

# Press Release

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From:

## **St. Jude's Episcopal Church Youth Outreach Program**

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## **For Immediate Release**

### **St. Jude's Episcopal Church holds FAFSA filing workshop**

Ocean View – St. Jude's Episcopal Church will host a free FAFSA application workshop on January 26, 2016 from 4 – 6 p.m. College Bound students, from anywhere on the island are invited. The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is a federal form, required for students to access federal and state financial aid for college.

Computers will be available at the church, located at 92-8606 Paradise Circle in Ocean View, for parents and students to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) via the church's wifi. Cindy Cutts, a retired college advisor, will be available to assist with FAFSA filing questions.

To complete a FAFSA, students will need to bring social security numbers for student and parents, current email addresses and the adjusted gross income figure from their most recent income tax filing (if 2015 tax information is not available, bring 2014 numbers) for parents and student.

"The FAFSA is critical piece of college affordability," Cutts explained. "Many of our island students will qualify for significant financial aid for college. But until you file the FAFSA, a college can't offer much."

The St. Jude's members will assist students and parents with the technical part of filing by providing laptops and free wifi at the workshop. The church members will also assist parents who need to create email addresses (which are required to file), and most importantly be certain students are filing the FAFSA on the correct website.

"Filing can be tricky," Cutts said. "You want to be sure you are filing on the FAFSA.gov website. You can file at FAFSA.com, but that site will require that you pay \$100 to file a free form. The first word in FAFSA is Free! St. Jude's wants to support college bound students and their families by helping them access free funds for college. Filing the FAFSA correctly is the first step."

For more information, visit the church website at [www.stjudeshawaii.org](http://www.stjudeshawaii.org).