

## In This Issue

Message from HHSC  
Acting President and  
Chief Executive  
Officer

East Hawaii Region

West Hawaii Region

Kauai Region

Maui Region

Oahu Region



## Message from HHSC Acting President and Chief Executive Officer

Alice M. Hall, Esq., Acting President and Chief Executive Officer

As I mentioned in my last report, we received \$48M less than what we requested from the 2014 legislature. Over the past several months, your regional and corporate boards of directors and the facility and regional administrative teams have conducted extensive budget reviews and discussions. We have implemented effective measures to drive that deficit down by nearly half, by finding ways to increase cash collections, increase revenues, and cut some costs. Unfortunately, the Council on Revenues has now lowered its projections for revenue to the state, so our share of state funds was recently cut by another \$9M. At this moment, our projection is that the system, as a whole, will end the fiscal year (June 30, 2015) with a cash deficit of about \$30M.

We appreciate our employees and want them to receive fair compensation packages, including raises. There have been approximately \$60M in raises over the past two fiscal years with only a small amount of those raises funded with general fund appropriations. Fundamentally, we must provide job security. Current circumstances demonstrate that we are not in a position to absorb additional costs at our current level of funding. Sadly, some of our coworkers have been laid off as a result of this financial crisis. Most of the positions affected were not filled and many of those laid off will find other positions within the system. We are doing everything we can to minimize the loss of jobs by finding other positions for the affected employees, bringing in outside agencies to assist them, and providing other support to help them through this difficult time.

Although we are working hard to maintain levels of service to our communities, the funding shortfall has begun to adversely affect our operations. One service has been scheduled to close to date. Some of the Regional Boards are continuing to consider other service closures and reductions in force in view of the large deficit we are still facing and in order to meet their fiduciary responsibilities. We are also considering an emergency appropriation request to help us through the year.

The legislature, administration, unions, employees, medical staffs, and other stakeholders have been engaged with us as we continue to look for ways to navigate through the challenge. The time, energy, and ideas being proposed on all fronts are greatly appreciated. Please keep them coming!

In the long run, the policy makers will need to make some big decisions about the future of HHSC. There is no doubt that the hospitals and long term care facilities will continue to provide care for many decades to come. However, the composition, governance, ownership and management of the system remain open to discussion. Exactly which services should be provided and funded by the state is also the subject of much debate.

Finally, this will likely be my last message as the Acting PCEO. A search is underway for someone to lead the corporate office of HHSC. Mahalo nui loa for your support this past year. Your continued commitment to provide safe, affordable, quality healthcare to the people of Hawaii is inspiring!

## New Director of Human Resources



HHSC welcomes Cliff Caesar, Corporate Director of Human Resources. Cliff comes to us with a wealth of experience in human resource management. He is a certified Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR). Cliff acquired his professional experience in the hotel and pineapple industry. He also facilitated the Society for Human

Resource Management (SHRM) certification classes in labor relations for approximately six years on Maui. Cliff started his career as a business agent and organizer for H.E.R.E., Local 5, AFL-CIO and has been a volunteer mediator with Mediation Services of Maui for over 20 years. Because of these experiences, he likes to take a balanced approach when working on issues. Cliff is excited to be with us. He feels that this is a dynamic organization in the midst of change and he believes that good things are in store. HHSC is fortunate to have a human resources professional with the multitude of competencies possessed by Cliff.

## Kahuku Medical Center Features Latest Technology In Radiology Department to Enhance Patient Care

As part of the Kahuku Medical Center's Capital Improvements, the Radiology department has undergone renovation accompanying the arrival of its new, top-of-the-line CT Scanner.

The new Toshiba Aquilion 16 slice dual detector multi-slice unit offers a series of x-ray views taken from many different angles and combines with computer processing to create cross-sectional images of the bones and soft tissues inside your body. This particular model features a lower radiation dose to patients, while at the same time improving image quality. The software accompanying the scanner also optimizes the clinical work flow. Kahuku Medical Center's Radiology department is an even greater asset to diagnostic care at KMC.



Kahuku Medical Center invited the entire community to an Open House event on Wednesday September 24, 2014, from 1 – 5pm. Visitors enjoyed refreshments, live music, and tours of KMC's latest additions and improvements. The tour included a view of the new CT scanner and KMC's state-of-the-art oxygen system which generates oxygen via an innovative technology to reduce the cost of oxygen over time.

