

Aligning our assets to minister with youth

187th 'Aha Pae' aina Presentation
Prepared by Thom Chu, June 13, 2009

We believe:

- ⊙ (A) . . . that the whole church needs the vitality and vision of youth and young adults.
- ⊙ (B) . . . that youth and young adults are a part of the voice and vitality of the church today.
- ⊙ (C) . . . that we should have effective ministry with youth and young adults.
- ⊙ (D) . . . in a vigorous intellectual faith
- ⊙ (E) . . . that vital ministry is oriented towards local congregations (of many kinds).
- ⊙ (F) . . . the future of the UCC depends on the vitality of this ministry.
- ⊙ (G) . . . that the UCC needs to be present in the life transitions through youth and young adulthood.
- ⊙ (H) . . . our ministry with youth and young adults need to engage the culture, and ways of thinking, knowing, and working

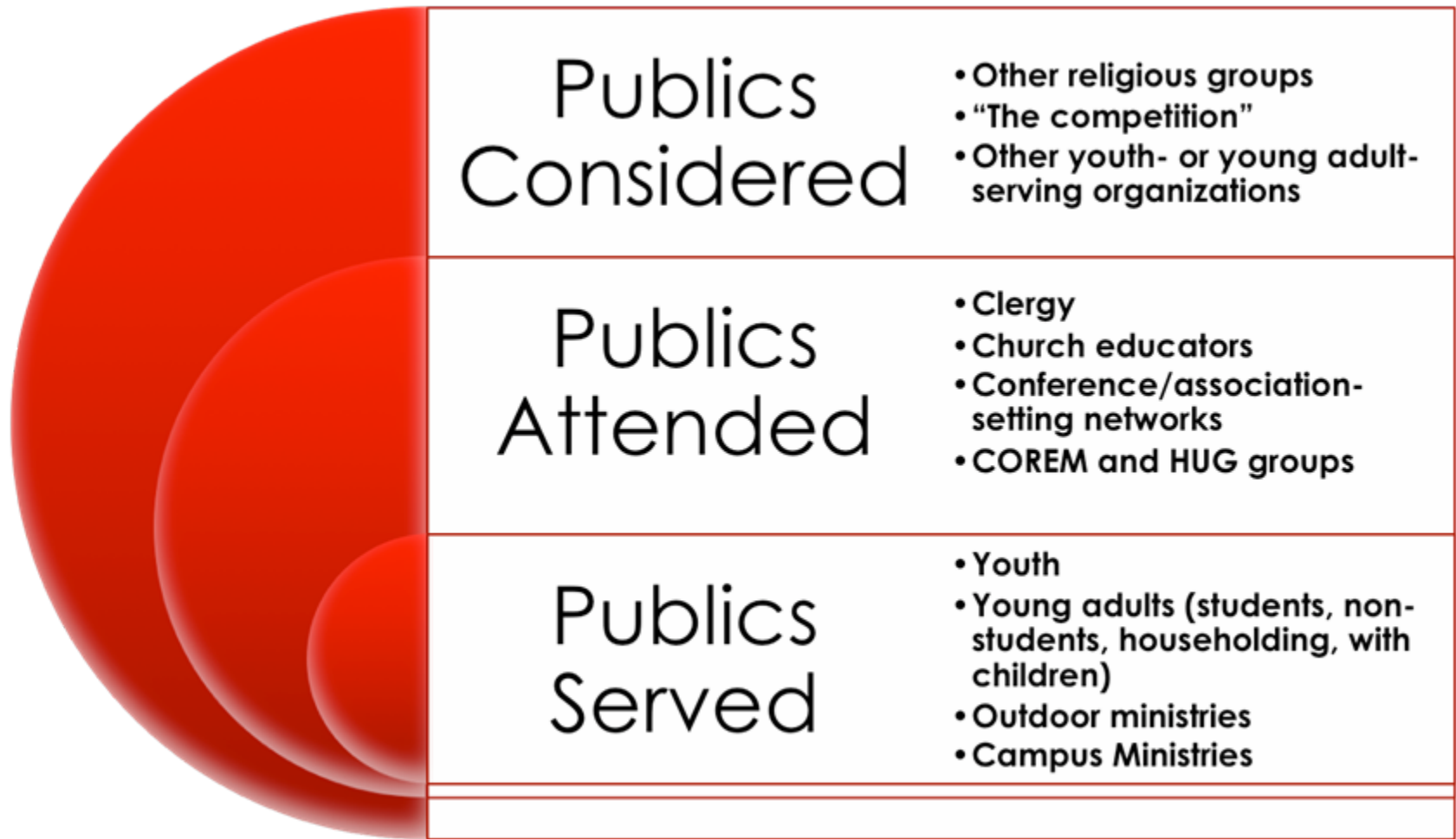


We believe (about youth):



- ⊙ (J) All youth are our youth
- ⊙ (K) We must go to them (where they are)
- ⊙ (L) God is already at work in the life of youth
- ⊙ (M) . . . are actively seeking a relationship with God
- ⊙ (N) . . . have gifts to enhance the ministry of the local church
- ⊙ (P) . . . bring a perspective that is missing and needed in the UCC
- ⊙ (Q) . . . celebrate being part of a diverse church
- ⊙ (R) . . . yearn for acceptance and belonging in the whole church
- ⊙ (S) . . . have a compelling desire to serve in and build a better world

We serve these groups:



Out of our vision and values, reaching our publics we do this work:



I. Providing training for youth, young adults, and ministers with youth and/or young adults in:

- peer leadership, group management, and denominational leadership;
- creating programmatic opportunities for youth and young adults to develop and exercise their leadership
- including taking advantage of existing ecumenical offerings, e.g. Princeton Forums, NCCCUSA, Formula of Agreement partners.

