

Catholic Women's Guild Hawaii

"Charity is the bond of perfection"
—Colossians 3:14

Founded in 1859

The Catholic Women's Guild Hawaii traces its spiritual roots to an 1859 women's auxiliary formed to aid the Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary upon their arrival. It was formally organized as an altar society in 1887, and in 1890 reorganized as a benevolent society concerned with social welfare in Honolulu.

From the Board meeting of 1949 Sep 28:

"Although relief to the poor is one of our principal objects, *volunteer service* is an equally important object. The name 'Guild' seems a happy selection in that it not only suggests the names of the two organizations that make up the Society — the Catholic Women's Aid Society and the St. Francis Hospital Guild — but also suggests many activities undertaken by the Society as workers or volunteers."

The Catholic Women's Guild Hawaii continues in our mission of fostering and encouraging the spirit of charity in the community and assisting other societies, associations and corporations involved in educational, charitable, benevolent work.



CWGH members, and Dr. Albert W.H. Lum (left of center) with Patrick Downes of the Hawaii Catholic Herald (far right).



Preserving Local Historical Sources at Palama Settlement, March 3, 2012, with event speakers from left to right: Dr. Albert W.H. Lum; Sister William Marie Eleniki, OSF; Dr. Janine M. Richardson; and Ellen Chapman, MA, MLS, CA. Dr. Richardson regarded our archives in the Hawaiian & Pacific Collections of UH Mānoa.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S GUILD HAWAII

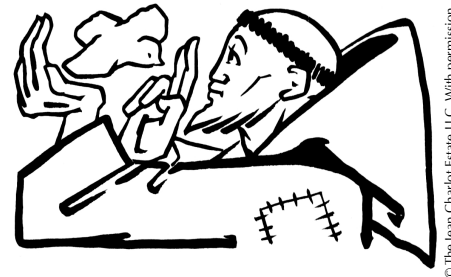
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The Catholic Women's Guild Hawaii began July 3, 1859 when 22 native Hawaiian Catholic women and two "foreign" women enrolled themselves into an auxiliary organization of the men's Hawaiian Catholic Association to assist the newly arrived Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

For over 150 years, our organization's name changed with the needs and times denoting benevolence or aid, ladies and then women, as well as our amalgamation with the St. Francis Hospital Guild (1926–1946), reflecting our connection and activity with the various communities around Honolulu and our home of Hawaii.

Catholic Women's Guild Hawaii is an organization that fosters and encourages the spirit of service among Catholic women, and assists charitable endeavors, Catholic institutions, and civic groups concerned with the welfare of the general community.



Jean Charlot, *St. Francis*, 1952, Jubilee brochure for St. Francis Hospital, CWGH Archives

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