## East Hawaii Region

### The East Hawaii Region Braced for Hurricane Iselle

The East Hawaii Region was prepared for Hurricane Iselle's arrival on August 7. The staff at Hilo Medical Center, Ka'u Hospital and Hale Ho'ola Hamakua put in tremendous effort in preparing their households so we, as healthcare professionals, could focus on patient care. Our high level of readiness is attributed to our commitment to disaster preparedness and our strong relationships with the Healthcare Association of Hawaii and Civil Defense. We are lead by Certified Healthcare Emergency Professionals and additionally staffed by employees who volunteer as members of our Hospital Emergency Response Team. Everyone, physicians, administrators, department managers and employees, stepped into their roles in fulfilling our commitment to our patients.



### Hale Ho'ola Hamakua Prepared for Hazmat Situation

On September 18, Hale Ho'ola Hamakua sprung into disaster preparedness mode when students at Honokaa Elementary and Honokaa High & Intermediate were sent home due to a strong chemical odor. About 40 students and 10 adults from the school who reported feeling symptoms of nausea, dizziness, headache and respiratory problems were transported to HHH and North Hawaii Community Hospital to be assessed and treated. Members of the Hospital Emergency Response Team (HERT), based at Hilo Medical Center, rushed out to Honoka'a to assist in setting up the decontamination tent and receiving patients. HHH opened up an Incident Command Center and sprung into action with staff



members from all departments taking on various roles to ensure an organized process. Fortunately, there were no serious injuries and all students and adults were treated and released by the Emergency Department at HHH. Feedback from the community has since poured in commending HHH's staff for handling a frightening and seemingly chaotic situation with such organization, compassion and professionalism.



## East Hawaii Region Held Public Meeting in Pahala

The East Hawaii Regional Board of Directors for Hawaii Health Systems Corporation held its annual public meeting on Saturday, July 19 at 2:00 pm at Ka'u Hospital. This public meeting was well attended by community members and hospital supporters. Representatives Richard Onishi and Richard Creagan presented certificates of appreciation to: Kau Hospital Charitable Foundation, O Kau Kakou, Kau Golf Group, Ka Lae Quilters and Red Hats of Kau, Volcano Rotary, Kau Rural Health Community Association. The organizations were recognized for their roles in fundraising and garnering community support to improve the hospital's op-

erations and quality of care. The final certificate was presented in recognition of the East Hawaii Region's electronic medical records achievement of HIMSS Stage 7, the final and highest level of EMR adoption in the country.



Barbara Beatty with Reps. Onishi and Creagan received certificates of appreciation on behalf of Red Hats of Kau, Ka Lae Quilters and the Kau Golf Group.

## Hilo Medical Center's Residency Program Welcomes First Class

On July 1, Hilo Medical Center and Hilo Medical Center Foundation welcomed the first class of Family Medicine residents with a welcome reception. Our residents are: Ka'ohimanu Lydia Dang Akiona, MD from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Svetlana Shchedrina, MD from the Russian National Research Medical University, Hamed Ahmadinia, MD from American University of Antigua School of Medicine, and Seren Tokumura, MD from University of Hawaii John A Burns School of Medicine, who will join the program in January 2015.



Residents were welcomed in a June 27 reception hosted by the hospital and Hilo Medical Center Foundation.





The residents and Dr. Mark Knox, program faculty, toured through the hospital and stopped by the Medical Unit to see Dee Nishioka, Nurse Manager, and Faith Liberato, Clinical Coordinator.

## HMC Nurse Aides Complete PEARS Certification

Hilo Medical Center celebrated the first group of nurse aides to be certified in PEARS (Pediatric Emergency Assessment, Recognition, and Stabilization). The certification increases the staff's knowledge and skill base required for the emergency evaluation and treatment of seriously ill infants and children, resulting in improved quality of care and better outcomes for our sick children. Congratulations to Laulima Nurse Aides: Nancy Marsh, Dennis Feliciano, Maraia Misech, Myrna Andres and Jarusha Aipia.



## HMC Blesses New Linear Accelerator

In a promising development for cancer patients in the East Hawaii Region, Hilo Medical Center's Hawaii Pacific Oncology Center celebrated the installation of the TrueBeam system, an innovative system that enables a radically different approach to treating cancer with image-guided radiation therapy, with a blessing on July 7. Within four months, the equipment was installed and the staff was trained to care for their first patient on July 9, 2014.

