



Jacob Mason

is the counter supervisor at the Honolulu Zoo. He's responsible for training food service employees. He has been with SSA since April 2008.

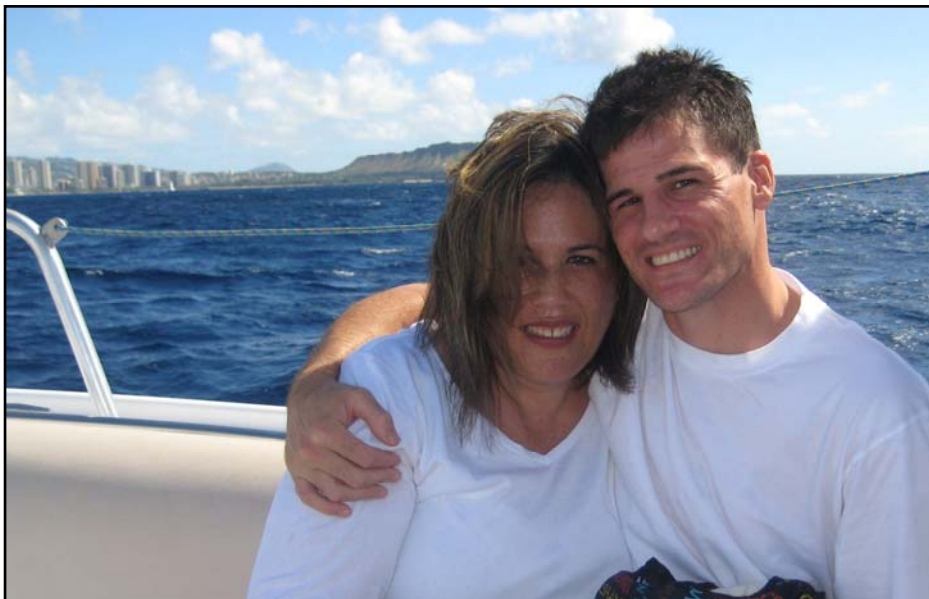
The four things that are most important to Jacob are his wife, daughter, job and sobriety. He said, "I don't need much, just need a refrigerator full of food and a roof over my head. I'm a really simple person."

What he's passionate about . . .

Jacob shared that he's been clean and sober for three years. It's been a long, long road, he said, and that he's come too far and learned too much to go back and live that kind of life-style. Jacob said being a good father to his daughter is his main motivation for staying clean. His secret is taking it one day at a time.

How family and friends would describe him . . .

Jacob said he thought they would say he was funny, outgoing and can adapt to any situation. He also describes himself as a happy, go-lucky kind of guy. His wife told him that he could hold a conversation with anyone. Jacob agreed and claims he's a people person.



What he's watching . . .

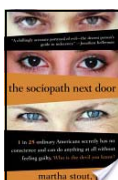
When Jacob watches television, he enjoys **Hell's Kitchen**, an American reality-television cooking competition hosted by celebrity chef Gordon Ramsay. Aspiring restaurateurs will brave Ramsay and his wrath as he puts the competitors through challenges.



For movies, it's films from the 1990s, such as *Jurassic Park*, *Forrest Gump*, *Terminator 2* and *Twister*.

What he's reading . . .

The Sociopath Next Door. In the book, Harvard psychologist Martha Stout reveals that a shocking 4% of ordinary people have an often undetected mental disorder, the chief symptom of which is that person possesses no conscience. He also reads self-help books.



Jacob was born and raised in Healdsburg, California, a picturesque small town with an abundance of world-class wineries. The town is about an hour north of the Golden Gate Bridge. He was the youngest of four children: one older sister and two older brothers. He laughingly claims he's the tough one.

Jacob moved to Hawaii in 2003 after visiting his mother, who had moved from California to Hawaii. It was love at first sight. He went home to California, quit his job and moved to the islands with their beaches and warm, sunny weather. Interestingly, Jacob's mom soon left the paradise of Hawaii to move back to the mainland. Jacob started to work for SSA at the Honolulu Zoo in 2008.

Jacob hopes he is able to visit Alabama as it's the birthplace of his father, who died several years ago. Jacob said he would enjoy getting to meet and know more of his father's family.

What he's listening to . . .

On his iPod, he has rock and roll and hip-hop tunes, however, he likes any kind of music.

His ideal job . . .

Any job where he can use a tape measure and work with his hands either to build or tear apart things. However, the SSA staff at the Honolulu Zoo uses his expertise and the knowledge he gained while volunteering to build sets for the San Francisco Mime Troupe, a company that produces touring political comedy shows.

After high school, he worked several years in the heating and air conditioning industry. That's where he developed his love of working with his hands.