



A HOME FOR ALEX & HULALI

Alex will always remember May 24, 2021 - the day he moved into his very first home with his daughter Hulali.

Life certainly hasn't always been full of happy milestones for Alex who spent a year being homeless, struggled with substance abuse and almost lost custody of his only daughter. He was recovering from an unhealthy relationship and had the added challenge of dealing with stabilizing his mental health.

Hulali was born with multiple disabilities, including partial blindness and hearing loss, Down syndrome, and other medical conditions. Because of her physical disabilities, Hulali needs 24/7 support and care. In order to be reunified with his daughter, Alex needed to secure stable housing for himself and his daughter. It was a tall order, but in late 2020, Alex entered the Villages of Maili (VOM) program with the goal of being reunited with his daughter.

VOM, operated by Catholic Charities Hawai'i, offers residents the opportunity to receive stable housing and have access to a number of programs and resources that address five basic needs including housing, food and nutrition, health and wellness, economic self-sufficiency and social capital. It is through meeting these basic needs that the most long-term success has been seen in creating stability and independence for residents.

Shortly after entering the program, Alex and Hulali were reunified. While Child Welfare Services maintained their involvement with the family, Alex continued to work with his team of providers and Hulali attended school. Barrier after barrier was overcome. Alex completed his substance abuse treatment, maintained his sobriety, continued counseling services and secured permanent housing for their family.



On April 22, 2021, VOM Case Manager, Reka, and Housing Intake Specialist, Carlene, received the email for which everyone was waiting. After months of advocating and meeting, Alex and Hulali received their referral for a Permanent Supportive Housing voucher through the Institute for Human Services Housing First Program. The process to permanent housing did not take long and within weeks, Alex, accompanied by support staff, went to his first house viewing. Alex was extremely excited to sign the first lease he's ever signed in his life! Reka recalls him smiling and saying, "My first house!" as he played with the blinds on the window of his new home.

Located near Hulali's doctors' offices, stores, parks, and the bus line, the community provides a safe and clean environment for the family to thrive. Alex will continue receiving support services as he cares for Hulali and starts on this new life path.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO



ROB VAN TASSELL
President & CEO

Dear Friends,

Many people come to us asking, "where do we go from here?" – a common question people have when facing some of the hardest times in their lives. Throughout the pandemic, it is a question that everyone has thought about.

At Catholic Charities Hawai'i, we learned about new technologies, added health precautions and collaborated with community partners to seamlessly continue and enhance our services through the pandemic. Examples include telehealth and other technology-based applications allowing safe contact and support.

In 2020 we touched the lives of over 88,000 people through over 40 programs and services.

Rent relief programs with community partners helped families and individuals affected by job losses and furloughs. With three separate rounds of rent relief, CCH was able to provide relief services to 2,915 households totaling assistance to 7,163 individuals in need.

Counseling and outreach programs assisted youth and individuals with their mental health needs. Last year counseling needs increased and our programs served 324 individuals. Many of these sessions were done via telehealth to ensure the safety of staff and clients.

We are now getting ready for our 75th anniversary (2022) - stay tuned for exciting events commemorating this major milestone! As we look to the next 75 years, our leadership and program teams are working on our three-year strategic plan to continue meeting the needs of those most vulnerable in the community.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i is committed to serving our community. **We meet people where they are and empower them with the tools and support they need to move forward.** As a community of hope, we are here to help vulnerable families and individuals face the uncertainty and difficulties brought about by the coronavirus pandemic.

We are truly grateful for the incredible outpouring of support from donors, foundations, businesses and volunteers during a challenging year. Together we will continue to meet whatever needs arise from this crisis and beyond.

Thank you for moving forward with us and continuing to support Catholic Charities Hawai'i.

With aloha,

Rob Van Tassell

DONOR HIGHLIGHT

JAMES WALSH

Donor and Diocesan Director of Pastoral Planning



Jim Walsh is a long-time supporter of Catholic Charities Hawai'i (CCH), giving both of his time and resources as well as including CCH in his estate planning.

He began as a member of the Catholic Charities Elderly Services Board in the 1990s and later joined the Catholic Charities Hawai'i Board of Directors when the two entities consolidated. More recently, Jim was a member of the Parish Relations Committee for many years. "My involvement opened my eyes to the wide range of programs and services provided by the dedicated staff," shares Jim. "Serving others and giving back to the community have always been a key part of my commitment."

