



## Samaritan Counseling Center Hawaii

### **Media Contact:**

Rachelle Chang

Office (808) 545-2740

Cell (808) 221-2438

execdir@samaritanhawaii.org

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **NEW MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING OFFICE IN KANE‘OHE TO SERVE WINDWARD RESIDENTS**

April 7, 2021 – Honolulu, HI – In celebration of World Health Day, Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai‘i today announced the opening of a new counseling office in Kane‘ohe, O‘ahu. Professional and affordable mental health counseling will be available by appointment to individuals, couples, and families at Calvary Episcopal Church, regardless of religious affiliation or ability to pay, by licensed Hawai‘i counselors.

In Hawai‘i, 82% of respondents experienced a mental health condition such as anxiety, depression, loneliness, or panic attacks during the pandemic (COVID-19 Tracking Study, December 2020). Mental health counseling can help alleviate stress, manage anxiety, build confidence, and strengthen communication skills.

“We are energized by our partnership with Calvary Episcopal Church to support mental health counseling in Windward O‘ahu,” said The Rev. Dr. George Clifford, President of the Board of Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai‘i. “This office will give Windward residents greater access and greater convenience to mental health care.”

Calvary Episcopal Church is located at 45-435 Aumoku Street, Kane‘ohe, Hawai‘i, across from Windward City Shopping Center, within two blocks of major bus lines. The office is handicapped-accessible and there is free street parking. The decision to meet for in-person counseling should be made by each client and counselor, in accordance with Hawai‘i Department of Health and City and County of Honolulu safety guidelines.

“Mental health continues to be more important than ever,” said The Rev. Dustin Berg, Priest-in-Charge of Calvary Episcopal Church. “We are pleased to offer this private space for counseling, as it helps demonstrate our commitment and concern for the whole person, a priority of our faith and of many other faith traditions as well. We look forward to being a part of helping people receive the care and compassion they need.”

In addition to Calvary Episcopal Church, mental health counseling is available by telehealth (telephone and videotherapy) and by appointment, following Hawai‘i Department of Health and City and County of Honolulu safety guidelines, at First United Methodist Church (Honolulu – main office), Honpa Hongwanji Hawai‘i Betsuin (Honolulu), Waiokeola Congregational Church (Kahala), Pearl City Community Church (Pearl City) and Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church (Wahiawa).

### **About Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai‘i**

Founded in 1989, Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai‘i (SCCH) provides professional and accessible behavioral health counseling sensitive to the spiritual traditions of individuals, families, and communities in Hawai‘i, regardless of their ability to pay. SCCH also participates in community outreach and events to raise awareness of mental health and help reduce the stigma of mental illness. For more information, call (808) 545-2740 or visit <http://www.samaritancounselingcenterhawaii.org/>.

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

1020 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96814 • Phone: (808) 545-2740 • Fax: (808) 545-2852

Website: [www.samaritancounselingcenterhawaii.org](http://www.samaritancounselingcenterhawaii.org) • Email: [info@samaritanhawaii.org](mailto:info@samaritanhawaii.org)