A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO | DARLENE NAKAYAMA

REFLECTING ON A CHALLENGING YEAR & LOOKING AHEAD

As we continue to embark on this new year, on behalf of Palolo Chinese Home, I want to express our profound gratitude for the endless support the community has extended to us. The extreme resilience demonstrated by our staff and kupuna has been profoundly inspiring and is a true testament to the spirit of aloha and grace that permeates our islands.

At the start of the year, PCH held its first COVID-19 vaccine clinic with Walgreens Pharmacy for the home’s residents and staff, followed promptly by two more clinics in February. Partnering with Times Pharmacy on two additional clinics, we also worked to ensure that everyone, including those receiving assistance via the Palolo Wellness Program, was provided the opportunity to take the vaccine. In addition to these efforts, we worked tirelessly to educate seniors and their families about the vaccination process, possible side effects, and COVID-19 prevention measures through our online Family Council Meetings and Q&A sessions.

We understand how devastating the isolation from loved ones has been on the Ohana. As a result, we have begun cautiously crafting plans to reopen visitation through family-focused meetings. Closely monitoring CMS updates, we are working with residents’ families to assist them in scheduling visits as of March 22nd.

“At the end of the day all you need is hope and strength. Hope that it will get better and strength to hold on until it does.”

—Jazmin Whitmore

We encourage families and friends to visit the homepage of our website to learn more about ensuing procedures and protocols. For those who are ready to book an appointment and have familiarized themselves with our plans, please contact Xiao Zhou at (808) 748-4906 or via email at xzhou@palolohome.org.

We look forward to assisting with the many joyful reunions ahead!

Darlene Nakayama
WELCOME TO OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS

ELVIRA LO

Since 1985, Elvira has been the President of P.H. Hawaii Corporation, specializing in commercial investment, leasing, and property management. As the founder of Best Aloha Partners LLC and Tikihale LLC (a Nevada-based company that focuses on Arizona investments), she engaged in custom home design and remodeling while developing a multifamily investment in Hawaii in 2003. As a bustling entrepreneur, she would kickstart several businesses, including Hibiscus Aloha Corporation, Elvira Chocolat of Hawai‘i in 1989, and Hawai‘i Monarch Chocolate in 1992; The latter showcasing the sweet treats of our islands. Elvira obtained her BS at UHM and has also been a licensed General Contractor since 2003 and a licensed Realtor since 1985.

With a history marked by excellence, she has received many accolades, including "The Best of the Quest" 1st runner up on QVC 50 States national live TV show in Washington, D.C., “The Governor Exporter of the Year” in the State of Hawai‘i for 2000, and “Small Business Exporter of the Year” in 2001. She was voted the Outstanding Chinese American business Leader by the Taiwan Overseas Chinese Affairs Office.

Elvira was the past President of the Hawai‘i Food Manufacturers Association, West Honolulu Rotary Club, Hawai‘i Chinese Civic Association, and the Associated Chines University Women. She currently serves on the HI Community Based Economic Dev. Advisory Council and is the President of the Chinese Chambers of Commerce of Hawaii.

SANDRA SOUZA

Sandra Souza is an experienced Workers Compensation Cost Containment Operation Management professional with over 20 years of industry experience; This includes more than 40 years as a Registered Nurse in the health care industry. Currently employed as the Vice President of Business Development and Client Relations at Allied Managed Care (AMC), ensuring all contract obligations are met and operations are conducted efficiently and effectively with a high level of expertise.

Additionally, Souza manages the daily operations of the Specialty Hawaii Nurse Bill Review Process, Hawaii Bill Review Provider Contract Negotiations, and the Hawaii Bill Review Dispute Resolutions for AMC. From 2005–2020, she was the Vice President of Hawaii Division providing workers’ compensation cost containment operation management for AMC services (Case Management, Utilization Review, Bill Review) in Hawaii.

Sandra previously worked at Kuakini Medical Center, starting as a Certified Nurses’ Aide (CNA) while going to nursing school at the University of Hawaii. She quickly advanced to a Critical Care Nurse (ICU/CCU) a few years after graduation and then to a Care Management Coordinator (for over 15 years). Sandra is a current member and past Board Member with the Case Management Society of America (CMSA), Hawaii Chapter, and is a current Board Member with Kids’ Chance of Hawaii. This organization provides scholarships to children of workers who have been catastrophically injured or killed on the job.

