



Proclamation

WHEREAS, on October 15, 1960, Sid Kline and the founders of the Sand Island Treatment Center set out to create a wholly different agency with a unique set of goals and methods, and this vision led to the establishment of a half-way house where men affected by alcoholism could find food, shelter, companionship and attend regularly scheduled meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous; and

WHEREAS, by the late 1970s an entirely different class of individuals began applying for help from the Sand Island Treatment Center, many of whom were younger, more aggressive and suffered from poly-substance disorders due to the abuse of alcohol, cocaine, heroin, LSD, marijuana and the inhalation of volatile substances; and

WHEREAS, the sharp rise in poly-substance disorders exploded in the 1980s with the rise of methamphetamine abuse, and the societal issues related to this epidemic, such as crime, homelessness and domestic and sexual violence, required a new approach to treatment that would allow individuals to truly heal and gain important life skills, while also being held accountable for their actions; and

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of former director John Pullan, who had worked with Mason Henderson in the past and found him to be the most effective person he'd ever seen manage a last-chance treatment environment, Mason Henderson took over the operation of the Sand Island Treatment Center in 1984 and quickly recognized the problem of simple detox as a revolving door of suffering and made the decision to completely restructure the program to focus on long-term treatment; and

WHEREAS, through Mason Henderson's diligence, compassion and love for the people of Hawai'i, the Sand Island Treatment Center has become a comprehensive program that focuses on a long-term continuum of care model, which includes national accreditation for the treatment of alcohol abuse, drug and mental health disorders, as well as on-site urinalysis and in-house psychiatric services; and

WHEREAS, the Sand Island Treatment Center is considered the "Gold Standard" by many of those within Hawai'i's judicial system and drug treatment community for the long-term rehabilitation of those suffering from alcohol abuse and poly-substance disorders, and continues to accept the most difficult cases, including men and women who are experiencing homelessness, suffering from severe mental health issues, or have been released from jail or prison after long periods of incarceration; and

WHEREAS, a majority of the counselors at the Sand Island Treatment Center have gone through the program themselves, providing a shining example to those who are still struggling with alcohol and drug addiction, as well as mental health disorders, that there is hope for a better life and a brighter future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KIRK CALDWELL, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, hereby proclaim October, 15, 2020, to be

SAND ISLAND TREATMENT CENTER 60TH ANNIVERSARY DAY

In recognition of the center's decades of service to the people of Hawai'i, especially the many lives they have helped turn around through a highly successful long-term continuum of care program that focuses on each patient as a unique individual who is capable of greatness.



Done this 15th day of October 2020,
in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kirk Caldwell", written over a horizontal line.

KIRK CALDWELL