

## Hawaii Area 17 Panel 71 Summary.

### Standing Committee Chair Treatment and Accessibilities.

Upon getting the phone call in December 2020 and being told that I have been appointed to Standing Committee Chair for treatment, I must admit there were nerves. On the one hand, I was very excited because I had been appointed to the position that I had first chosen. On the other hand, I was extremely nervous about the simple fact that I wasn't sure what I was going to be doing. I've learned along the way that fear is the opposite of faith. So, I needed to understand that faith was going to bring everything all together, the way that it was supposed to. Upon arrival at the orientation in January 2021, I must admit that meeting the newly appointed GSR's, trying to come together with a plan, and realizing that this was not in my hands at all, one word came to mind, *Overwhelmed!*

So, here's this alcoholic, already overwhelmed, and I haven't done anything to this point. As usual, everything I thought I knew, I didn't know. The traditions and concepts have told me very clearly, especially through the declaration of Unity, to place our common welfare first in order to keep our fellowship united. If I remember that simple statement. Everything was going to go the way that it was meant to go. The first thing I needed to do was get ahold of all the treatment facilities on all the islands. So, I was able to compile a list, send letters, and work with the GSR's that were on my committee in order to accomplish that goal. The next thing we set out to do was put together a series of workshops. My original goal was to accomplish 4 workshops throughout Panel 71. What I learned from this was that putting together 4 workshops was a lofty goal. We were able to get together and put on 3 workshops for panel 71. We started off with our original workshop bridging the gap. We came together for a second workshop entitled Treatment and Traditions and we finished a third workshop entitled Treatment and Traditions Part 2. We were able to cover all the traditions in conjunction with the treatment committee that was utilized in order to put our best foot forward in support of working with the fellowship to keep them informed as well as keeping our doors open for the newcomer.

The workshops were well attended. We were able to keep our members informed, as well as our appointed committee members in action. The behind-the-scenes work that was accomplished within the treatment facilities and a lot of the clean and sober houses was wonderful. We were able to put literature racks and literature in 20 different facilities. We were also able to work directly with Inter-Group on a constant basis, creating a set of pamphlets directly correlating to what treatment facilities needed. And keeping ourselves completely in the loop whenever the treatment facilities needed our assistance. Let's just say that our members associated to this committee were heavily involved. Without the help of these GSR's there was no way all of this was going to be accomplished.

I'd have to say that the highlight for this panel 71, as the Treatment Chair, was the proposal we submitted to have our title changed to Treatment and Accessibilities. It was a process that I had never endured, and I'm so grateful for the opportunity to learn how we function in an upside-down triangle. Submitting that proposal, with the backing of our GSR's appointed to our committee was fantastic. We submitted that proposal with nothing more than the thought that we might be able to do something to contribute to Area 17's ever-changing landscape. It was a yearlong process. And at the end, when we came together at the Budget Assembly, as I read the proposal, and watched as we took a vote to change the structures and guidelines, I knew we were apart of something truly amazing.

As I sit here writing this review, a few words come to mind. Humbled. Amazed. Inspired. Completely and utterly, Honored. To have been able to serve in a capacity that has been so fulfilling. As I said in the beginning when I first started, I was *Overwhelmed*. And that was my own thinking. But as I got out of the way of Self and let the *WE* in this program come together, I found that we truly have everything we could ever want to accomplish anything. Being a trusted servant is so much more at this level and understanding that everything we do is for the better and common good of all of AA. My sincerest hope is that everyone takes the opportunity to step in and be of service at all levels. And no matter what, never let fear drive you from being of service in any capacity.

Sean F.

Treatment and Accessibilities Chair

Hawaii Area 17

Panel 71