counselor attuned to both the counselee's mental health issues and spiritual journey.

Second, my studies preparatory to teaching ethics and the philosophy of religion convinced me it is important to respect each individual's choice of a spiritual path and that most paths lead to God, who is known by many different names.

Third, as a senior Navy chaplain stationed in high cost areas including Pearl Harbor and Monterey, I became acutely aware that many persons cannot afford to pay for counseling.

Finally, I enjoyed working collegially with the Center's staff and Board.

Now retired, I was delighted at the opportunity to join Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i's Board of Directors, and will begin serving as its President in July.

Currently, I am on a long-planned trip to London, Venice, Paris, and to see family on the East Coast. Andy will continue acting as President until I return.



Board President Andy Bates and Dean Sakamoto, Chair, Committee on Social Concerns, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

Mahalo to Our Supporters

December 2017 to May 2018

Mahalo for making mental health a priority in Hawai'i.

- Aloha United Way
- AmazonSmile Foundation
- Anonymous
- Gary Augustin
- Boller-Thomas Foundation
- Church of the Crossroads
- Friends of Hawai'i Charities
- Francis Fukumoto
- German Benevolent Society of Honolulu
- Alan Goto
- Scott Goto
- Steven Guttman
- Paul and Peggy Haring
- Judy Hormell
- Judith Hughes
- Esther Izuo
- Donald Jones
- John Kampfer
- Jan and Daniel Katayama
- Hawaii Conference of the United Church of Christ
- Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii
- Bob Miura
- Margaret and Benjamin Roe
- Tamiko Spencer
- David and Lee Takagi
- Alice and Jerome Tucker
- Waikeola Congregational Church
- Woman's Board of Missions for the Pacific Islands
- Raymond and Vivien Woo

Recent Grant Awards

The Center was recently honored with grants from Aloha United Way, Boller-Thomas Foundation, Church of the Crossroads, Friends of Hawaii Charities, German Benevolent Society of Honolulu, Hawaii Conference of the United Church of Christ, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i, Waikeola Congregational Church, and the Woman's Board of Missions for the Pacific Islands. We appreciate their trust and confidence in our mission.

Grant funds and donations went directly to the **Client Assistance Fund**, which subsidizes counseling for uninsured, underinsured, low-income, and elderly clients who might otherwise not receive any mental health care.

In Q1 2018 (January to March), the Client Assistance Fund subsidized **76 clients** and **239 counseling sessions**. This represents a **26.6% increase** in the number of clients we were able to serve over Q1 2017.



For more ways to give:

samaritancounselingcenterhawaii.org/giving

Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i Community Impact Report 2017

Mahalo nui loa for your commitment to mental health! With your help, we served 265 clients (a 23% increase over last year) through 1,973 counseling sessions (a 17% increase). We performed three clergy assessments and four top-up interviews. Our team was comprised of eight licensed, professional counselors; three part-time support staff; a new clinical advisor, Dr. Alan Buffenstein; and an active volunteer Board of Directors.

We are deeply committed to becoming the foremost interfaith counseling center in Hawai'i. To give clients a safe and comfortable place for counseling, we completed renovations to our counseling rooms, with help from Lowe's Iwilei, HMSA, our clergy partners, Psychiatric Associates and the Kemble family, and Andy Bates.

How You Made a Difference:

125

CAF Clients
(47% of all clients
seen in 2017)



868

CAF mental
health sessions



\$56,086

CAF Subsidies
(164% increase
over 2016)



Client Assistance Fund

With your support, the Client Assistance Fund (CAF) served 125 clients (47% of clients) who were uninsured, under-insured, elderly, or low-income, through 868 counseling sessions (43% of all sessions).

Over 37 clients were uninsured or had insurance that contributed \$0 to their mental health care, accounting for 299 counseling sessions (15% of all sessions).

Community Outreach

Our counselors led a "Suicide Prevention for Youth" workshop and conducted two training workshops in Honolulu and Hilo. We reaffirmed our commitment to the elderly and caregivers by offering home visits in the Honolulu area to seniors who have difficulty leaving home, at no additional cost. We reached out to seniors at the Hawaii Seniors' Fair—The Good Life Expo, which was attended by over 21,000 people over three days.

Fundraising and Grants

Your generosity helped us raise \$76,029! We were honored with donations and grants from the Episcopal Church in Hawai'i, First Hawaiian Bank, Friends of Hawai'i Charities, Foodland, German Benevolent Society, Harris United Methodist Church, Hawai'i Hotel and Lodging Association, Honpa Hongwanji Hawai'i Betsuin, Lloyd Moore Foundation, Walton Carpenter Trust, and more. Your gifts enable us to offer counseling and outreach, regardless of clients' ability to pay.

"ĀN"

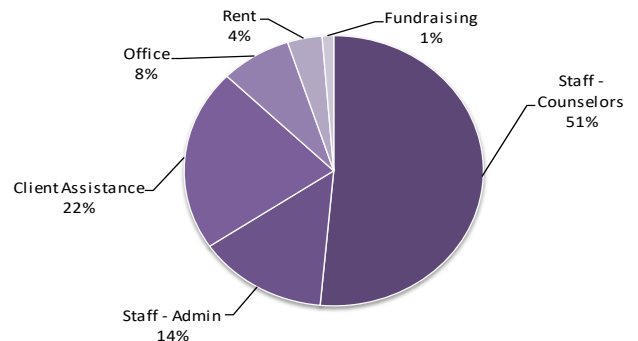


concert for peace

A Concert for Peace

On November 11, the Cathedral of St. Andrew was filled with song, poetry, and movement by Chaz Hill and Friends' "ĀN" concert for peace, sponsored by the Schulzman-Neri Foundation, Dan Brumett, and the Cathedral of St. Andrew. Over 60 people braved the stormy weather to raise over \$2,800 for the Client Assistance Fund.

2017 Expenses



Stories of Hope

☞ One morning, a woman called who was uninsured, unemployed, and overwhelmed by her mother's death and the bills that her mother accumulated. She didn't know who to turn to. Through the Client Assistance Fund, she was able to get the counseling she needed, without worrying about her health insurance.

☞ A 10-year old boy was in the hospital, depressed about his medical condition, staying in an unfamiliar hospital, and being apart from his siblings. Through the Client Assistance Fund and a compassionate counselor, he gained the skills to jumpstart his hope for the future.

Ho'omenemene Awards Benefit Dinner 2018

What a wonderful evening!

Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i's fourth Ho'omenemene Awards Benefit Dinner on April 29 was a resounding success! Most importantly, Lili'uokalani Trust and Father Clarence "Larry" Fisher were honored for their selfless dedication to our community. Their work over many years truly exemplifies what individuals and organizations can accomplish as interfaith advocates and active participants helping people in need. This has been the focus of Center since its inception in 1986.

Senator Brian Schatz, Representative Tulsi Gabbard, and Representative Colleen Hanabusa honored Lili'uokalani Trust and Father Larry with elegant Certificates of Recognition.

Angie Delight played beautiful piano music and Lee Takagi and Elaine Lemon performed inspiring songs written by Queen Lili'uokalani.

This biennial event is a critical component to supporting the Center's mission of helping all people in need of counseling regardless of their ability to pay. Proceeds from the event will replenish the Client Assistance Fund, which subsidizes mental health counseling for uninsured, underinsured, elderly, and low-income clients. Proceeds from the silent auction will fund the Jolene Gerrell Memorial Endowment Fund.

We send a heartfelt "mahalo" to everyone who attended and to our supporters who were with us in spirit!



Mahalo to our donors!

INDIVIDUALS

Adrienne Alsbury
Gary and Chat Augustin
Andrew and Maureen Bates
Norberto and Rosalina Baysa
Della Au Belatti
Dr. Alan Buffenstein
Emelie L. Chang
Ruth C. Chang
William T.K. Chang
Rev. Tom Choi
George Clifford
Haley Cup-Choy
Ernestine Enomoto
K. Everett
Rev. Clarence L. Fisher
Terry and Allan Fisher
Rev. Anke Flohr
James and Gertrude Francoise
Keith Galang
Galen Fox and Sharon Moriwaki
Judith Goldman
Jan Hanashiro

