

HABILITAT

THE PLACE OF CHANGE



Kaneohe, Hawaii

Our STORY

Habilitat's Founder, Vinny Marino, was a recovered drug addict who struggled with addiction for over 14 years. After participating in multiple well-known long-term Therapeutic Communities throughout the United States, Vinny found himself in Hawaii working for a local treatment center. In 1971, that treatment center was forced to close its doors, leaving the program participants with nowhere to go. With meager resources, Vinny Marino founded Habilitat, starting with only eight people housed in a small home in Kailua, Hawai'i. Vinny was determined to pursue his uncompromising commitment to address the growing epidemic of individuals with substance abuse problems and other anti-social behaviors. Over time, more and more people from the community sought out Vinny's help for their own issues. A new residence was acquired in hopes of accommodating anyone who was looking for refuge from their addictions. On January 27, 1971, Habilitat was created. An 1.5 acre estate, located on Kaneohe Bay would soon become a landmark known nationwide for its ability to help those who've lost their way due to drug and alcohol abuse.

Through Vinny's own personal experience, as well as what he learned going through multiple treatment centers, he created Habilitat's unique style of treating addiction. He believed that treating the addiction wasn't enough; a person needs a marketable skill if they want to become self sufficient. Based on that philosophy, our vocational training programs were created. He looked at addiction as something that anyone can overcome, if they were sincere about changing. He believed in working hard, learning hard, and playing hard. He understood that there is no short-term cure, for a long-term problem.



Today, Habilitat still implements the core fundamentals that were around in 1971. Over the years, we've evolved to meet the ever-growing changes in the types of substances, and the adverse effects that come with them.

It didn't matter to Vinny Marino whether you're on the streets or incarcerated, an adolescent or adult, if you were willing to change, Habilitat could help!

A message to Parents and Loved ones:

If you're reading this, chances are that your child or someone close to you struggles with addiction. There's no doubt that alcoholism and drug usage can totally disengage someone from reality, affecting not only the person themselves, but their family as well.

Habilitat promises to give your loved one an opportunity to realize self-respect, work ethic, and a healthy lifestyle; characteristics they lost sight of, or simply never developed.

Through Habilitat's three-phased therapeutic process, an individual will learn the skills necessary to become leaders of their own life.

It starts now. Call us directly, and ask to speak to our Admissions Department to start the confidential application process.

Our admissions staff is highly familiar with the lifestyles associated with addiction. We aim to make the admissions process as smooth as possible. Our diverse population includes residents from Hawaii, nationally and internationally.



Our FAMILY

Habilitat's diverse population encompasses residents from Hawaii, nationally and internationally. People are referred to Habilitat through many different sources, including: short term treatment programs, the internet, word-of-mouth, state and federal judiciaries, social workers, social media, etc.

Habilitat's three phased, two year program allows for a person to gradually transition through our highly structured treatment regimen; eventually preparing someone for life after program graduation. We challenge an individual on every level without the use of a psychiatric approach, nor the use of any mind altering substances. Instead, our approach is built around a basic philosophy of self-reliance, which is taught to our residents and practiced by the organization.

We provide multiple opportunities in many vocational training fields, which gives each resident the invaluable opportunity to develop good work habits, while cultivating a marketable skill.

Habilitat is specifically designed to combat substance abuse problems and its accompanying anti-social behaviors. In view of the country's drug epidemic, it has evolved into a thriving Therapeutic Community, geared toward prevention.

The Habilitat Family



The PROGRAM

What makes us different...

- An alternative to the 12-step model
- Long term care creates long term results (multi year program)
- Hawaii's location allows an individual to focus on themselves, away from negative influences.
- Vocational job training in many fields
- Peer-driven accountability assists in upholding our code of conduct and guidelines.
- Our clinicians are byproducts of Habilitat's program
- Self sustaining through our vocational efforts
- Address emotional fluctuations without the need for psychotropic medication

Phases

The **Treatment Phase** is a highly structured situation where residents are closely supervised and evaluated. It is designed to recreate all the normal ups and downs of the outside world, but with a layer of insulation against actual harm. The atmosphere of "Treatment" is similar to an extended family situation, in that we expect a resident to do what they can for themselves, while helping others at the same time.