Jim is graduate of the University of Notre Dame and University of Hawai'i with an MBA. He retired from HMSA as vice president for professional relations/advocacy and vice president of provider services after ten years. Previous to that position he held administrator positions of several departments at Straub Medical Center for more than 20 years.

"CCH serves people of all faiths and the growing segment of those with no faith. The problems addressed may change but the organization is still helping and serving the community where needed. And that's why I continue to support the organization in whatever ways I can."

In addition to being a CCH donor, Jim continues to support our efforts as volunteer speaker at his parish for our annual Catholic Charities Sunday campaign. Mahalo Jim for your continued commitment to CCH!

CIRCLE OF HOPE SOCIETY

The **Catholic Charities Hawai'i Circle of Hope Society** recognizes friends who support the mission of Catholic Charities Hawai'i in their estate plans. An honorary designation is conferred upon all known donors who take advantage of the following types of planned gifts:

- Will or living trust
- Life insurance policy
- Real estate
- Charitable remainder trusts
- Beneficiary designations of IRAs and retirement plans

No dues or obligations are required for membership. No minimum gift amount is required. As a Circle of Hope Society member, you will be acknowledged (with

your permission) in CCH publications and invited to attend special events for major donors.

When you join the Circle of Hope Society, your example of stewardship also inspires others to make a legacy gift. Individually, we can make a difference, but together our impact is multiplied, not just now, but into the future.

Contact Gary Yoshida, Major Gifts & Planned Giving Specialist, at (808) 527-4825 or email at gary.yoshida@CatholicCharitiesHawaii.org to request a copy of the **Leave A Legacy: A Guide to Charitable Gift Planning** brochure with information on the Circle of Hope Society.

HAWAI'I ISLAND HIGHLIGHT

Volunteers Making A Difference

Each year, Catholic Charities Hawai'i staff from Hilo and Kona look forward to participating in the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association's Annual Charity Walk event in Waikoloa. Staff bring their extended families, Hawai'i Island Leadership Council and Emeritus members also participate and bring family and colleagues. Island parishes are also very active in recruiting walkers, with all of the West Hawai'i Vicariates participating.

The annual event was cancelled in 2020 due to the pandemic, but on May 8, 2021, four CCH leader volunteers participated in the Hawai'i Island Charity Walk Golf Tournament at the Mauna Kea Resort's challenging world class course.

Long-time friends Dave Kurohara, Don Watson, Don David and Jim Echels not only make a difference in the community as CCH volunteers, they also know how to have fun! Over the years, they have participated in a wide range of CCH activities including fundraising, leadership roles, organizing programs and manual labor in the kitchen for two Family Homelessness Summits!

During the golf tournament, the foursome jokingly bragged that they were shooting for last place, but had respectable golf scores. "We're so grateful for their unwavering support, hard work and wonderful sense of humor," shares CCH Hawai'i Island Community Director Beth Murph.



PHOTO L to R: David Kurohara, Don David, Jim Echels, Don Watson.

The Hawai'i Island staffers, parishes, leadership council and emeritus members are gearing up for the 2021 Virtual Charity Walk slated for Monday, August 30 through Sunday, September 12, 2021. Hope to see you there!

KAUA'I HIGHLIGHT

Youth Enrichment Program - Helping Kids Thrive

CCH's Kaua'i Youth Enrichment Program offers financial assistance to families with limited income and support systems to alleviate the costs of quality youth social, academic, and enrichment activities. Funds help families cover fees for supportive activities to provide safe, enriching experiences for their children.

Through the Youth Enrichment Program, CCH helped Hoku - a single mother of children with special needs - who lost significant income during the pandemic. Funds assisted with school fees during the COVID-19 pandemic which provided full-day, in-person education. This support was key to continuing childrens' school activities in a safe and familiar environment that addressed their special needs.

