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.

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.

A Concert for Peace
On November 11, the Cathedral of St. Andrew was filled with song, poetry, and movement by Chaz Hill and Friends’ “An” concert for peace, sponsored by the Schulzman-Neri Foundation, Dan Brunett, and the Cathedral of St Andrew. Over 60 people braved the stormy weather to raise over $2,800 for the Client Assistance Fund.

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).

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.

Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai‘i is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, Tax ID 99-0250073.