



MARIMED FOUNDATION

Successful experiential-based therapeutic, education, and enrichment programs for Hawai'i youth, adults and communities.

Aloha and warm Holiday Wishes to you and yours!

I was very fortunate the other night to attend the ceremony for the 12th graduating class of Marimed's Maritime Careers Exploration Program (MCE). Excited and proud young Hawaiian men and women had just completed their culminating seven-day voyage aboard our training ship *SSV Makani Olu*. With numerous family members present graduates took to the podium one by one and shared their MCE story with the group. Transformational experiences were shared, tears were shed, friendships were galvanized, and future plans were made public. After several *Oli* and congratulations we all shared a night of food and grateful conversation.

Earlier that same day, all of us at Marimed were celebrating news that one of the graduates of MCE 10 had landed a job aboard the Torpedo Retrieval Boats in Pearl Harbor. And, that he had also paved the way for an MCE classmate to employment here as well! In the past 2½ years, with funding through Alu Like, Inc., MCE has helped locate graduates at many Hawai'i Tug and Barge Companies; California Maritime Academy; Tongue Point Job Corps Center (Tongue Point, OR); Seafarers International Union (Paul Hall Center for Maritime Training and Education Piney Point, MD); and the Marine, Firemans, Oilers, Wipers Union. One graduate even spent three weeks aboard America's tall ship training vessel the *USS Eagle*, where she sailed from Baltimore to Savannah Georgia and return!

The Kailana Residential Treatment Program continues, in its 23rd year, to experientially inspire Hawai'i's most vulnerable young men towards personal strength, resilience, responsibility and leadership. This year the Kailana Cadet's annual Epic Voyage took them into Papahānau-mokuākea shortly after the National Monument was quadrupled in size by President Obama.

These stories of personal change, success and adventure are the bright shining stars during the Holiday season, and testimony to your continued support of Marimed and its programs.

The Marimed `Ohana wishes you all a peaceful and positive 2017 and thanks you for your support throughout the year!

Best wishes,



Matt Claybaugh, PhD
President and CEO

P.S. Please consider a donation to Marimed to help start the New Year off strong; just visit www.Marimed.org and click on the donate tab. Mahalo.