



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

HOPE CONNECTION

The Newsletter of Catholic Charities Hawai'i

SPRING 2016

HELP MEET THE NEED NOW

For nearly 70 years, Catholic Charities Hawai'i has served our local community by striving to improve the quality of life for all Hawai'i residents. Through programs and advocacy efforts, Catholic Charities Hawai'i serves all people, especially those with the greatest need, regardless of their faith or culture.

Over the years, our organization has grown to fit the expanding and changing needs of the community, providing a multitude of programs to annually serve over 40,000 individuals: kūpuna, keiki and others in need.

Seven years ago, we asked the community for their support in establishing a new home for Catholic Charities Hawai'i (CCH). Together, we were able to raise an unprecedented \$21 million for a new campus in Makiki: a one-stop shop for a variety of services and programs.

Now Catholic Charities has initiated a different fund-raising drive to help fund our core services programs called Meet the Need Now.



The need for affordable housing, our local homelessness situation, an aging population and Hawai'i's cost of living will mean even more reliance on social services and programs provided by our organization.

While we appreciate contributions of all sizes, the Meet the Need Now drive allows us to solicit larger monetary gifts that can be funneled to urgent funding needs as particular social issues arise.

As the numbers of at-risk and vulnerable people in our community grow, we ask for your support. You can contribute to our Meet the Need Now fund via several ways: Our website at www.catholiccharitieshawaii.org/support/donate. Our phone line at (808) 527-4820. You can also support the Meet the Need Now effort by spreading the word about the fund-raising drive to your friends, family and colleagues.

Unlike our other fund-raising drives that have focused on long-term capital and infrastructure projects, the intent of "Meet The Need Now" is to literally help CCH assist those most in need.

Like many other non-profit organizations, CCH faces reduced public/government funding each year. This means an increased reliance on contributions, private donations additional sources of program service fees and other revenue to serve those in need.

To learn more about our clients pictured here, see page 3 of our newsletter.



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*Leslie Correa and
Jerry Rauckhorst*



A message from Leslie Correa, Chairman of the Board and Jerry Rauckhorst, President and CEO

ALOHA! As a leader in providing human services support, Catholic Charities Hawai'i assists more than 40,000 people of all ages each year. Among them are individuals and families struggling with poverty, abuse, homelessness, limited funds for basic necessities, joblessness and more.

Our community's reliance on Catholic Charities Hawai'i's social service programs is greater than ever, and growing quickly. Program costs are increasing annually at the same time that public funding is shrinking. Because we are a non-profit, mission-driven organization, our values and ethical standards direct us to serve all in need regardless of their faith or culture, even as reductions in government funding affect more than 90 percent of the programs that support low-income and vulnerable people.

This is why our ongoing **Meet the Need Now** fund drive is more important than ever to sustain these programs. Consider these facts:

- Back in 2010, approximately one in seven (14.5 percent) Hawai'i residents were 65 years of age and older. By 2020, that total will increase to nearly one of every four persons – a 209 percent increase. Meanwhile, the waiting lists for elderly affordable housing in Honolulu have remained long, ranging from two to seven years.
- About 25 percent of adult children provide personal care and/or financial assistance to a parent. The cost impact on female caregivers is \$324,044; and on male caregivers is \$283,715; female/male caregiver 50+ is \$303,880.
- State and City & County agencies, along with several local non-governmental organizations, have noted a five-year trend on O'ahu showing a steady increase in homeless numbers, up 10 percent from 2010. A 2015 survey found there were an estimated 7,600 sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons statewide.

Combine these statistics with a historically high cost of living that is exacerbated by rapidly increasing housing costs, and the result is ever larger numbers of people in need of assistance. With housing costs here approximately three times the national average, and wages that are generally below the national average, the situation is dire and growing worse.

The **Meet the Need Now** drive will provide a reliable source of funding for our core services, allowing Catholic Charities Hawai'i to respond quickly to these rapidly growing priorities.

We are truly grateful for the community's support over the years in helping those in need. We continue to ask for your kōkua in continuing our mission in serving others.

MAHALO.

OUR MISSION:

Helping people in need to help themselves, regardless of their faith

OUR CORE VALUES:

Dignity of each person calls us to reverence the God-given life and dignity of each person at every stage and condition of life.

HOPE CONNECTION

Three examples of how your donations are assisting others

REACHING OUT TO OUR KŪPUNA



Jane, age 76, has lived in an affordable senior housing apartment on a fixed income for several years. Living solely on her social security benefits, she was spending 60 percent of her income on rent alone. After a bout with illness last year, Jane found her medical bills piling up and her meager social security check could not sustain those bills on top of her monthly expenses.

She decided that it was finally time to ask for help and reached out to Catholic Charities Hawai'i, which provides case

management services at her senior housing complex. Upon reviewing Jane's expenses, a Catholic Charities Hawai'i social worker assisted her with finding other resources to ease her financial stress and helped Jane receive a rent reduction based on her current financial situation.

Jane is grateful for the hand up that she received from Catholic Charities Hawai'i. These efforts took a heavy burden off her shoulders and she feels comfort in knowing that she is able to remain in her home.

REACHING OUT TO WOMEN EXPERIENCING AN UNPLANNED PREGNANCY



Renee is a young woman who recently immigrated to Hawai'i from the Philippines after leaving an abusive relationship. With a new fiancé and a baby on the way, she was on a path to a new start. But complex circumstances led to the incarceration of her fiancé. Suddenly, Renee found herself alone and uncertain of her future.