"My Ohana greatly appreciates your gifts of hope. You have helped give us the courage to hold our heads up through our journey of unforeseen circumstances. Words truly can't express how you've impacted our lives." - Hoku



The families we assist are deeply grateful for the opportunity to access healthy development activities, which help their children grow physically, emotionally, and mentally. "It is truly a privilege to provide the community with this amazing resource and provide the kids we serve with a chance to thrive," shares Melody Lopez, CCH Kaua'i Community Director. "Many send heartwarming thank you notes and pictures of their keiki in programs such as gymnastics, hula, baseball, attending school, swimming at the pool and more."

The Youth Enrichment Program is made possible in partnership with the Strong Foundation and Kaua'i Planning and Action Alliance.

MAUI HIGHLIGHT

Providing a Hand of Hope During COVID-19

Amber was working multiple jobs in the tourism industry when everything came to a halt with the pandemic. During the shutdown, she was laid off and had great difficulty finding new work. Later she too was overcome by the virus. As a result, she fell months behind on her rent and faced eventual eviction when the moratorium was lifted.

Fortunately, she applied and qualified for rent relief and housing assistance funds through CCH's program partnership with the State of Hawai'i. Amber shares her experience:

"Just when I thought I couldn't get back up, a hand of hope reached down and said, 'Let us help you.'"

If the following events had not happened to me, I don't know I would believe it. I am a woman here on the island alone, which is stressful enough. Not only was I already trying to overcome the stress of dealing with a traumatic event of a family member being in ICU for 113 days, I personally got COVID and nearly died.

I then faced the island shutting down and being laid off from my jobs. I waited several months for unemployment, which only compounded my already financially stressed situation.



And, just when I was about to go completely under, Catholic Charities reached down and gave me a helping hand. They went above and beyond by not only extending financial assistance, but, more importantly, provided compassion and understanding.

I just wanted to know that someone cared about me and humanity, Catholic Charities did just that.

I had faith in God and Catholic Charities gave me hope."



(Left) CCH's Kupuna to Kamali'i Program for Victims of Crime held a drive-up event for the Waianae community in the Spring.



(Right) CCH's Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center provided a site for COVID-19 vaccinations for seniors in partnership with the Kalihi-Palama Health Center.



(Left) The CCH Adopt a Block team took to the streets of the Makiki neighborhood, home of our main Campus this Summer.

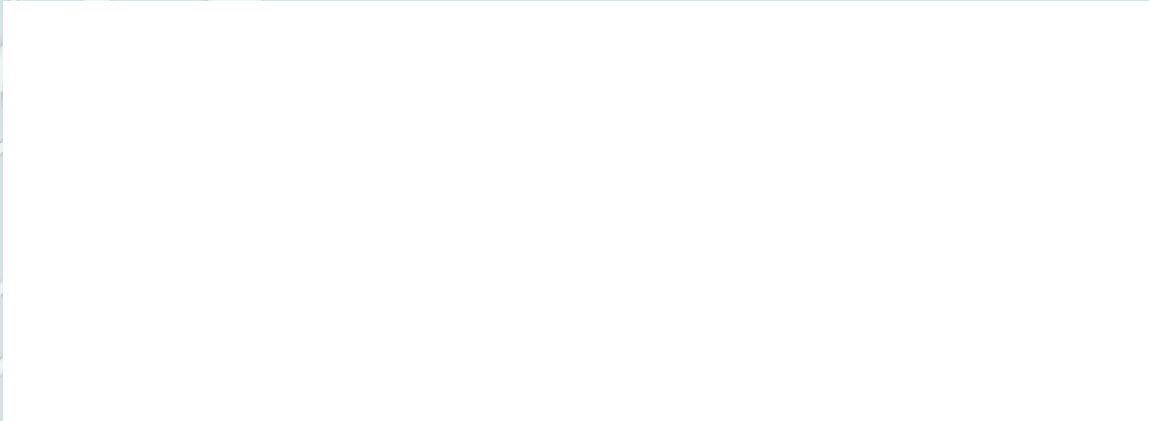


(Right) Kahala Nui made a generous donation to Catholic Charities Hawai'i and partnering non-profit organizations: Alzheimers Association, Kokua Kalihi Valley, Hawai'i Meals on Wheels, and Project Dana through Aloha United Way.



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OUR MISSION:

We are a community of hope that promotes the dignity of each person by helping others empower themselves. We provide a wide range of social services with compassion and a commitment to excellence. Through our programs and our advocacy for social justice, we lovingly serve all people, especially those with the greatest need.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII