

1 Report of the HDA President – 2023

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4 As your president, I applaud all of our volunteers who see the value of our professional
5 organization by stepping up and leading the way. You have made us stronger by showing
6 everyone your continued confidence in what we do.

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8 Recently, I returned from the ADA Caucus meetings in Orlando, Florida last week. Your
9 delegates, Drs. Dayton Lum, Curt Shimizu, Chris Lee, Ed Cassella, Anthony Kim (HDA
10 President Elect) and I learned that Hawaii shares the same hurdles as all other states. We share
11 the drop in membership, the new dentists (those graduating in the past 10 years) questioning the
12 value of organized dentistry, the staffing shortages and the growing number of corporate dental
13 practices, are to name a few concerning issues. These are problems we can all solve together.

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15 Advocacy is by far the strength of the ADA and HDA. Legislative efforts, whether Pro or Con
16 dentistry on the federal, state and city levels. the ADA and HDA have been there for you. The
17 changes that have been made over the past 40 years have significantly impacted your practices
18 whether you realized it or not. Being a member of the Association(s) is important. If you are a
19 specialist like myself and think that that you can rely on just your specialty organization to help
20 you, you are mistaken. All specialty organizations rely directly on the American Dental
21 Association not only to recognize your specialty but they also fight for rights to call yourself a
22 specialist. We were also told that throughout the COVID-19 pandemic that the ADA/HDA kept
23 our practices open and in many cases thriving. They fought for the personal protection
24 equipment (PPE) reimbursements and to keep our offices open by placing dentistry in the
25 essential work force category.

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27 Without a doubt, it has been a trying year for all of us. The Hawaii Dental Association
28 Foundation Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is an example of the value of belonging to our
29 Association. With the help of the Executive Council, we were able to establish the Disaster
30 Relief Fund and lay out the ground work for implementation. At the time of this report, the DRF
31 has collected \$250,000 in donations from all over the country. A large portion coming from the
32 Hawaii Dental Service Foundation (HDSF). We are extremely grateful to Dr. Diane Paloma,
33 CEO of HDS and Ms. Shere Saneishi-Kim, Director of the HDS Foundation. We will continue
34 to distribute these funds to our Maui members. It is also our benevolence and humanity to
35 extend our efforts to non-HDA members.

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37 The current financial picture for HDA is strong. The sale of our building on S. Beretania Street
38 eliminated the struggles of the high costs of maintenance and leaving us with bankable capital.
39 We immediately created a task force to seek a safe harbor for these funds. It currently earns a
40 substantial amount of funds from investment interests that we now will dissolve the task force
41 and merge it into the Financial Program. This program will now find financial vehicles to grow
42 these funds in secure investments. The goal is to gain a strong non-dues revenue source for our
43 association. While the ADA and other associations entertain raising dues, the HDA will not.

45 My term as president will come to an end but my dedication and service to our association will
46 continue. I will serve as a Hawaii alternate delegate to the ADA, and as a liaison to the HDA
47 Foundation along with the DRF.

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49 It has been an honor and privilege to work beside and for you.

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52 Respectively Submitted,

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55 Norman Chun, DMD
56 President