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A Boost from the Department of Human Services to Increase Accessibility to Music Therapy on Oahu

On January 25, 2008, Sounding Joy Music Therapy, Inc. received incredible news from **the Department of Human Services**, which accepted our grant proposal, allowing more than a hundred at-risk youths and needy families to receive music therapy services free of charge. The total of 200,000 dollars, federal money for **Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program**, was allocated to our music therapy services. It is a significant breakthrough to increase people's accessibility to music therapy in Hawaii on a big scale.

The staff currently is working very hard to implement and schedule sessions as the first phase of the service, which starts this month and is almost fully registered. The second phase, which starts in May (for the youths) and June (for needy families), is also filling



up, so for those who wish to receive services, it is important to contact our program coordinator, Ms. Karen Kei, as soon as possible.

The funded **Youth Empowerment service** aims at abstinence from at-risk behaviors, addressing learning, cognitive, social and emotional issues, empowering and facilitating positive attitudes towards independency. The other funded **Family Mediation service** aims at strengthening family bonds, abstinence from abusive behaviors, facilitating communication, releasing stress, and having quality time to spend together. The applicants must be Oahu residents. For more information about our youth and needy family services, please see our website / contact Karen at kkkei@soundingjoymt.org or (808) 295-0380.

The City of Honolulu Proclaims and Celebrates "Music Therapy Week"

The Honolulu Mayor, Mr. Mufi Hannemann, signed a proclamation that declared March 9th to 16th, 2008 as **Music Therapy Week**, acknowledging the significance of music

therapy and hard working professionals in this field. Thank you for all your advocacy work and support for music therapy that makes a difference and improves people's quality of life in our communities.

Sounding Joy Brings The First Public Education Session to Maui



On March 11th & 12th, 2008, Sounding Joy gave the very-first Continuing Music Therapy Education (CMTE) lectures on the

island of Maui. About 20 attendees enjoyed **Dr. Arthur W. Harvey's** presentations held at **J. Walter Cameron Center, Kahului, Maui**. The lectures, "Healing Power of Music", explained the therapeutic significance of music and how music therapy works, based on scientific research and findings. The organization's only affiliated music therapy

center on Maui, **Pukalani Music Therapy Center**, directed by our fellow music therapist, **Mr. Richard Kuykendall, MS, RMT**, played an essential role in the preparation of the lectures and bringing our music therapy public education to Maui. As a result of this, we were able to generate more serious interest in music therapy service implementations and requests for educational services, expanding our network on Maui to individuals, organizations, healthcare facilities, etc. For those who seek for assistance in music therapy services on Maui, please email Richard: rakrmt@maui.net, or call him at (808) 573-0424. You may also email Keiko: kkajiwaru@soundingjoymt.org, or call us.

We are on the Web!

See us at:

www.soundingjoymt.org

Visit our
Online Store!



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Music Therapy Research with Local Children with Autism

Currently, Sounding Joy Music Therapy, Inc. together with **Dr. Reiner Haus** and a team from **The University of Arts, Berlin**, Germany, seeks for funding for our research project that measures the quality of relationships between music therapists and children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) in music therapy. This research would suggest the effectiveness of music therapy for

the development of children with ASD in social and learning skills, and is important in terms of creating more treatment choices in Hawaii. Sounding Joy's proposal for the research grant from **The U.S. Department of Education** is still considered as of today. And most recently, we also have applied for another research grant from **Straub Foundation**. Please contact Keiko if you are interested in your child(ren) participating in the research.

Serving Our Community

Our board member, **Mr. Larry T. Fukunaga** gave a therapeutic, musical performance to a **Parkinson support group** in Honolulu (12/6).  Karen and Keiko gave a music therapy presentation at **Pohai Nani** retirement community in Kaneohe (12/10). Keiko gave music therapy in-service to the staff and the administrator of the **Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific** (12/12). An interest in implementing music therapy service was expressed. Sounding Joy kicked off 2008 with an open **Musical Party**, hosted by our board chair, **Dr. Christenson**, and member, **Ms. Miki May**, at Dr.'s home in Kailua (1/20). **Public Info Session** about our TANF funded programs was held at Central Union Church (3/4). Music therapy conducted for kids from **Honolulu District for Visually Impaired** at Sounding Joy's clinic (3/6).

Money Front

Department of Human Services has awarded \$200,000 to our music therapy services for one year with a possible extension. Along with this significant step towards our organization's financial stability, we also eagerly wait for the responses from **the U.S. Department of Education** and **Straub Foundation**, concerning our research grant proposals. Sounding Joy is also aware of the limited accessibility to music therapy on other islands and populations, e.g., infants, small children and seniors. Funding for these areas and populations are much needed, and as grants are not always available, we plan to increase our grant-writing opportunities and continue to ask for your generous support. Mahalo nui!

Upcoming Events...

- **Tuesday, April 15, 2008, 1:15pm - 2:15pm**, a poster presentation about music therapy assessment and treatment for children with Autism at the **Pacific Rim Conference on Disabilities** in Honolulu.
 - **Saturday, April 19**, MT resources at **Special Parent Information Network Conference** at UH.
 - **Saturday, June 14**, MT resources at **Walk Now** hosted by **Cure Autism Now** on Magic Island.
 - **Early July, 2008, Music Therapy Symposium**: series of seminars and presentations scheduled.
 - **Summer & Fall 2008: "Music as Therapy" on-line courses** scheduled at UH Manoa and KCC. For more information, contact Dr. Harvey at aharvey@hawaii.edu or (808) 352-6088.
- For event information, please call Keiko at (808) 593-2620, email or visit our website. Thank you!

2007 FINANCIAL REPORT

Not audited

CARRY OVER from 2006	\$ 2,696
INCOME	
Donations	\$ 24,569
Grants	\$ 15,801
<u>Program Fees</u>	<u>\$ 23,081</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 63,451
EXPENSES	
Advertisement	\$ 445
Fundraising Cost	\$ 1,662
L&P Fees	\$ 468
Office:	
Supplies	\$ 1,212
Musical Instruments	\$ 2,420
Rent	\$ 9,657
Telephone & Utilities	\$ 1,122
Travel	\$ 144
Wages:	
Music Therapy	\$ 21,635
Payroll related Taxes	\$ 1,616
Workers' Compensation	\$ 499
Start-up cost paid	\$ 900
<u>Start-up cost unpaid</u>	<u>(\$ 900)</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 40,879
ENDING BALANCE of 2007	\$ 25,268

Changes in Staff

Sounding Joy welcomes our newest music therapist, **Ms. Yoshimi Otake, MA, MT-BC**. She has just relocated from Minnesota, committing herself to deliver quality music therapy to people of Hawaii and help promoting music therapy through her clinical contributions. We are excited to have Yoshimi as our 5th fellow Hawaii music therapist, and also plan to add another music therapist in May.