



For Hawaii's Families with Seriously Ill Children

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HUGS Appoints New Executive Director

HONOLULU, HI – HUGS (Help, Understanding & Group Support) announced that it has appointed Maureen Purington as the organization's new Executive Director. She will lead the passionate team of employees and volunteers dedicated to helping Hawaii's families as they face the emotional and financial hardships of caring for seriously ill children.

Purington brings key organizational leadership skills and extensive experience working in local non-profits. Prior to joining HUGS, Purington served for 15 years as the Clubhouse Director for Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii – Windward Clubhouse. She also worked with kupuna in senior care services at Pohai Nani in Kaneohe.

"I am very pleased to welcome Maureen to the HUGS organization," said Ben Morgan, HUGS Board of Directors President. "After an extensive search to fill this important role, I am confident that Maureen is the perfect person to lead our organization into the future."

"I'm thrilled to join the HUGS `ohana," said Purington. "I'm doing so with much enthusiasm to build upon the organization's longstanding relationships in the communities it serves, while growing its capacity to offer more children and families throughout the state of Hawaii access to its comprehensive life-enhancing programs."

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About HUGS

HUGS (Help Understanding & Group Support) mission is to strengthen Hawaii's families and improve their quality of life as they face the emotional and financial hardships of caring for a seriously ill child. Programs address the emotional, social, physical, and financial needs of the entire family and each family member; all programs and services are free of charge. Since 1982, HUGS has helped thousands of families with a seriously ill child, up to 21 years who suffer from a range of diverse illnesses, throughout the state. For more information, visit www.hugshawaii.org.

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