

# -The Way Forward-

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2020  
LIVE WEBINAR  
10:00 - 11:30 A.M.  
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PLANNING FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE BEYOND COVID-19

## **Mary Leong Saunders**

As Vice President-Philanthropy at Catholic Charities Hawaii (CCH), Mary Leong Saunders provides leadership and guidance for all fund development and community engagement programs and activities. Prior to joining CCH, Saunders served as executive director of Family Promise of Hawai'i, a nonprofit organization serving homeless families with children. In addition to overseeing all operations, she was responsible for fund development, donor stewardship, staffing, program development and volunteer training.

Mary also worked previously as executive director of the Rotary Club of Honolulu, where she handled the day-to-day operations for the club's 300 members. She also served as the state supervisor of the National Assessment of Education Progress, a Congressionally-mandated assessment for the U.S. Department of Education.

Saunders graduated from Maryknoll High School and received her Bachelor's degree in English Literature from the University of Colorado.

## **Jim Murphy**

Jim Murphy is a Chicago native and nonprofit veteran and has been the Executive Director of the Honolulu Habitat for Humanity since 2014. As Executive Director, Jim Murphy manages a team that builds homes for deserving local families with the help of sponsor organizations. "It's a great organization that does a lot of amazing work," he said about Habitat for Humanity. Jim's mission is to work with as many families as possible to help them get to their dream of homeownership.

Murphy moved to Hawaii in 2013 from Chicago with his wife Leslie. Prior to his current position at Honolulu Habitat for Humanity, he worked with the American Cancer Society at Hawaii Health Systems. Murphy brought 10 years of experience working in nonprofit health care at Access Community Health Network – a network of community health centers that serve about 200,000 low-income individuals and families each year in the Chicago area. "I'm a community

person and one of the reasons I've stuck around [in Hawaii] is the solutions that come from the community," Murphy said. "Having come from Chicago, the Hawaii community is doing some amazing things to collaborate to make things better."

### **Mea Aloha Spady**

Mea Aloha Spady is the Director of Advancement at Ho'ōla Nā Pua (HNP), a nonprofit organization that helps children who have been victims of sex trafficking. HNP's mission is to offer new life through a comprehensive therapeutic campus for the vulnerable population of children who have been sex trafficked. Since 2013, HNP has provided education and training on child sex trafficking prevention to more than 16,000 individuals.

Spady has been with HNP since 2019 and prior to her current position, served as the organization's Director of Development. Spady noted that, "When I transitioned from my previous nonprofit to Ho'ōla Nā Pua, I had to adjust my approach to dealing with such a disturbing and urgent crisis. I also went from the largest international organization, Aloha United Way, to a relatively newer regional one. I had to expand my skill sets and activate new creative solutions because we are constantly forging new ground and facing adversities simultaneously."

In February 2020, Ho'ōla Nā Pua received a \$50,000 grant from The Chamber of Commerce Hawai'i in Honolulu to assist in their efforts to combat child sex trafficking. The grant, provided through the chamber's Public Health Fund (PHF), will allow Ho'ōla Nā Pua to expand trainings that will help educators and students identify and intervene in child sex trafficking. "One in four people who participated in a recent survey in Hawai'i, reported being a victim of sex trafficking—this is unacceptable," Mea Aloha Spady said. "Thanks to the Chamber of Commerce Hawai'i and the Public Health Fund, Ho'ōla Nā Pua will be able to expand teacher training to identify signs of exploitation and protect our keiki."