"The TrueBeam linear accelerator is \$4.8 million of well-spent funds that has tremendous implications for our community," said Howard Ainsley, East Hawaii Regional CEO. "This means that our loved ones with cancer can receive the very best in specialized care that our community deserves. This is our commitment to keeping patients close to home."



Left to right: At the July 7 blessing of the new linear accelerator, Dr. Kevin Wilcox, HPOC Medical Director and Radiation Oncologist; Dr. Anthony Lim, HPOC Medical Oncologist; Jacky Santos, Clerical Supervisor; Julie Leach, HPOC Nurse Manager; Alissa Reese, Chief Radiation Therapist; Kahu Kimo Awai; Howard Ainsley, East Hawaii Region CEO of HHSC; and Dr. James Lambeth, HPOC Radiation Oncologist.

## HMC Medical Staff Awards \$10,000 in Scholarships

Physician leadership of Hilo Medical Center's medical staff presented \$10,000 in scholarships to invest in healthcare careers and improve the quality of care in East Hawaii. \$2,500 scholarships were awarded to staff and family affiliated with Hilo Medical Center: Reina Sako: Reina is the daughter of Janet Sako, a dietician. She is in her junior year at Seattle University studying Diagnostic Ultrasound. Cody Freitas: Cody is the son of Shari Vincent, RN, Director of Utilization Review. His goal is to become a physician and return to Hilo to practice. He is a sophomore at the University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in Biology. Karah Yo-



shida: Karah is a Clinical Informatics Imaging Specialist at HMC who is pursuing a Masters in Business Administration with a concentration in Information Systems. Julie Leach: Julie is a nurse manager at Hawaii Pacific Oncology Center. She is enrolled in the University of Arizona's Master's in Nursing program.

"Hilo Medical Center's Medical Staff is proud to support our hospital employees and their families in obtaining a higher level of education," said Kathleen Katt, MD, FACEP, HMC Chiefess of Staff who presented the scholarships. "We are dedicated to providing opportunities for continued excellence in our community's health care. Our goal and part of the selection process is to encourage the sons and daughters of Hilo to obtain an education and return to Hilo to use their new skills and ideas to improve our community's health."



Left to right: Dan Brinkman, Interim CEO; Kathleen Katt, MD, Chiefess of Staff; Medical Staff Scholarship Winners: Julie Leach, RN, Karah Yoshida, Cody Freitas, and Reina Sako; Francis Cavanaugh, MD, Chief-Elect; and Money Atwal, HMC CFO/CIO.

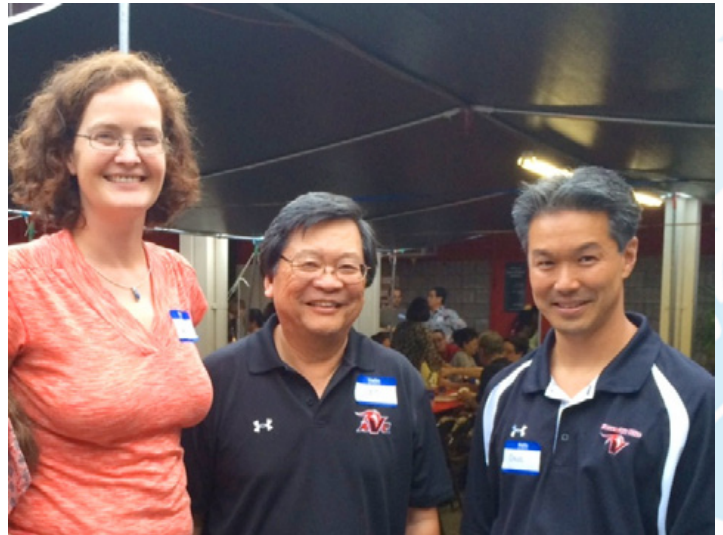
## HMC Physicians and Nursing Staff Partner with UH Hilo's Athletics Department

Hilo Medical Center's physicians and nurses partnered with the University of Hawaii at Hilo's Athletics Department to conduct physicals for all their athletes. It was a one-stop shop in the Vulcans' gym on Aug. 17 and 31. On Sept. 20, the Vulcans athletic department, coaches and Dr. John Uohara, Vulcans women's volleyball team physician and East Hawaii Regional Board member, mahaloed participants with a cookout prior to the volleyball game. Community physicians joined HMC's physicians and staff who gave their time: Hawaii Island Family Medicine Residency Program's Dr. McCoy, Dr. Nordling, Dr. Ahmadinia and Dr. Shchedrina; Neurology Clinic's Dr. Herrera; Cardiology Clinic's Djion Lim; Hilo Bone & Joint's Dr. Boughanem; Hospitalists Dr. Douglas Do and Dr. So Win; Private Physicians: Dr. Tatsuno, Dr. Ben Ono, Dr. Raymond Lee, Dr. David Jung and Dr. Richard

