

In this issue:

- *Hawaii's At-Risk Youths and Needy Families benefit...* 1
- *Discussion on Music Therapy Degree Program...* 1
- *Recruiting Music Therapy Practice Sites in Hawaii* 2
- *Sounding Voice* 2
- *Zippy's Chili Fundraiser* 2
- *Serving Our Community* 2
- *Money Front* 2
- *Changes in Staff* 2
- *Upcoming Events...* 2

<Board of Directors>

Chairperson:

Elizabeth Christenson, M.D.

Board Members:

Pamela Young

Robert C. Marvit, M.D.

Aida Wen, M.D.

Ron Tish

Larry T. Fukunaga

Master Shen Wu

<Board Advisory Staff>

President:

Keiko Kajiwara

Vice-President:

Arthur W. Harvey

Secretary:

Karen K. Kei

Treasurer:

Miki Miho May

Hawaii's At-Risk Youths and Needy Families Benefit from Music Therapy, But Face Unexpected Funding Challenges

In March 2008, Sounding Joy Music Therapy, Inc. started **Youth Empowerment and Family Mediation** services supported by the grants from **the Department of Human Services**. These services currently provide about 100 people on Oahu, who have behavioral, social, emotional, psychological, and physical needs, with music therapy.

The staff works in full force for bringing out the best of our music therapy services to these people together with our new Board Certified Music Therapists, **Ms. Yoshimi Otake** and **Mr. Jay Koseki**. The initial client's evaluation done in May and July show that more than 70% of the participants feel positive about our services, and most remarkably, more than 95% of the

participants feel supported by our program staff and therapists.

Despite these positive outcomes, in May 2008, the Hawaii's legislatures have voted for reducing funding to **Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)** programs, by which our services are reimbursed. This decision will put significant amount of TANF funds to welfare cash reserve. Many professionals and administrators feel the decision is devastating to too many youths and families in need, who are benefiting from preventive, self-empowering interventions and methods of treatment, to lose positive reinforcement and encouragement in their lives, and will be costly in a long-run.

Sounding Joy will react proactively to this situation by joining a letter campaign with many other human service organizations in the effort to reconsider the decision in 2009 legislative session. Any one interested in supporting the campaign, please call Karen, Program Coordinator, at 593-2620, or email: kkkei@soundingjoymt.org



Discussion on Music Therapy Degree Program Development held with Hawaii Pacific University

On July 2, 2008, for the first time, university officials and music therapists gathered together to seriously discuss a beginning **music therapy degree program at Hawaii Pacific University**.

Interim Dean, College of Liberal Arts, **Dr. William Potter**, Psychology Program Chair, **Dr. Vincent Tsushima**, Director of Instrumental Music Programs, **Dr. Teresa McCreary**, and 4 music therapists, **Dr. Reiner Haus** (from Germany), **Ms. Bonnie Chen**, **Ms. Karen Kei** and **Ms. Keiko Kajiwara**, attended the meeting. As a result of the meeting, HPU agreed to offering **"Introduction to Music Therapy"** course in Spring 2009, which will not only be a classroom study course but also have field

work combined, observing and experiencing actual music therapy sessions conducted by credentialed music therapists.

Sounding Joy has also offered HPU any music therapy resources including space, instruments and fieldwork sites needed for the course. This course is one of the entry-level requirements for the music therapy curriculum, and also is intended to measure people's interest in studying music therapy locally. And, this is a critical step for the further development of the possible degree program implementation at HPU. Anyone seriously considering becoming a music therapist should not miss this amazing opportunity to be able to start his/her career investment here in Hawaii. Please contact Keiko, Clinical Director, at 593-2620, or email: kkajiwara@soundingjoymt.org

We are on the Web!

See us at:

www.soundingjoymt.org

Visit our
Online Store!



