



OVERCOMING OBSTACLES TOWARD EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS

Dionne is a mother, college student and a former inmate who experienced transformation through the support and care of Catholic Charities Hawaii's Mary Jane Program.

"Catholic Charities Hawai'i helped to make me who I am today, I now have the courage to share my struggles," she shares.

"When I was growing up I experienced physical and emotional abuse. At age 11, I escaped to the streets where I learned to survive by any means necessary. I fell into drugs and illegal activities to get money for drugs. Eventually, my actions sent me to prison where I spent 17 years of my life.

I was several months into my pregnancy when I was accepted into the Mary Jane Home. The program helped me keep custody of my daughter while still technically incarcerated.

I stumbled many times but knew that it was time to get back on track. During my time there, I worked full time, did housecleaning chores, attended counseling sessions and classes, and learned how to be a good parent and positive role model for my baby, Joanna.

With the help of the Residential Program Coordinator of the Mary Jane Home, I was able to achieve my educational goals. She was a wonderful mentor and helped me to secure



scholarships. Who would have thought that someone who had to start with remedial math and complete trigonometry would someday be working on a Master's in Animal Sciences at the University of Hawai'i?

My journey in life took a positive turn because of the Mary Jane Home and special people who gave me hope for a brighter future. They saw me as a whole person and treated me with dignity.

Today, my days are divided into attending classes, being a mom and doing community service projects such as teaching farming, dissection, biosafety, and security to middle and high school students through the 4-H program.

I appreciate all the help and support I have received from Catholic Charities Hawai'i. If my story can help a single person it would be worth it."



The Mary Jane Home provides a supportive, structured living environment for pregnant women who are at risk for homelessness or in an unsupportive environment. In addition to the group home, Catholic Charities Hawaii's services include case management, counseling, child-birth and parenting education classes.



LINDA NISHIGAYA
Board Vice President
Board Program
Committee Chair



STELLA M. Q. WONG
Vice President -
Programs

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your unwavering support throughout the year and through these extraordinary times. As the coronavirus pandemic continues, Catholic Charities Hawai'i is committed, now more than ever, to serve our neighbors in need.

In response to the community needs, we added and enhanced services to address needs created by the crisis:

- Our Community and Referral Programs provided financial assistance for rental and utility assistance and basic needs to at-risk families and individuals who experienced job loss.
- Our Counseling Center offered counseling services to at-risk families and individuals facing mental health stressors brought about by the coronavirus pandemic.
- Our family programs added additional outreach and support for at-risk families.
- Our housing and group home programs developed numerous partnerships with community partners, diocesan partners, and individuals for meals, masks, food baskets and basic personal needs items for shelter, group home, and affordable housing sites.
- Transportation Services for Seniors partnered with nonprofit partners to make food deliveries to seniors in need. Transportation is being provided to CCH senior case management sites for grocery shopping during kupuna hours.
- Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, although the facility is closed, volunteers created online classes and center staff made regular check-in calls to center members.
- Phone a Friend Program made check-in calls to isolated seniors with the help of volunteers.

As we serve as an essential business, our dedicated staff remain at the front lines, whether it be meeting with at-risk families, working in our shelters, providing a reassuring voice to isolated seniors and so much more. We continue to make adjustments to keep our staff and clients safe and healthy. Teleworking, telehealth and Zoom meetings are added practices in our effort to continue to provide needed services during this crisis.

We are grateful to our supporters, volunteers, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Honolulu, and our community and government partners for walking with us through this crisis. Together we are truly stronger.

Blessings to you and your families and loved ones.

With aloha,

Handwritten signature of Linda Nishigaya in black ink.

Linda Nishigaya
Board Vice President
Board Program Committee Chair

Handwritten signature of Stella M. Q. Wong in black ink.

Stella M. Q. Wong
Vice President – Programs

DONOR HIGHLIGHT

CHRIS DANG

A Purpose-Driven Volunteer Leader

For 24 years, Christopher “Chris” Dang has been a committed volunteer of Catholic Charities Hawai‘i (CCH). As a young professional, he joined the Catholic Charities Elderly Services board where he served as the chair. When CCH restructured its affiliate services into one corporation, Chris chaired the larger organizational board from 2013-2015. He sometimes referred to CCH as his second job! Chris believed it was time well spent knowing that the mission and values of CCH continue to thrive and grow today.

Chris stated “with the multitude of programs and services offered, it is not surprising that our governmental and business leaders, donors, and supporters in general, rely on CCH’s large safety net to help those that are vulnerable in our community. Each of us has causes we believe in and it is in those causes in which we dedicate our time. Although I have served on many not-for-profit boards over the years, CCH has always retained my attention and my heart. As one of the largest social services provider in Hawai‘i, CCH’s depth of commitment by its staff, senior management and our selfless community board leaders make CCH second to none. It is when we hear the many personal



success stories of those served by CCH do we begin to truly understand CCH’s role in making a difference in Hawai‘i, one person at a time.”

Chris continues his commitment to CCH by serving on the development committee and volunteering for special projects. Chris and his parents, Collin and Mary Dang, are long-time supporters and we are grateful for their dedication to strengthening our community.