Lee-Ching; Medical Units's Dee Nishioka, Gretchen Gilmore, Jacquie Wright; and Brandon Libao; Laulima Unit's Robin Nakayama and daughter Melissa; Cardiovascular Unit's Kelly Okada; Utilization Review's Pam Melchor and Sharon Sugai; Operating Room's Dana Deranja; and Physical Therapy's Kristin Hayashi.



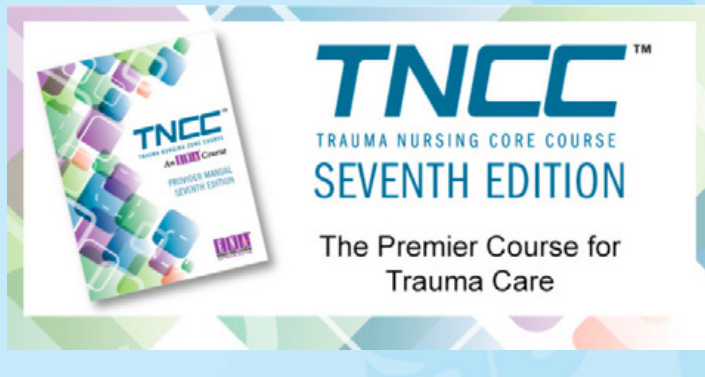
HMC nursing staff from multiple units participated in physicals for UHH athletes.



Dr. Kay Nordling, Dr. John Uohara and women's basketball coach David Kaneshiro at the Mahalo cookout.

## Emergency Department Nurses Recertified for Trauma Care

Ka'u Hospital hosted a Trauma Nurse Re-certification course September 12-15. All registered nurses at Ka'u obtain this certification as part of the hospital's preparedness to care for the many injured patients who come through our doors. Nona Wilson, Assistant Administrator and Director of Nursing brought the training out to Ka'u to enable more staff to attend and saving both time and money.



Jay Taganas of the maintenance department in Ka'u, is so proud of his daughter, Mahealani, for her dedication to becoming an LPN.

## Baby Iris Makes Her Debut at Hale Ho'ola Hamakua

On September 8, shortly after 7:00 am, Mary Conner and John Doherty rushed into the Emergency Department ready to give birth. Mary realized that she was close to giving birth and couldn't make it to North Hawaii Community Hospital. Fortunately for the couple, she had remembered that there was a hospital in Honoka'a. "When they came in, we were like 'ok, let's focus!'" said Faith Olivera, interim Director of Nursing. "I stayed with Dr. Coker to assist with the birth, another nurse stayed with the mom and another nurse was on the EMR." In just 21 minutes, Mary delivered baby Iris at 7:41 am, weighing 8 pounds, 9 ounces and measuring 20.75 inches. In addition to Dr. Coker and Faith, Joyce Harris, RN and Jonathan Giangrosso, RN teamed up for the birth. "Iris is our baby," said Faith. "She's ours. We've talked about following up with her every so often, and we want to do something for her first birthday."

## LPN Training Offered in Pahala

Ka'u Hospital has partnered with Hawaii Community College (HCC) and the Ka'u Rural Health Education and Distance Learning Center to provide a licensed practical nurse training program for students who live in the Ka'u area. A good portion of the classroom learning is held at the Ka'u Rural Health Education and Distance Learning Center, headed by Auntie Jessie Marques. The center's location in the heart of Pahala makes LPN training attainable for students from the area. The students' clinical rotations will include Ka'u Hospital, Hilo Medical Center and Life Care Center of Hilo. With a similar partnership five years ago, a CNA training program was launched at Ka'u Hospital. Some of those graduates became valued employees. The LPN program is an important next step in our efforts to "grow our own" future healthcare workers.



LPN students in front of Ka'u Rural Health Clinic.





