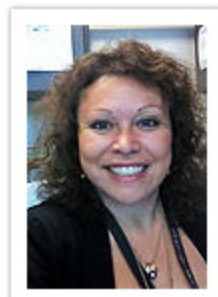


About Maria Devera, MD

Our Speakers



Maria Luisa Villalba Devera, M.D.

I am Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist. My journey has taken me to Loma Linda University Medical Center and worked in Pediatrics and later in Child Psychiatry at Stanford University Medical Center working in many communities in California before living in Hawaii. I have joyfully worked for the past 12.5 years at Schofield Barracks Pediatric Clinic serving our Military families here in Hawaii as well as my community. Life's road has taken me to Kalaupapa and Kalawao by extended community ohana in Haleiwa where I live. Nine years ago I was befriended by four sisters that extended their love and friendship and insisted that I needed to join them in Kalaupapa on their yearly 1 week trip. They have been going down to Kalaupapa for the past 30 years as they had family in Kalaupapa afflicted by Hansen Disease. It took me 2 years to finally accept. Since I first set foot on Kalauapa, I became spiritually and emotionally tied to Kalaupapa. I have traveled to Kalaupapa for the past 7 years going on an average of 3-4 times a year and wishing I could go more often. My love extends to the residents as well as care givers that that live there. It is tied in to the love that I have for Saint Damien and Saint Marianne that cannot be put into words only felt in the heart. During my trips to Kalawao in prayer many times the thought of Brother Joseph Dutton would not leave my head and heart pushing me to read and gather anything and everything I could find about his life. The more I read the more I felt he should be a Saint and met others who shared in these thoughts. Brother Joseph Dutton was a lay person devoted to God in his last 44 years of his life to serve others. He was a convert to Catholicism so it was a choice he made at 40 years of age. He experienced the horrors of war with destructive behaviors of drinking and a failed marriage yet made a choice to turn his life to help others in a foreign land and people that were different from his own culture. All of this is very striking to me. My work with people especially with military families solidified more that Brother Joseph Dutton's life would be an example to many. I am driven to get out information out to as many people that will listen and have interest and that has not been hard to do. Many people are very interested and had no idea of his existence and are surprised that there has not been more information about him. I see Brother Joseph Dutton as a Saint of the forgotten ones. I feel compelled to continue to educate and distribute information to all those that are interested- in our military community, the Hawaiian community, on the mainland, as well as internationally. Many that I have spoken to easily connect with Brother Joseph Dutton. For he was an ordinary person with flaws like all of us with, making a choice to do better and serve others with love.

[- Back to Speakers Page -](#)

**Damien & Marianne
Catholic Conference
Hawaii**

P.O. Box 30625
Honolulu, HI 96820
Phone: 808-625-3622
Fax: 808-625-5680

Email: info@dmchawaii.org



Write Us

Name *
Email *
Message

Send Us