Christopher Dang is an Estate Planning Attorney who specializes in the areas of Estate Planning, Probate, Trust Administration, and Asset Protection Planning.

WHAT DO YOU WANT YOUR LEGACY TO BE?

It isn’t necessary to be a person of great wealth to make a meaningful contribution. Anyone can leave a legacy. Here are some ways you can support Catholic Charities Hawai‘i - find the one that seems right for you and contact us for more information about how we can help you and your family create a legacy to your community.

- **Giving Through Your Will or Trust** will enable you to distribute assets to individuals and non-profit organizations in the amounts or proportions you indicate.
- **Making a Beneficiary Designation** allows you to name Catholic Charities Hawai‘i as a recipient of property (such as life insurance, retirement plans and IRAs) that passes to beneficiaries according to a designation instead of under a will or trust.
- **Gifts of Stock or Securities** – an outright gift of long-term appreciated securities (held for more than a year) avoids capital gains taxes and may have other tax benefits.



By remembering Catholic Charities Hawai‘i in your estate plans, you reach those most in need, bringing help and hope for many years and generations to come.

Please contact Gary Yoshida, Major Gifts & Planned Giving Specialist in the Development Office at (808) 527-4825 or email gary.yoshida@catholiccharitieshawaii.org for more information.



Board of Advisors Gathering: Rob Van Tassell, Sybil Saito, Chris Benjamin, Paul Saito



CCH welcomed new Board of Directors members **Diane Murakami**, Kim Jones, Rev. Msgr. Gary Secor, Rob Van Tassell, **Eddie Ontai**, **Alan Ito**



Mayor Harry Kim, Rob Van Tassell, Beth Murph, David Kurohara at Hawai'i Island County Mayor's Office



Ham Produce and Seafood Food Box Donations at CCH Clarence T. C. Ching Campus and Maili Land Transitional Housing Program



CCH's Kauai Leadership Council: David Lister, Derreck Adams, Shantel Santiago, Vice Chair, Tom Strom, Melody Lopez, Rob Van Tassell, Leah Ragsac, Kahea Ragudo, Rev. Anthony Rapozo, Terence Liu, Chair



CCH and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints - Light the World Campaign: Front row: Val Grace, Stella Wong, Tina Andrade, Mary Saunders, Susan Kunz, Wailana Kamau'u; Back row: Rob Van Tassell, Eric Workman, Al Grace, Seth Casey



Tina Andrade, CCH VP of Mission Integration, honored at Pacific Business News' Women Who Mean Business Celebration: Front row: Stella Wong, Kanani Andrade, Tina Andrade, Mary Saunders, Cecelia Shaner; Back row: Jerry Rauckhorst, Alika Andrade, James Andrade, Rebecca Yonamine, Rob Van Tassell



CCH's Transportation Services for Seniors Team continues to serve kupuna during the pandemic: Priscilla Asiata, Stacey Gasper, Carnation Naki, Cookie Irvine, Faa Vaesau, Jon Barona, Nathan Sataraka

KAUA'I COMES TOGETHER

Kaua'i remained diligent in keeping their COVID case numbers low and the community rallied together to help one another. Kaua'i received crisis funding early in the pandemic and was able to offer assistance to those affected by COVID-19 fairly quickly.

Increased calls to the Hope Line resulted in 55 households (145 individuals) receiving rent and utility assistance by the end of May. The average assistance per household was close to \$800.00.

Supplies (hygiene/first aid) to the homeless were distributed via Ho'ola Lahui Hawai'i outreach and a breakfast event with New Hope Church served over 200 people.



RECOVERY EFFORTS CONTINUE ON HAWAI'I ISLAND

In 2018 the Kilauea volcano eruption disaster on Hawai'i Island destroyed homes and displaced many residents who were already struggling. The effects were devastating for the Puna community. Two years later, they are still recovering.

CCH provided aid to over 300 homes through financial or material assistance. We were able to help people like Stacy. Stacy and her two daughters evacuated their home near fissure cone 8 with few personal items to a disaster shelter. Months later, Stacy and her daughters were allowed to return to their home. Luckily the house was intact, however, their only source of clean water, their catchment system, was completely destroyed by the lava. CCH assisted in providing funds to replace it for the struggling family.

With the support of donations, grants and community partnerships CCH's Hawai'i Community Program continues to assist in the recovery efforts for Kilauea earthquake and volcanic eruption survivors.



KAHULUI LANI PROVIDES AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR SENIORS ON MAUI

We are excited to share that phase one of Kahului Lani, a low-income senior rental housing project of Catholic Charities Housing Development Corporation will begin moving in new residents at the end of June 2020.

Kahului Lani's first phase is a six-story building with 81 one-bedroom units for seniors aged 55 and older. Community partner, Hale Mahaolu, will assist in managing the property. Applications for this initial phase were accepted and processed in August of 2019. We received a great response with over 400 applications. The team held a lottery for the units to qualified seniors in September 2019.



Construction is scheduled to start soon for phase two of the development, which will include 83 one-bedroom units and a multi-purpose facility. This facility will include offices for Catholic Charities Hawai'i to provide on-site case management and other programs for the residents.



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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