She reached out to our Mary Jane Home, which offers a unique housing and educational opportunity for single women who need a safe, nurturing, and affordable

place to live during their pregnancy.

Renee immediately took to the staff and the other residents who were encouraging and supportive of one another. She also enjoyed the educational classes on birthing and parenting and other skills such as budgeting. Renee recently gave birth to a beautiful baby boy who she named Mason. With the help she received from Catholic Charities Hawai'i, she now has the skills needed to care for her new family and to plan for the future.

REACHING OUT TO THE POOR AND HOMELESS



Brandie is a disabled single mother of three minor children. The family faced challenging times during the past several

years. Brandie is unable to work as a result of debilitating injuries she received in three separate car accidents, none of which were her fault. Trying to make ends meet on a very limited budget, Brandie and her children were living with relatives when a fire destroyed the home and left them with nothing.

After many months of looking for something they could afford, they found an apartment in 'Ewa Beach. After hearing her story, the rental agent thought that Catholic Charities Hawai'i might be able

to help her. Brandie found that she qualified for financial assistance toward their first month's rent through Catholic Charities Hawaii's Housing Placement Program. Her CCH case worker also provides supportive guidance and assistance in finding additional resources such as furniture.

Today, Brandie finally feels a sense of stability in their lives and is excited about starting over. The entire family is looking forward to a brighter future and finds comfort in being in their own home.

OUR CORE VALUES:

Compassion calls us, as sisters and brothers, to be present with others in their suffering and need and to serve with a caring spirit.

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COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

'Ulu Circle Reception:
Mary Dang, Collin Dang, Stella Wong



Matson Foundation Supports Catholic Charities Hawaii's Volunteer & Community Engagement Program: Jerry Rauckhorst, Jocelyn Chagami, Lynn "Vince" Abramo (CCH Director of Volunteer & Community Engagement), Chris Dang, Gary Nakamatsu

Maui Community Office Open House & Blessing: Jerry Rauckhorst, Mayor Alan Arakawa, Thelma Akita-Kealoha (CCH Maui Community Office Director)



Kāhala Nui Supports Catholic Charities Hawaii's Housing Assistance for Seniors Program: Cindy Adams (CEO, Aloha United Way), Jerry Rauckhorst, Pat Duarte (CEO, Kāhala Nui)

Board of Advisors (BOA) Reception: Larry Rodriguez (BOA Vice Chair), Jerry Rauckhorst, John Dean (BOA Chair)



New Board Orientation: Jerry Rauckhorst, Kim Jones, Gidget Ruschetta, Paul Saito, Vernon Wong, Jesse Bean, Les Correa

Friends of Catholic Charities Founders Achievement Recognition: Bishop Larry Silva, Tom Huber, Gerry Ching, Chris Dang, Jerry Rauckhorst; missing Bob Tsushima



National Association of Social Workers Awards Dinner: Dana Rauckhorst, Aaron Rauckhorst, Jerry Rauckhorst (Lifetime Achievement Award), Cheri Rauckhorst, William Rauckhorst

OUR CORE VALUES: **Social Justice** calls us to be a community of hope that works to achieve the common good, promotes individual rights and responsibilities, and advocates on behalf of those with the greatest need.

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CCH's Neighbor Island Community Offices



CCH's Neighbor Island team from left to right: Elizabeth "Beth" Murph, Hawai'i Island Community Director; Rebecca Yonamine, Neighbor Island Community Administrator; Tina Andrade, Vice President – Catholic Identity and Mission; Thelma Akita-Kealoha, Maui Community Director; and Debra de Luis, Kaua'i Community Director.

CCH's Neighbor Island offices located on Hawai'i Island, Kaua'i and Maui have been busy serving – and continue to serve – our clients each and every day. Neighbor Island Directors Elizabeth "Beth" Murph on Hawai'i Island, Debra de

Luis on Kaua'i, and Thelma Akita-Kealoha on Maui keep things running smoothly by keeping a pulse on issues, trends and social needs of each island.

As issues arise, Debra, Beth and Thelma

connect with various agencies, participating in efforts to address important island issues often shared by all in our state.

One example is the critical issue of homelessness. On Hawai'i Island, we are striving to bring unity and a statewide alignment to Hawai'i Island agencies and governmental providers, where Beth participated in the Landlord Summits recently held in Hilo and Kona. On Kaua'i, Debra participated in the Kaua'i Realtor's Expo, and on Maui, Thelma keeps abreast of any meetings related to homelessness.

Other efforts taking place at each neighbor island office is their work with vicariates and volunteers and by serving clients through a varied array of services and support, such as distribution of bus passes and assistance with past utility/rent payments.

Our Hawai'i Island, Kaua'i and Maui community directors work closely with their respective Advisory Boards, excitedly helping to build strong and active boards that are engaged and involved with the community.

To contact CCH's neighbor island offices see page 6.

IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER FOR DONATIONS

Did you know that the IRA Charitable Rollover provision allows individuals who have reached age 70½ to donate up to \$100,000 to charitable organizations like Catholic Charities Hawai'i directly from their Individual Retirement Account (IRA), without treating the distribution as taxable income?

In December 2015, Congress passed permanent charitable tax giving

incentives. Both the House and Senate passed, and the President signed into law, the "Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes" (PATH) Act, which makes permanent certain charitable giving tax incentives, including the IRA charitable rollover.

Contact our Development Office at (808) 527-4820 or your IRA administrator for more information or to make an IRA Rollover gift in 2016.



OUR CORE VALUES:

Commitment to Excellence calls us to serve competently and collaboratively.



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www.CatholicCharitiesHawaii.org



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