Daryl and Tracey Harger
Sandra Hirano
Darcy Ing
Karen Lattanzi
Elaine Lemons
Bobbi Lum-Mew
Rev. Neal MacPherson
David and Mernal Miyasato-
Crawford
Kathy and David Moore
Mark Nishiyama
Cynthia Osajima
Lawrence and Dayle Osborn
Clara D. Priestler
Linda L. Rich
Kevin Rogers
Troy and Melissa Schilling
Robert Shimmin
MaryJane Sperry
Wesley and Linda Taira
David and Lee Takagi
Mark Wilson

CONGREGATIONAL GIVING

BDK Hawaii

First United Methodist Church
Hawaii Conference of the
United Church of Christ

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Alaka'ina Foundation
Lili'uokalani Trust

SILENT AUCTION DONORS

Andrew and Maureen Bates
Debra Casey
Rachelle Chang
Mimi Demura-Devore
Frank C. Floro
Hawai'i Potters' Guild
Diana Honeker
Darcy Ing
Rev. Neal MacPherson
Koko Head Potters
Sue Sowders

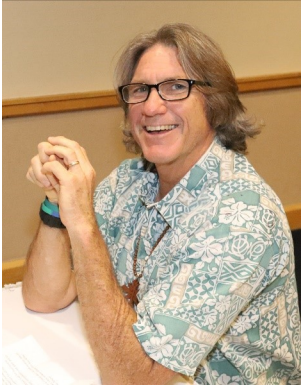
VOLUNTEERS

Andrew Bates
Maureen Bates
Sister Patty Chang

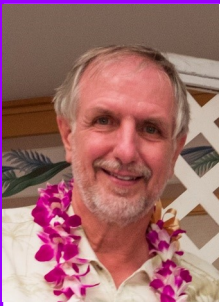
Mimi Demura-Devore
Ann-Marie Fernandez
Terry Fisher
Sheryl-Ann Holland
Diana Honeker
Darcy Ing
Cynthia Jordan
Bob Li
Fran Macalintal
Roderick Macalintal
Louis Majchrzak
Terry Majchrzak
Tom Miyashiro
Rufino Magliba
Andreana Reyes
Sue Sowders
David Takagi
Lee Takagi
Rev. David Turner
Janice Vannatta

*Mahalo to Frank Weight,
Dawne Browne, and Barbara at
the Manoa Grand Ballroom for
their outstanding service!*

Please forgive us if your name does not appear on the list above. We appreciate your gift and apologize for the omission.



Photographs by: David Takagi



Listening Gary Augustin, Clinical Director

Have you ever played a game called *Telephone* (sometimes called *Telegraph*)? The leader whispers a phrase into the first person's ear, like "Righteous Ricky never tells a lie." The phrase is then whispered into each person's ear around the circle, and comes out sounding like "Rocky road ice cream was on the pie."

Counseling is a very careful process of listening closely so that the therapist is attuned to the use of language by the people we serve. In multicultural settings, our therapists need to become aware of the nuances and idioms of various cultures and how these impact conversation and behavior.

Mark Twain wrote a short story entitled "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County." It was his first published story that captured national acclaim. This story was translated into other languages and published in these countries.

Some years later, when Twain traveled to Germany, someone commented about his nonsensical story about the frog. This puzzled and perplexed Twain, so he obtained a copy of the German translation and had someone who knew German translate the story back into English.

The result was frightening, because it had no similarity to the original (and was also very poorly communicated and offensive). Twain had both versions published in later editions that carried the story to illustrate this problem of how to listen and get the meaning right.

At Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i, we know that we may not always correctly hear one's story. But we are committed to listening and being present, so that people's lives and stories are heard and treated in a dignified manner.

Enter to Win a Gift Card!

"Our mission is to provide _____ and _____ mental health counseling sensitive to the spiritual traditions of individuals, families and communities in Hawai'i."

Email your answers to info@samaritanhawaii.org and you could win a gift card! Two winners with the correct answers will be drawn on **September 5, 2018**. Winners will be notified by email and announced in the next newsletter.

Hint: visit our website at www.samaritancounselingcenterhawaii.org

Making Changes, Improving Lives

"My counselor stretches me to really evaluate my feelings about personal and home dynamics. She's taught me relaxing skills to use in anxious moments." — JM

"I feel I have learned new things and become better able to deal with situations I was clueless [about] before." — MA



Mental Health Awareness Day 2018 at the Hawai'i State Capitol

On March 29, board members Andy Bates and George Clifford represented Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i with an exhibit table at Mental Health Awareness Day, sponsored by Mental Health America of Hawaii. This event was an opportunity to meet with state legislators and other mental health service providers to discuss how we can promote mental health in Hawaii.