## Trauma Prevention Efforts Underway in Honoka'a

August 23 was a perfect day for the grand opening of Honokaa's community skate park and for the staff at Hale Ho'ola Hamakua (HHH) to fit local youth with safety equipment. Representing HHH's Trauma Program, Nurses Lillian Lee, Beverly Nacnac, Melissa Villarin, and Faith Olivera handed out a total of 57 skateboard helmets and 37 sets of knee, elbow and wrist pads. The safety equipment was purchased with funds from the state trauma fund to educate the community about trauma prevention.



## 8TH Annual Parade and Festival for the International Day of Peace

On September 20, Hale Ho'ola Hamakua joined the community to celebrate and promote peace, compassion and awareness. Festivities included a Peace Parade through downtown Honoka'a followed by a Festival at Honoka'a Park. Five residents accompanied by staff and the Boy Scouts, Pa'auilo Troop 1 marched in the parade.



Awaiting the start of the parade. Pictured front row: Residents Pamela Munro, Elsa Daquel, Sadako Kiyota, Gladys Chock and Shigeko Kurashige. Standing: Recreational Aides Janet Sebala and Junedale Tasaka. Photo Courtesy of Sarah Anderson Photography.



Alyce Camero, Speech Therapist joined by her son Colby and daughter Malia marched in the parade holding the Hale Ho'ola Hamakua banner.

## 1ST Annual Out of the Darkness in Honokaa

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) held its 1st Annual Out of the Darkness community walk in Honoka'a on September 20. Events included educational booths and activities culminated by a memory walk through Honoka'a town.



Judith Henkel, Nori Acidera and Melissa Villarin were on hand to provide blood pressure screenings and awareness.

## NOTABLES

### East Hawaii Region Names Interim Regional Chief Executive Officer



On August 1, the East Hawaii Regional Board announced Dan Brinkman as the interim Regional Chief Executive Officer. "Our decision to name Dan Brinkman as the interim CEO of the East Hawaii Region makes good sense for the organization and community," said Gary Yoshiyama, East Hawaii Regional Board chairman. "Dan's immediate

appointment provides a seamless transition for the region in maintaining quality of care to the community and moving forward with major initiatives with regard to operations, legislative goals and our commitment to financial stewardship. As the Chief Operating Officer for the region, he has a comprehensive understanding of the long term direction and strategic plan for all of the hospitals and clinics throughout the region."

### East Hawaii Regional CIO/CFO Named Top 100 CIO

IDG's CIO magazine announced Money S. Atwal, the East Hawaii Regional Chief Information Officer and Regional Chief Financial Officer for Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, as a recipient of the 2014 CIO 100 award. The 27th annual award program recognizes organizations around the world that exemplify the highest level of operational and strategic excellence in information technology. "The CIO 100 award is significant because it recognizes Money's incredibly high level of expertise that he brings to our decision making process throughout our efforts to improve healthcare in the region," said Dan Brinkman, East Hawaii Regional interim Chief Executive Officer. "His dual leadership role and wealth of knowledge mean our community is in good hands with respect to sound fiscal management and quality care through technology."



### Honolulu Magazine Names Dr. Joshua Pierce "Best Doctor" in 2014 Issue



Congratulations to Hilo Surgical Associates' Dr. Joshua Pierce, for being recognized as the "Best Doctor" in Honolulu Magazine's June issue.

### Hawaii Island Family Medicine Residency Program Welcomes New Faculty

Dr. Kehau Kong has joined the Hawaii Island Residency Program. She graduated from University of Hawaii's John A. Burns School of Medicine and did her Family Medicine Residency training in Phoenix, Arizona. Prior to joining the Hawaii Island Residency Program, she received advanced training in obstetrics at Tacoma Family Medicine in Washington.



### Emergency Department Nurse First to Be Certified in Emergency Nursing



Cheryl Grisham, RN, CCRN, CEN is our first Certified Emergency Nurse, who offered her reasons for reaching her goal: "It was a personal goal of mine. It feels so good and I hope it encourages others because it's so doable. I think it compliments my certification in critical care nursing. There are a lot of good nurses in the hospital and we can all achieve our certifications. Being certified helps me understand the theory and rationale behind



the care I provide. With more certified nurses, this hospital will be that much of a better place for care.”

“Hilo Medical Center’s ER is privileged to have an RN like Cheryl with such vast critical care knowledge,” said Charlene Akuna, RN, Emergency Department Nurse Manager. “The ER and its nurses are committed to providing the best care for our community. This certification increases our nurses’ skill sets and improves patient care at bedside.”