 **SOUNDING JOY**
MUSIC THERAPY, INC.

1314 South King St., #711
Honolulu, HI 96814
USA

Phone/Fax: (808) 593-2620
E-mail: postmaster@soundingjoymt.org

Recruiting Music Therapy Practice Sites in Hawaii

Sounding Joy's Scientific Advisor, **Dr. Reiner Haus**, has visited Hawaii again from June 29 to July 7, 2008, in support of our effort to promote music therapy in Hawaii as well as developing practice sites in relation with the anticipated degree program implementation. Dr. Haus with assistance from Karen and Keiko visited **Tripler Army Hospital** (re: Autism on 6/30), (re: Cochlea Implant on 7/2) and (re: Post Traumatic Stress Disorder on 7/3), **Veterans Affairs (VA) Hospital** (re: complementary & alternative medicine on

7/1), **Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific** (re: general rehabilitation on 6/30), **Kulana Malama** (re: medically fragile children on 7/3), and **St. Francis Hospice** (7/3). All the facilities and treatment teams who we met expressed



their interests in becoming music therapy internship/ practice sites in conjunction with the program development with the Hawaii Pacific University.

Sounding Voice

Here are the voices of participants in our music therapy programs:

"I'm overjoyed by the fact that I now can converse with my son!"

- A father of a child with Autism

"You (music therapists) saved my child! I want to learn how to talk to my child."

- A guardian of a youth participant

"I didn't know it's so much fun!"

- A father receiving family mediation service

Serving Our Community

On 4/15, Keiko presented Autism research study project, cooperated with **The University of Arts, Berlin**, in Germany, at the **Pacific Rim Conference on Disabilities**. On 4/19, music therapy resources were shared at the **Special Parent Information Network Information (SPIN) Conference**.



Money Front

Department of Human Services' grants awarded to our music therapy services now are in part in jeopardy because of the legislative decision for the funding cut. Our research grant requests from **The U.S. Department of Education** and **Straub Foundation** have unfortunately been declined, but the US DOE recommended us to reapply for next year. Sounding Joy also plans to coordinate with other medical facilities to write grants proposals for services to children and hospice patients. To improve the accessibility to music therapy on other islands is also one of our

"Family is a big thing to me. I like to educate myself more for the sake of my children."

- A single mother in family mediation service

"He now is interested in making friends in school!" - An advocate for a youth participant

Zippy's Chili Fundraiser

Our first Zippy's Chili Fundraiser has ended very successfully. We have sold all 200 tickets within a week. Many thanks to all the staff, volunteers, friends and families who care about and contributed to music therapy!

On 6/14, Sounding Joy participated in **Walk Now** hosted by **Cure Autism Now** on Magic Island. As we did last year, with the generous Orchid donation from the **Newman family**, we raised funds for music therapy services and shared MT resources. On 7/27, we also participated in **Abled Hawaii Artists' (AHA) Festival**. **Mr. Stephen Frias** played music on the keyboard and Sounding Joy's staff and volunteers shared MT info at our booth.

priorities, and so your generous support is much appreciated! Thank you!

Changes in Staff

Sounding Joy welcomes our newest music therapist, **Mr. Jay Koseki, MT-BC**, born and raised in Hawaii, studied Music Therapy on the Mainland and came back home. He is our 6th fellow Hawaii music therapist, and we are especially thrilled to have Jay, a local therapist, serving his own people. However, Jay will leave for the mainland for a Master's study in August. We wish him Good Luck!

Upcoming Events...

- **Monday - Wednesday, August 11 – August 13**, music therapy exhibit at **International Conference on Diverse Abilities & Innovative Supports** at the Dole Cannery in Honolulu.
 - **Tuesday, September 16**, MT presentation at **15th Biennial Conference** hosted by **Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society** at Hawaii Convention Center in Honolulu.
 - **Friday & Saturday, October 17 & 18**, MT presentation at **Neurotrauma Conference** hosted by **Brain Injury Association of Hawaii**.
 - **Fall 2008, "Music as Therapy" on-line course**, MUS 170, scheduled at Kapiolani Community College. For more info, visit: <http://www.musicforhealthservices.com> under "Online Courses".
- For event information, please call Keiko at (808) 593-2620, email or visit our website. Thank you!