

ALOHA KE AKUA

"GOD IS LOVE" – Spring Break
March 2015

This is a story of how 45 students and staff from UH Manoa, UH Hilo, HPU, Cal Poly SLO, and University of Washington came together for one week to share God's love with the people of Hilo. This was our first attempt at an off island Spring Break Vision Trip and it was probably one of the best things we have ever done! It was *completely* led by two of our leadership team students and I had the privilege of coaching them and watching them pray, prepare, and plan for a life-changing week!

They came up with our theme for the week and it was "transformation". Kelly, one of our student leaders said this, "Our vision for spring retreat is to provide a space for God to radically and continually change our hearts. Transformation isn't just a one-time thing, but an ongoing process in which God desires to move and mold us more and more everyday. And out of this heart transformation stems transformational relationships - sprint retreat will be a time to connect with others and build friendships in which transformation takes place because it is founded on something deeper: God's love. In addition, it is our hope that God will grow in us His heart to see His Kingdom advance. We will be equipped to share our faith with the people of Hilo. This is transformational evangelism: out of our transformational hearts, He instills in us a desire to see the lives of others transform as well. Come join us as we grow in confidence that we are constantly being transformed into His likeness!"

That week we were able to gain a better understanding of Hawaiian history and the deep spiritual roots that have gone before us, we partnered with Hilo Missionary Church, equipped and trained students in evangelism, and took that to the University of Hilo campus. We spent time inviting students on campus to a BBQ at the end of the week and really to help the Cru at Hilo team gather contacts and more students to reach their campus and their island. It was an amazing week with lots of time to explore the richness of Hilo and the beauty of God's creation as well!

Please continue to pray for Hilo and our Cru staff team there. There are currently two full time staff, Kent and Erin Matsui. Please pray that the Lord would continue to raise up more laborers there and He would continue to bless the fruits from Spring Break 2015 as they follow up with the students we met that week!



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