

Hiroko Hibbard believes everything happens for a specific reason, so she feels blessed to have gained knowledge and wisdom from her personal struggles. She uses that knowledge to share her passion with others. "If I see someone crying, I simply offer a drop of lavender. If I see someone depressed, I offer a drop of Joy blend. If I see someone going through life struggles, I offer a drop of peppermint. I want to share solutions with others," she says.



Soul SEARCHING

Hiroko Hibbard crosses continents to **EASE BODIES**, minds and **SOULS — AND SEES HER CHECK SKYROCKET**

As a young girl living in Japan, Hiroko Hibbard was a soul searcher. Spiritually guided since childhood, Hiroko struggled to fit in with the group-oriented Japanese society. "I couldn't connect. I was too independent, seeking freedom," she says. "When I turned 17, I received guidance to see another side of the world."

In 1991, Hiroko landed in Portland, Ore., without knowing a soul — but she felt at home. And that, she says, is when her true inner search began.

"I had an inner knowledge that I came here for a very specific reason, though I didn't know what it was," she says. "Everything was new and big and open, but I never missed Japan."

THE NEED FOR HEALING

As Hiroko embarked on her new life in America, she struggled with a number of health challenges, partially due to the emotions she had swallowed since childhood. Skin problems, chemical sensitivities, allergies and postpartum depression were problematic, and it was all made worse when she was in a car accident while 12 weeks pregnant with her second son.

"I knew I needed an alternative that was beyond the physical," Hiroko says. "I was naturally drawn to alternative medicine, which led me to study energy — environmental energy, the human chakra system, energy healing."

Soon after, Hiroko became certified as a sanctuary practitioner, interpreting bodies and minds, and assisting those who struggled like she once had. All that went a step further when a chiropractor introduced Hiroko to the application of essential oils to realign her spine.

"I was very skeptical and I challenged her," Hiroko says. "I knew oils were for relaxation, but she explained that oils can be medicinal. I researched and studied, and when I saw the results for myself I fell in love with them."

SHARING HER SOUL

At first she was uninterested in the business of selling essential oils, but Hiroko continued to use Young Living products for herself and her family, while e-mailing friends about her amazing results.

"Before I knew it, I was sharing information and educating in the form of newsletters and monthly gatherings in town," Hiroko says.

Her popular meetings, which now happen twice a month at locations in Oregon and Washington, feature a variety of topics from cleansing the immune system to using essential oils to combat allergies. And these

BY Ashley DICKSON

meetings have turned Hiroko into one very successful Young Living distributor.

"I'm not a business person, and I'm not a salesperson," she says. "But because of the results



Hiroko Hibbard's husband, John, experienced the healing powers of Young Living's oils when he battled obesity. Close to 400 pounds, John worked with Hiroko's emotional release techniques, plus improved nutrition and fitness efforts, to lose 170 pounds. "The first thing that really shifted him was the essential oil peppermint," Hiroko says. "He had addictions, but when he started drinking water with one drop of peppermint oil, he stopped drinking soda."

I shared, my circle expanded naturally. I have 300 consultants under me."

When Young Living opened a branch of their business in Japan, Hiroko was the natural go-between.

"I now have the opportunity to go back to Japan to teach about emotional relief and healing from the inside out," Hiroko says. "I left Japan to seek happiness — all I could see was the negative side of Japan. When I came to America, I started seeing the positives in Japan. And now, whenever I go back, that positive side expands. I go there to bring smiles to people and help them feel happiness. That's my life purpose." ☺

HIROKO *on file*

FAMILY Husband, John, and sons Sean, 15, and Joshua, 10

BIRTHPLACE Tokyo, Japan

CURRENT HOMETOWN Vancouver, Wash.

OTHER OCCUPATIONS Certified Body Talk practitioner, feng shui practitioner for homes and offices, Raindrop/VitaFlex technique instructor

MISSION STATEMENT "I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. What I can do, I should do and, with the help of God, I will do."

FAVORITE YOUNG LIVING ESSENTIAL OIL White Angelica. "I use two drops of this blend around my neck to center, open and protect myself prior to seeing my clients."