



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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FRED CRUZ TO RECEIVE SUZANNE RICHMOND-CRUM AWARD ON 2014 WORLD AIDS DAY

HONOLULU – The Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) STD/AIDS Prevention Branch is pleased to announce the 2014 Annual Suzanne Richmond-Crum Award will be presented to Fred Cruz, R.Ph. for his tremendous contributions to HIV/AIDS pharmacy services in Hawaii. The award ceremony will be on Dec. 1 at Lutheran Church of Honolulu from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

For more than 15 years Cruz has dedicated himself to taking care of individuals affected by HIV/AIDS while serving as an HIV pharmacist for specialty pharmacy at CarePlus/CVS. In this role, his focus has always been to support HIV-positive clients so they are able to stay on their life-saving medications.

“Fred would make an extra effort to call all of his patients, helping them deal with any side effects and helping to address any barriers to promote adherence to their medications,” said Cyril Goshima, M.D., “He would work with clients who had special requests like going out of town on a trip and making sure they had enough medications until they got back. Fred is the face of HIV medications in Hawaii.”

During his career working as a pharmacist for more than 30 years, Cruz has served on the Board of Directors for the AIDS Community Care Team, and as a member on the Hawaii HIV Community Planning Group. His perspectives and opinions on HIV treatment, service delivery, and client well-being issues were highly sought out and much respected by the planning group. He has worked as a team member with Hawaii AIDS Education Training Center to provide training for providers in Hawaii and across the Pacific Islands. Fred is also a mentor to students from the University of Hawaii at Hilo, College of Pharmacy.

Suzanne Richmond-Crum passed away in August 2004 after serving as director of the Hawaii Seropositivity and Medical Management Program (HSPAMM) of DOH’s STD/AIDS Prevention Branch for more than 10 years. The award was established in honor of the competence and compassion she demonstrated in her HIV/AIDS work, and is presented annually to an individual in Hawaii for their outstanding contribution in providing HIV/AIDS services.

To mark this year's World AIDS Day in Hawaii, the public is invited to a series of events on Dec. 1. These events include a presentation and public outreach activity that will begin at 5 p.m. at the Ala Moana Shopping Center, center stage; the Suzanne Richmond Crum award presentation at the 2014 World AIDS Day program at Lutheran Church of Honolulu; as well as many other activities occurring statewide. For information on all statewide World AIDS Day events, go to: www.worldaidsdayhawaii.org

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