

Accountants beautify Palolo nursing home

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By Mark Carpenter

PALOLO (HawaiiNewsNow) - While many residents spent their Kamehameha Day out at the beach, a group of accountants were out working pro-bono.

As part of a community service project, about 60 employees from the Accuity accounting firm traded in their desk work for paint brushes and gardening tools at the Palolo Chinese Home.

For four hours, the employees spent their holiday doing basic maintenance work around the nursing home including re-painting benches and weeding the garden.

According to Kent Tsukamoto, a partner with Accuity LLP, Friday's project is just one of many ways the firm serves the public.

"Our firm, since it was founded in 1951, has always had a deep commitment to our community and one of the ideas was to help out with a very worthwhile cause here at Palolo Chinese Home," said Tsukamoto. "They got a great mission, great history and we wanted to give back to our community."

In an era of economic downturn and rising costs, volunteer work relieves the Palolo complex of having to pay thousands of dollars in maintenance.

"The cost of providing excellent care for our seniors keeps climbing every year and it's the same adage of CMS reducing, Medicaid not doing well and so it's reducing our reimbursement. So it helps us so much to provide an excellent place for our seniors to stay," said Brenda Kumabe, Chief Financial Officer, Palolo Chinese Home.

Aside from working with the nursing home, Accuity has also assisted a number of local organizations such as Aloha United Way and the Hawaii Food Bank.

For those seeking community service, the Palolo Chinese home is always looking for extra help and any sort of assistance goes a long way.

"Volunteering to help out the home helps tremendously because we're so tightly budgeted we can hardly get to all the physical work that organizations like Accuity are doing for us," Kumabe said. "It takes hundreds of man hours just to keep up."

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Accountants from Accuity, LLP.





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