STACEY WONG

Stacey Wong is a Senior Consultant with BCR, Hawaii’s premier management consulting firm. With several decades of executive experience as the sole trustee of a large family estate, he has also dealt in real estate development and owned and managed food & beverage facilities. Wong is the co-founder and President of a successful natural gas brokerage business in Houston, TX. He received his BS and MS in Civil engineering and MBA from Stanford University.

PCH sends its warmest welcome to its new board members!
HONORING THE LEGACY OF DANIEL B.T. LAU

Collectivism is our greatest strength as a civilization. In looking at the life of one of our most generous donors Daniel B. T. Lau, it is clear that his journey, defined by compassion and kindness, demonstrates a keen understanding of that. As a donor for sixteen years, Mr. Lau supported some of PCH’s most valiant campaigns, including the effort to build the Harry Wong Wing of upper campus and the Dynasty Invitational Golf Tournament. His sacrifice and selflessness permeate themselves in every aspect of his recorded history.

After being drafted into the military, his enrollment would prove to be emotionally and physically taxing after witnessing the tragedy at Pearl Harbor and being wounded during the Battle of the Bulge. However, as evident in the way he continued to live out his life, these events would further inspire his passion for helping others. As one of the founders of Finance Factors, and later Grand Pacific Life Insurance Co., and Finance Realty, Lau would forever enrich our islands’ landscapes. He would eventually become a resident of Palolo Chinese Home, which we like to think allowed him to witness the fruits of his labor of love.

Having donated tens of thousands of dollars to our facility, we are forever grateful for the lasting impact he and his family have had on our collective identity.

PALOLO CHINESE HOME CELEBRATES THE YEAR OF THE OX

It’s officially the Year of the Ox! On March 7th, PCH ushered in Chinese New Year. In an attempt to honor and uphold this beloved tradition despite these unprecedented times, our staff provided residents a reimagined event that upheld safety standards. Our top priority was ensuring the well-being and health of all wishing to participate while remaining authentic to our vision defined by entertainment and fun. We want to extend a special thanks to Gee Yung Martial Arts Dragon & Lion Dance Sports Association for a brilliantly performed lion dance. Also, a huge mahalo to Kathy Sato for being the featured speaker during our corresponding Community Education webinar, making it possible for individuals to be virtually part of the festivities. We are happy to announce another successful event made possible by the efforts of PCH and our beloved community.

Happy New Year!
The blessing of “long life” is universally celebrated. At Palolo Chinese Home, the Chinese character for longevity (shou) has long been used as our symbol. By adding two brush strokes, the artist, the late Clarence Lee, incorporated the Chinese character for people or mankind (ren), and the result is an image of a roof embracing long life — our wish for you. The unbroken circle signifies our mission of continuous care and respect for our kupuna (elders).

Well over 100 years ago, families in Hawaii pooled their finances to create a home where aged and indigent sugar plantation laborers could receive care in the heart of beautiful Palolo Valley. Driven by a strong sense of filial piety and benevolence for the Kupuna, their vision was to create a permanent home where all Kupuna and their families could go to receive top-notch care and support.

Susan Liu first joined the PCH Ohana in 2016, as the newest participant in our Senior Day Care program. With her outgoing and friendly personality she quickly made friends among the other seniors and staff. Then in 2018, when she got injured at home, her family chose Palolo Chinese Home to assist with her rehabilitation needs. “Mom is very happy there at Palolo,” said Andrew Lee, son of Susan Liu. “She had no hesitation in moving into PCH long-term. Staff are very friendly and welcoming. Mom loves the activity time and socializing with other residents.”

As long-time donors to the home, brothers Andrew and George Lee came to believe in the good works of PCH after seeing how well the home took care of their mother. They wanted to do and give so much more than an annual donation. It was then that they decided the best way to honor their mother was to create a named Endowment. “It was an easy decision for us as a family to create an endowment legacy at the home for Mom,” said Andrew Lee. “She has made so many wonderful and lasting memories there. Our family now has a way to pay it forward and ensure other families will always have a place to go when their loved ones need care through this endowment.”

Please consider contributing to the Palolo Chinese Home Endowment Fund. By giving to the PCH Endowment Fund, your gift is “permanently restricted” and the original donation is never spent. Only a portion of the interest or earnings from the endowment is spent on an annual basis.

For more information about the various ways you can support Palolo Chinese Home, please contact Darlene Nakayama at dnakayama@palolohome.org or (808) 748-4901.

Note: Everyone's situation is different. Palolo Chinese Home encourages you to seek professional legal, estate planning, and financial advice before deciding on a course of action. This information does not constitute legal or financial advice and should not be relied upon as a substitute for professional advice.