

# WELCOME TO PALOLO CHINESE HOME



Darlene Nakayama, CEO; Brenda Kumabe, Chief Financial and Development Officer; and Kevin Wu, Assistant Administrator and Director of the Hawaii Neighborhood Outreach to the Aged Program (HiNOA)



CG Staff alongside Rona, Darlene, Donna (our wonderful volunteer), Bill and Brian, who are a few of the people that helped us get here!



I believe the home is one of the most important things in one's life. Aside from providing shelter, a home is many, many things. It's where we laugh, fight and makeup with our friends and family, where our cat comes back to cuddle after a long night of hunting mice and cockroaches, where we can finally unbutton our tight-fitting slacks, kick our shoes off, (and pass gas fearlessly). As I've grown older, I've also realized that home isn't necessarily a physical structure. In fact, home is the feeling. Home is the smell of coffee, eggs and spam on Sunday morning. Home is when we walk through the door after a long day and receive a kiss from a loved one. Home is the people who make it home.

After 15 years, Common Grace finally has it's own office. It's a major gift from God. We're still pinching ourselves and we are so thankful to be deep in the back of Palolo Valley, alongside our friends at Palolo Chinese Home and very close to one of our school partnerships at Palolo Elementary School. Now we're even starting "Grand-Grace" so our CG kids will be able to visit with the sometimes lonely kupuna at PCH. And as ecstatic as we are at our beautiful office here, we also want to remember and thank you, that for all these years, you have been our home. You have followed us and supported us wherever we were, whether our staff would meet at 99 Ranch and then get kicked out after our 4<sup>th</sup> hour there, or here at our office in the back of the valley. We are so grateful to you for being our home—it's where our heart is.

Love you,  
Leighna



Yes! I'd love to give an end-of-the-year gift to continue helping lonely children!

I'd love to give a gift of ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please check if you'd like to donate monthly (we will contact you): ☐

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

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Common Grace P.O. Box 31116 Honolulu, HI 96820  
If you prefer to give online, you can visit [commongrace.org/donate](http://commongrace.org/donate)



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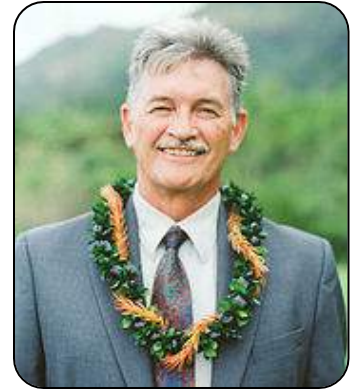
## IN THIS ISSUE:

### 15<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF COMMON GRACE

Yes, dear member of our CG Family, we've been inspiring, training, screening and matching mentors with lonely kids for 1.5 decades. Over 2,000 mentors deployed. Over 2,000 children blessed. Read all about it—

### NEW OFFICE + NEW PARTNER IN KINDNESS

We enjoyed the house-pitality of Kaimuki Christian Church—they gave us free office space in a lovely, old, turn-of-the-century house on church property until it needed to be demolished. So we searched and searched. "Please, Father, guide us to a place for Common Grace." Then. Amazingly. We found **Palolo Chinese Home!** The famous rest and care home for elderly, (we call seniors "Kupuna" in Hawaiian). Wow! It's perfect. And, even better, we will work with them to bring children we mentor up to the Home to sit on the laps of the kupuna and read to them. Our Heavenly Father is King of the "win-wins".



### ENVELOPE FOR DONATIONS/PICTURES OF YOU AND YOUR GRACECHILD

Please send us some money to keep us going and, if you can, include a photograph of yourself and a child you love. I want to make a giant mosaic of God-graced relationships between grown-ups and little kids. Cover a whole wall of our new office. We'll welcome a snapshot, a copy of a snapshot, a photo in an email—anything. We are all about kids and people who love kids.

-Jay



# Celebrating our 15-Year Anniversary!



help us add to the MOSAIC!



## OVER THE YEARS

We have deployed over 2,000 mentors to help over 2,000 lonely children, facilitated over 60 church and school partnerships, implemented YouthGrace in the last few years (a mentoring partnership between high school juniors & seniors + lonely children) and currently dreaming of "Grand-Grace," to bring together CG kids with the kupuna at Palolo Chinese Home.

## WHY IS IT STILL HAPPENING?

Charlie Hoehn, a contributing author of the online blog called *Medium*, recently published his thoughts on the saddening Mandalay Bay shooting in Las Vegas (read the article on our most recent blog post @ [commongrace.org](http://commongrace.org)). He was in middle school when the Columbine shootings occurred and has found himself exploring mental health issues in the last few years. He concluded that the biggest cause of mass shootings in the United States is **LONELINESS**. He wrote that Simon Sinek said, "We're seeing a rise of loneliness and isolation. No one kills themselves when they're hungry; we kill ourselves when we're lonely. And we act out, as well...How do we combat the loneliness that kids are feeling? All of them attacked people in their own community, and all of them attack people they blamed for their own loneliness."

He also quoted Dr. Dean Ornish, who is the founder of the Preventive Medicine Research Institute, on the effects of loneliness: "I am not aware of any other factor—not diet, not smoking, not exercise, not stress, not genetics, not drugs, not surgery—that has a greater impact on our incidence of illness, and [chance of] premature death," than LONELINESS!

## OUR ROOTS

Uncle Jay conjured the idea of Common Grace because he was heartbroken by the mass shooting at Columbine High School by two teenagers. When their personal lives were analyzed, they were found to be hurting and lonely, with no one who cared to listen or concerned whether they lived or died. Uncle Jay decided he never wanted a mass shooting in Hawai'i. He would dedicate himself to provide many lonely children with mentors that genuinely cared about them, loved them and would spend at least an hour each week with them.

## THE SOLUTION

**COMMON GRACE** is a preventative program. We are the solution to the loneliness that is the deadliest killer in our country. Whether you have been or are a mentor, have supported us financially, or kept us in your prayers—you have helped a child that is battling with pain, anger, hurt and loneliness in his life. We provide the friend they desperately want and need.

We are celebrating 15 years of special friendships. Soon we will be creating a huge mosaic of everything Common Grace represents. Included in this Big News is an envelope. We'd love for you to send us a picture of you and a child you love or you can send it to our email, [commongraceofhawaii.org](mailto:commongraceofhawaii.org). We love you! And thank you for helping give love and grace to children!

MAHALO LOVE & SUPPORT throughout the years!  
for your YOU HAVE HELPED HEAL LONELINESS FROM THE LIVES OF COUNTLESS CHILDREN FOR 15 YEARS.