II. Developing resources with UCC flavor (highlights on UCC identity and distinctives):

- including collaborative development of homegrown resources, identifying non-UCC resources and adapting or commending them;
- including worship and music.

Out of our vision and values, reaching our publics we do this work:



III. Supporting UCC conferences and associations:

- By intentionally reaching out to conference and association leadership, paid and volunteer, through multiple means of communication and hosting common space for sharing ideas, learnings, insights, and relationships
- By networking, gathering, and motivating across every setting of the UCC: conference, [region], association, congregation

IV. Activating every environment to reaches youth and young adults:

- Going to where they are, including schools, outdoor/camping ministries, campus ministries, allied youth- and young adult-serving agencies as well as congregations;
- Including creating communication channels to and among youth, young adults

Out of our vision and values, reaching our publics we do this work:



V. Offering and supporting opportunities for youth and young adults to engage in mission service:

- Supporting local initiatives, developing and communicating opportunities beyond the local setting, helping volunteers to tell their story, individually and together, in a faith-based way.

VI. Integrating ministries with youth, young adults into a wholistic congregational strategy for church vitality:

- Putting concerns and interests of youth and young adults into the general flow of planning for outreach, hospitality, stewardship, worship, leadership development and succession planning, vocational discernment, service, pastoral care.

Five types of assets that we can use in service of our mission:



Physical—things you can touch or see

Individual—gifts, talents, skills

Associational—groups and networks

Institutions—agencies, corporations, organizations with budget and staff

Economic—money, including our spending power, investments, capacity to produce goods/services

Asset-mapping Plan 1: Distance Continuing Ed. For Youth Leaders



- Physical Assets:
 - Kamehameha Schools videoconferencing equipment on 3 islands
 - Computer equipment with Skype and internet access
 - Church in great locations
 - Churches with classroom space, certified kitchens, bathrooms and showers
 - Existing camp and conference facilities
 - Vehicles to haul people and supplies

Asset-mapping Plan 1: Distance Continuing Ed. For Youth Leaders



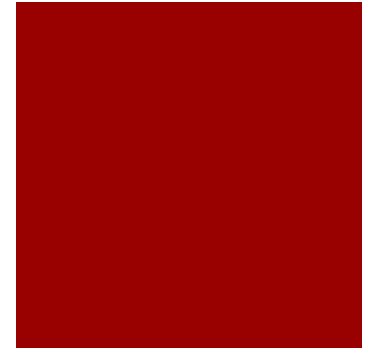
- Individual Assets:
 - Knowledge of the bible
 - Skills and experience in writing, directing youth camp, planning intergenerational events, leading worship and energizers
 - Training teachers to teach
 - Enthusiasm
 - Capacity to drive vehicles
 - Detail-oriented leadership
 - Skills in creating PowerPoint presentations
 - Teaching and modeling self-care
 - Untapped talent in leaders with youth

Asset-mapping Plan 1: Distance Continuing Ed. For Youth Leaders



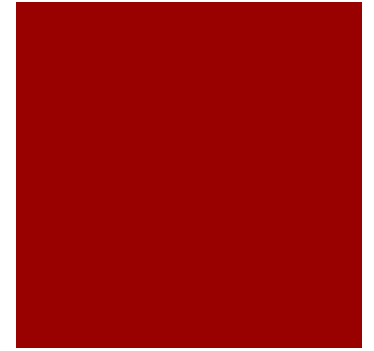
- Associational assets:
 - American Association of University Women—Kauai Chapter
 - Lions Club
 - Habitat for Humanity
 - PTSA of Hawaii State
 - Youth on all islands
 - HI Independent School Network
 - Association of Presbyterian Church Educators
 - Colleagues in youth and outdoor ministries, including Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
 - Extreme fitness sport groups (use Manoa Valley Church)
 - Kel & Dawn Hamada
 - Barack Obama!

Asset-mapping Plan 1: Distance Continuing Ed. For Youth Leaders



- Institutional assets:
 - Hawai'i Conference of the UCC
 - Windward Coalition of Churches
 - Kauai Association
 - O'ahu Association
 - Kamehameha Schools connections
 - Kawaikini Charter School
 - Kauai Community College
 - University of Hawai'i
 - McCormick and Union Theological Seminaries

Asset-mapping Plan 1: Distance Continuing Ed. For Youth Leaders



- Economic assets:
 - Dora Eisenberg Trust
 - Bank of Hawaii
 - First Hawaiian
 - The owners of ABC Stores
 - Rental income
 - \$\$ in accounts
 - Safeway and Starbucks

Asset-mapping Plan 2: Breakthrough Camp, 10/4-7

- Music and dance
- Sports