For more ways to give:

samaritancounselingcenterhawaii.org/giving



Executive Director's Message Rachelle Chang, Executive Director

Two of the most touching gifts I have witnessed recently are **gifts of time** — over 107 volunteer hours were donated to the Center over the first three months of 2018; and a **gift of spare change**, because even though a client didn't have much, he wanted to share it with us.

You have my heartfelt thanks for your strong commitment to mental health and for trusting us over the years to serve the mental health needs of our community. Our work would not be possible without you, and I enjoy getting to know our partners and supporters.

We are not just helping clients — we are helping their families, friends, and coworkers. When our mental health improves, we can all make better decisions and build stronger relationships.

I am grateful and humbled by this opportunity to lead the Center during this transitional period, and I am honored to be part of the Center's mission to make individuals, families, clergy, and congregations healthier and more resilient.

I welcome all of your comments and ideas — don't hesitate to call me at 545-2740 or email execdir@samaritanhawaii.org.

Care and Compassion

"My counselor responded right away and I felt welcomed." — MM

"He attentively listens to me and gives questions that help me solve a problem." — RH

"I like the willingness to be flexible to our schedule of availability." — JD

For appointments and more information about mental health counseling:

Call **808-545-2740**
Email info@samaritanhawaii.org

E KOMO MAI to our newest Therapists:



Diana Honeker, LMFT

Diana is a licensed marriage and family therapist who works with individuals, couples, and families to help them through life's difficulties and transitions. She has experience with parenting, military families, domestic violence, substance abuse, and grief. She wants people to feel more peace, more happiness, and more harmony in their relationships and in the world.



Wesley Taira, LCSW

Wesley is a behavioral and mental health practitioner and is trained in grief counseling and spiritual direction. He enjoys working with individuals and families and is especially helpful with schooling and parenting strong-willed children. He teaches that "happiness is a skill" and can be learned and practiced (like playing the ukulele) — the more one practices this skill set, the better quality of life one enjoys and the greater measure of resiliency one can develop.

Now accepting most forms of insurance. *For appointments and more information, please call 808-545-2740.*

Welcome our new Healthcare Administrative Assistant Intern, Brittney



We would like to give a warm welcome to our new Healthcare Administrative Assistant Intern, Brittney Henley. She is earning a certificate in Healthcare Administration, Billing, and Coding at Hawai'i Medical College in Honolulu, and will be interning with us for 10-12 weeks.

Brittney is gaining valuable experience with healthcare billing, claims, deposits, credentialing, and client intake — while helping the Center and our clients. Mahalo to our partner, Hawaii Medical College!

Do you want to make a difference?

We are looking for committee members and volunteers. Call us at 545-2740!



Samaritan
Counseling Center
Hawaii

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



September is Give Aloha Month



September 1-30, 2018

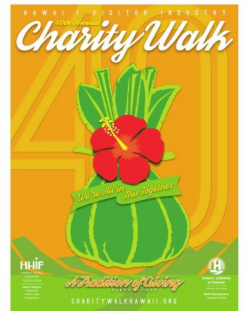
September is a few months away, but mark your calendars for **Foodland Give Aloha** month! You can support mental health in our community by going to Foodland, showing your Maika'i card, and making a tax-deductible donation (up to \$249 per person per card) to Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i with **donor code 77125**. Plus, your donation will get a matching boost from Foodland and Western Union!

Mahalo for walking with us

Thank you for joining us at the **Visitor Industry Charity Walk** on **Saturday, May 19** to support mental health and wellness in our community.

It was a beautiful morning with fresh air, live entertainment, and ono food.

You may have seen board and staff members who volunteered as course marshals or participated in the walk. If you were there, share your excitement by posting your Charity Walk photos on our Facebook page at facebook.com/samaritancounselingcenterhawaii. We hope you'll walk with us next year!



Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i Locations:

Main Office:

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

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

Waikeola Congregational Church
4705 Kilauea Ave., Honolulu

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin
1727 Pali Hwy, Honolulu

Pearl City Community Church
933 Lehua Ave., Pearl City

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