2018 has been a very good year for Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i:

- The Center’s counseling caseload increased by over 15%.
- We now have nine excellent therapists who made our growth in counseling caseload possible.
- We added an administrative assistant to support our clients and therapists.
- We received administrative assistance from Hawaii Medical College interns.
- Financially, we had a solid year thanks to a steady stream of grants and contributions. Additionally, the Ho’omenemene Awards Benefit Dinner was a success. The Center now operates on a financially sustainable basis, providing therapists a stable platform for assisting clients.
- The Center moved toward longer-term stability thanks to a generous bequest from the Marion and Walton Carpenter trusts. Our endowment now stands at $200,000.
- The Center’s Board has grown from five to nine members. We welcomed Maria Carnevale, Rev. Dr. Robert Steele, Martine Leclerc, and Fr. Ajith Kumar Antony Dass.

These achievements were made possible because of you, our loyal supporters – as well as our dedicated counselors, our committed Board members, our Executive Director Rachelle Chang, and our Clinical Director Dr. Gary Augustin. Together, we accomplished great things for our clients and the community.

Next year, our major challenges will be (1) moving along the Center’s current trajectory of growth and financial sustainability; and (2) being re-accredited by the Solihten Institute (formerly the Samaritan Institute). We will remain Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i; our Board has accepted the Solihten Institute’s option of keeping our name.

I hope that you will continue to support the Center. The holidays are a great time to donate to the Center.

Working together, we can make 2019 an even better year than we had in 2018. The Center remains Hawai’i’s foremost interfaith counseling center, providing quality services that exceed client care standards and expectations while operating in a financially secure, sustainable way.

Mahalo nui loa for your part in our success!
Folk have to take care of basic survival needs before they can look at what is happening to them emotionally.

In October, I very much appreciated the time spent in Saipan with the opportunity to be in touch with so many who were stricken by the typhoon. The first day was cleaning up so the building and area would be suitable for health services. We addressed medical issues for about 17 persons before the clinic opened, as folk began stopping by, seeking to be treated.

For those I spoke with, sleep deprivation, the fear that there would be another physical event like the typhoon, or the fear that their property would be looted if they stayed too far away were underlying reasons for anxiety and depression. Several people identified profound loss involving their home and/or business. A 76-year old man talked about losing everything; the loss of his 50-year old Fender guitar, that he used to play at Senior Citizen Centers and nursing homes, was particularly poignant.

In all, folk appreciated talking with someone. On most days, I spoke with 30 or more people, and three or four a day with acute mental health concerns. During the week, people would come over to update me on how they were doing, and return the next day if they had questions that we couldn't answer.

It's important to have someone reaching out even when people seem to be coping well. It is through our relational humanness that we support and sustain each other.

**E KOMO MAI to our newest Therapists:**

**Marcia Myers, LMHC & CSAC**
*Licensed Mental Health Counselor and Substance Abuse Counselor.* Marcia provides a holistic approach to mental health counseling and drug/alcohol assessments. She has extensive experience with the military, individuals and couples, providing short-term solution-focused counseling to assist clients.

**Daniel Ruseborn, LMFT & CSAC**
*Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and Substance Abuse Counselor.* Daniel offers individual, couples, and family therapy specializing in all forms of addiction, mindfulness, and neuropsychology. He has advanced training in Motivational Interviewing and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy.

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

**For more ways to give:**
samaritancounselingcenterhawaii.org/giving
Share Your Samaritan Story
Rachelle Chang, Executive Director

Over 30 years ago, two social work students at UH Mānoa, Terry Fisher and Judy Hormell, wondered how they could start a counseling center where a person’s faith could be a source of strength to one’s counseling experience.

In 2019, Samaritan Counseling Center Hawaii will celebrate 30 years of service. You have been a big part of our success, and we deeply appreciate your commitment.

You probably have some wonderful stories to share about your experiences with the Center. We welcome your reminiscences and reflections — please don’t hesitate to call me at 545-2740 or email execdir@samaritanhawaii.org.

Making Positive Changes
“I am much better and able to enjoy life since coming to SCCH for one year. I really appreciate the counselor I was connected with.” — AG

“My son started feeling motivated to wake up and go to school after a few sessions with our counselor. We’re very impressed and pleased with his professional service.” — MC

30th Anniversary Celebration Committee Members (from left): Jan Hanashiro, Bob Steele, Linda Rich, Diana Honeker
Not pictured: Sandi Brekke, Terry Fisher

In the Community

New office in Pearl City
Pearl City Community Church gave us a warm welcome and offered us a counseling office in July. Now it’s even more convenient for Pearl City and Central Oahu residents to receive the counseling they need in comfort and convenience.

Sharing smiles with seniors
We had a wonderful time talking with people at the Hawaii Seniors’ Fair. Mahalo to Production Hawaii for sponsoring our booth! With their help, we spread kindness and shared counseling information.

Community workshops
Community members learned how to strengthen relationships and build resilience at Pearl City Community Church. Counselors Diana Honeker, Tom Miyashiro, and Wesley Taira presented workshops on Active Listening, Five Love Languages, Am I Sad or Depressed? And the Grief Journey. “Excellent presenters, handouts, discussion. Really glad I came,” one participant raved.

Make a Pledge to Mental Health
You can make a difference with a payroll deduction through Aloha United Way. Simply fill out a Donor Choice Pledge Form and choose Agency Designation #70460.

Mahalo for Giving Aloha
Mahalo for supporting mental health during Foodland Give Aloha! You helped us raise $2,492 from loyal donors, Foodland, and Western Union.

Mahalo to our donors:
Ruth C. Chang Terry & Allan Fisher
Marian & John Heidel Kathy Moore
Richard S. Morris Larry & Dale Osborn
John Southworth

If we missed your donation, please contact us so that we can acknowledge your gift.

For appointments and more information about mental health counseling:
Call 808-545-2740
Email info@samaritanhawaii.org
Tee up, make a donation & give mental health a boost!

Everyone has times when they need help coping with life’s challenges and making positive changes in their lives. You can make a difference right now by donating to Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai’i 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 tinyurl.com/ahc2018. Click on the “Donate Now!” button and select Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai’i.

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

**Donation period: Nov. 15, 2018 - Jan. 15, 2019**