In the **Re-entry Phase** residents make a gradual adjustment from the highly structured treatment phase and its imposed discipline to a period of increased self-initiative. A resident is now challenged to cope with a normal workday along with continued, though decreasing, resident activities. Much of the structure found in treatment has been eliminated and residents are now responsible for getting themselves out of bed and to work on time. They must learn a marketable skill, open a bank account, and formulate a budget.

The purpose of **Post Re-entry** is to gradually transition someone to increase the prospective graduates chances of success. In essence, a resident steps down from the highly structured, controlled environment and begins to enter the main stream of society, at first in small groups, then on their own. In this phase, residents are guided toward formulating a plan for their own unique circumstances. Having a GED/high school diploma, a job and a place to live are requirements for graduation.

The TRAINING



Our vocational training is one of the reasons Habilitat is the most successful organization of its kind in the country. Habilitat residents are not only prepared for society and its demands emotionally, but also prepared in a vocational sense as well. Problems that never surfaced in treatment crop up at this time. Emphasis is placed on helping the younger residents, teaching them the concepts they have been taught and to serve as role models. In essence, these residents are practicing to be responsible and accountable adults in an environment which gives them the emotional support necessary to break through this new ground.

Residents go to work to learn a marketable skill, open a bank account, and formulate a budget. Everyone in re-entry works in one of Habilitat's various business enterprises (construction, marketing & fundraising, sales, public relations, landscaping, culinary, etc.) or in various support departments such as administration, admission, accounting, medical.

Abstinence from illicit substances alone is not enough to ensure long term success! People need marketable skills to support themselves in society!



Our FACILITY



We are located on a 1.5-acre oceanfront estate at the base of the Ko'olau Mountains, on the island of O'ahu. Our facility sits at the waters edge of Kane'ohu Bay. The tranquil views and cool trade winds create an ideal atmosphere for recovery. We offer a full range of exercise equipment, activities, training centers and entertainment. Located in a quiet neighborhood on the windward side of Oahu makes Habilitat a safe and serene setting ideal for recovery. Our private pier spans out hundreds of feet over the water allowing for various leisure activities.

A fully equipped weight room, aerobics studio, jacuzzi and sauna are available for use. We stress physical fitness as well as emotional strength. If you would like to tour our facility, please call and ask for our admissions department to schedule a time.



Amenities

- Our own private pier
- Computer lab
- Game room
- Jacuzzi
- Fitness center
- Library
- Sauna
- Volleyball court

- The "cozy corner" lounge
- On site barber shop
- A state of the art aerobics studio
- Basketball court
- Pool table
- Oceanfront gardens
- School room
- Boats

*Work Hard...
Learn Hard...
Play Hard!*





A message from the executive director:

Over four decades ago, Habilitat was founded on the idea that addicts could recover if they were willing to work toward independence and self-reliance. Founded in 1971, Habilitat continues to teach the same principles that are associated with success. Honesty, integrity, self-discipline and resiliency are all concepts that are at the center of our philosophy. Habilitat has helped thousands of people throughout the years.

We provide a safe haven from external pressures and offer our residents a fresh start. Habilitat is a long-term residential program built on the Therapeutic Community model. This approach is considered by experts to be one of the most effective methods of treatment for substance abuse and chemical addictions.

We have developed techniques for creating the qualities lacking in many people's character: self-esteem, self-worth, and self-discipline. We motivate the unmotivated and often succeed where other programs have failed. Habilitat's approach to treatment is unique; we do not subscribe to the notion that addiction is a disease. We teach people the truth; addiction is a choice. At Habilitat, residents learn a value system that guides them in making the right choices. It is that simple.

As a professor in higher education and counselor and friend of Habilitat in a number of ways, the program has been extremely beneficial to me. It helps me better illustrate to my students and consumers that effective treatment truly attends to multiple needs of the individual, which I refer to as a holistic approach. The program implemented at Habilitat helps me reinforce with those in my many circles the importance of the reality that consequences are related to the choices people make. In short, Habilitat has helped me become a better teacher, counselor of people, and change agent in the world around me.

- Dr. Gary

"I entered Habilitat an insecure and broken teenager struggling with addiction; I left a young adult ready to take responsibility for my life and to make my mark on the world in a positive way. Ten years later, I've proudly obtained my law degree, while working full-time. Who knows where I'd be if I hadn't been part of The Habilitat Family."

- Stephanie



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1-800-USA-2525

45-035 Kūhonu Pl. Kaneohe, HI 96744

www.habilitat.org