



For Immediate Release

January 9, 2017

ADOPT A FAMILY PROGRAM HELPS MORE THAN 570 HOUSEHOLDS AND MAINTAINS 100% ADOPTION RATE

HONOLULU—The 2016 Adopt A Family (AAF) program helped more than 570 low-income and homeless households (2,297 individuals) celebrate a brighter holiday. More than 270 individual and corporate donors and 60 volunteers helped AAF successfully adopt 100 percent of its participants for the seventh year in a row.

The number of donors increased by 20 percent from last year and volunteers logged more than 525 hours, which reflects how many people were looking for ways to make a positive impact during the holidays.

Participating households were referred to the program through more than 30 community organizations and consisted of single- or multi-parent households, elderly singles or couples, elderly households with dependents, disabled individuals, veterans or victims of domestic violence. By adopting these families, donors provided essential, basic necessities that households could not afford on their own.

“We were overwhelmed by the support we received from the community this year and saw a marked increase in the number of groups and individuals who volunteered during the holidays,” said Helping Hands Hawaii President and CEO Jan Harada. “In addition to donors who adopt families, volunteer support is crucial to the success of this program because our daily operations do not stop during Adopt A Family season. The additional volunteers were truly appreciated and allowed staff to balance priorities throughout the agency.”

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 various 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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