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HOUSE RESOLUTION

COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING ALOHA UNITED WAY, THE INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES, ADULT FRIENDS FOR YOUTH, AND YMCA OF HONOLULU FOR THEIR EXEMPLARY WORK IN SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE AND FAMILIES OF HAWAII.

WHEREAS, the spirit of giving, sharing, helping, and aloha has long been a fundamental part of Hawaii's culture; and

WHEREAS, the people of Hawaii have organizations who continue this tradition of generosity by choosing to help many needy residents and "at risk" youth and to provide them with shelter, housing, healthcare, and the opportunity to succeed in life; and

WHEREAS, ALOHA UNITED WAY began serving Hawaii's people in 1919 when Frank C. Atherton established the United Welfare Fund under the jurisdiction of the Honolulu Chamber of Commerce to create a more efficient way to raise money for 17 charitable institutions; the United Welfare Fund became a separate legal entity in 1938 and was renamed the Honolulu Community Chest; in 1966, the Honolulu Community Chest was dissolved and the Aloha United Fund was created with 42 agencies participating; it officially changed its name to Aloha United Way in 1974 to maintain uniformity between similar organizations throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, the mission of ALOHA UNITED WAY is to build a stronger, healthier community by partnering with business, labor, government, and nonprofit organizations to deliver measurable and sustainable solutions; and

WHEREAS, ALOHA UNITED WAY focuses on three impact areas - education, poverty prevention, and a safety net for our vulnerable citizens, driving and supporting significant social change, funding collective impact, preventing problems before

they begin, and helping the vulnerable in our community who need assistance now; and

WHEREAS, THE INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES was born from the vision and legacy of the "Peanut Butter Ministry" of Reverend Claude Du Teil and in 1982 incorporated as a private non-profit comprehensive social services agency working to prevent and end homelessness in Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, THE INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES provides a spectrum of services to include emergency shelters, food programs, case management, outreach, employment assistance, healthcare services, family programs, housing support, and public education; and

WHEREAS, THE INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES efforts in Fiscal Year 2016 resulted in 1,750 people being sheltered, 278,964 meals being served, 781 people being employed, and 1,654 people being housed; and

WHEREAS, THE INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES operates, in addition to their shelters, several transitional houses including the V.E.T. House, Tutu Bert's House, and Hale Mauliola on Sand Island, a modular housing center built by the City and County of Honolulu providing not only shelter, but supportive services, case management, and housing referrals; and

WHEREAS, ADULT FRIENDS FOR YOUTH is a non-profit organization providing intervention work for high risk youth for the past 30 years, and has gained a stellar reputation for its overwhelming success with this specific youth population; and

WHEREAS, the ultimate goal of ADULT FRIENDS FOR YOUTH is to help high risk youth become contributing members of the community and society, helping to achieve such community goals as reducing poverty, promoting healthy lifestyles, and providing access to educational opportunities that enhance quality of life; and

WHEREAS, ADULT FRIENDS FOR YOUTH understands that with gangs and at risk youth, one cannot take them away from their

support network, but instead, one needs to provide outreach services and engage them in group counseling to begin to identify deep rooted problems, talk about them, and teach them skills to cope with problems as well as skills to empower them; and

WHEREAS, THE YMCA OF HONOLULU, one of the largest non-profit organizations in the state, was founded in 1869 and incorporated under the laws of the Kingdom of Hawaii in 1882; and

WHEREAS, THE YMCA OF HONOLULU had humble beginnings, first providing prayer meetings and aid to Sunday schools and operating a reading room in the Seamen's Home, then working with Chinese immigrants, expanding to provide Hi-Y clubs for youth, opening Army and Navy YMCA's, and helping with the formation of YMCAs on the islands of Kauai, Hawaii, and Maui, creating separate branches to serve local community needs; and

 WHEREAS, THE YMCA OF HONOLULU today serves thousands of children, teens, and adults in a wide variety of programs including before and after school programs, youth sports, teen leadership programs, substance abuse counseling and treatment programs, and health and wellness; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, that this body hereby commends and congratulates ALOHA UNITED WAY, THE INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES, ADULT FRIENDS FOR YOUTH, and YMCA OF HONOLULU, and extends its best wishes for success to these important organizations as they continue in their efforts to support the people of Hawaii and families in need of housing, healthcare, and essential medications and other items, and to mentor Hawaii's youth to succeed in life.

H.R. NO. 141

OFFERED BY:

Don

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