



For Immediate Release

August 11, 2015

**Helping Hands Hawaii Promotes Heather Pierucki to Director of Behavioral Health
from Team Leader/Qualified Mental Health Professional**

HONOLULU—Helping Hands Hawaii (HHH) has promoted Heather Pierucki to Director of Behavioral Health from Team Leader/Qualified Mental Health Professional of the Hawaii Pathways Project. As the Director of Behavioral Health, Pierucki will oversee the development, management and organization of behavioral health programs; establish the highest level of best and evidence-based practices in each program; and survey community needs, government services, service providers and trends in the mental health and substance abuse fields.

She will also establish collaborative relationships with community service providers to ensure wrap-around delivery of care for clients and effective behavioral health and substance abuse treatment services. Pierucki will monitor program budgets and financial reports, contractual quality assurance requirements and ensure CARF accreditation standards and all contractual requirements are met while assisting with the research and pursuit of alternative funding sources and new program funding opportunities

Pierucki has been with HHH since October 2014 and holds a bachelor's degree in social work from Northern Illinois University and a master's degree in mental health counseling from Argosy University. She has been a licensed mental health counselor in Hawaii since March 2013 and currently serves as secretary of the Hawaii Counselors Association and as co-editor of the Arizona Counseling Journal.

About Helping Hands Hawaii

Helping Hands Hawaii (HHH) was founded in 1974 and connects individuals, families and organizations with essential human and material resources. Through our variety of programs, we provide a full continuum of care and help people overcome obstacles, like homelessness, mental illness, substance abuse and language access. Our strong partnerships with local social service providers and innovative approaches strengthen our community by helping people to help themselves. To learn more about HHH, its programs or services, please visit www.HelpingHandsHawaii.org.

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