## West Hawaii Region

### KCH Participates in DOH Health Fair

On Saturday, August 23, Kona Community Hospital (KCH) took part in the 2014 Department of Health Ho’omaika’i Ola Kino Health and Wellness Fair. The fair was held at the Kealahou Ranch Center. KCH provided information to the community on the Ka’a Ho’ola Mobile Medical Van, CPR basics and Women’s Health Services.

Jackie Murray, APRN and Judy Donovan provided information to the public on the hospital’s medical van which is dedicated to providing medical services to underserved residents in the Ka’u district. The van serves the Pahala and Ocean View communities in alternating two-week periods.

Additional information focused on heart health and the value of being able to perform CPR. Ten CPR Anytime Family and Friends teaching kits were raffled to fair participants throughout the day. The American Heart Association reports that for every Family and Friends kit that is given away, two people learn the hands-only method of CPR.

Finally, Dr. Gary Bernard, D.O., OB/GYN and staff from Ali’i Health Center’s Women’s Health department joined KCH at the health fair to distribute information on newly available obstetric services for our community. They were able to highlight the creative partnerships between Kona Community Hospital’s Women’s Health unit, Ali’i Health Center and other community providers, which are addressing the need for women’s services in West Hawai’i.

“We’re grateful to the DOH for hosting this health and wellness fair,” said Jackie Murray. “It provides ready access to health information to the community, and at the same time, it is fun for everyone.”



Jackie Murray, APRN and Gary Bernard, D.O., OB/GYN.

### Kona Hospital Foundation Celebrates 30 Years of Service

This year marks a notable milestone for the Kona Hospital Foundation (KHF) as it celebrates 30 years of dedicated service to Kona Community Hospital (KCH) and the West Hawaii community.

The Foundation was established on June 21, 1984 by Allen Wilcox, Dr. Garold Enloe, Fred Fujimoto and Richard Ishida. Their mission was to provide a philanthropic, fundraising organization dedicated to the endowment of medical equipment and technology to Kona Community Hospital.

Since its launch 30 years ago, the Hospital Foundation has funded major projects at KCH including the Radiation Oncology Center, the Imaging Center, Nuclear Medicine Suite and the Out-patient Chemotherapy Building, as well as the Adopt A Room and Buy A Bed projects. Other completed projects are the emergency helicopter landing area and the funding of medical equipment for various hospital departments including the Cardiology Clinic, the Obstetrics Unit and the Surgical Services department.

“We’re so grateful to our founding trustees, who created a mechanism for accepting gifts and donations that would benefit Kona Community Hospital,” said Foundation Chair, Jim Higgins. Higgins, who is also a 26-year board member, continued by saying that the current Board of Trustees is proud to report that KHF “remains financially sound and committed to our founding trustees’ mission to make the hospital the best it can be for our community.”

For more information, please contact the Kona Hospital Foundation at 322-4587.



## Kona Community and Kohala Hospitals Welcomes New Board Members and Say Farewell to Others

Kona Community (KCH) and Kohala Hospitals recently welcomed five new members to the West Hawaii Region Board of Directors as it also bid farewell to outgoing members.

New BOD members are Mark Danderson, Dr. Gary Goldberg, Dr. Edwin Gramlich, Dr. Frank Sayre and Steven Sparks. July 1st was the term start date for these new members.

“Delivering quality health care is becoming increasingly complex,” said Bill Cliff, Board Chair. “Additionally, we face a number of financial realities that are unique to our state. The expertise of our new members will enhance our board’s ability to fulfill our mission to provide the best possible health care for all West Hawaii residents.”

Mark Danderson is the President of MDanderson Consulting Group specializing in business development and product launches in the Asia/Pacific region. Danderson has 25 years of experience in medical publishing and education in America, Asia, Australia and Europe.

Gary Goldberg, MD is an emergency physician and physician director of emergency services at North Hawaii Community Hospital. As a hospital based physician, Dr. Goldberg is skilled in physician management and working as part of a hospital team to create high quality patient-centered care.

Edwin Gramlich, MD is a retired physician and long-time resident of West Hawaii. Dr. Gramlich’s extensive medical experience includes primary care as a U.S. Naval Flight Surgeon, obstetrics and gynecology, psychiatry as well as health care communications and conflict resolution. Gramlich joined Kona Community Hospital in 2001 as a psychiatrist. He served as Medical Director to the hospital’s long term care unit from 2006-2008.

Frank Sayre, DDS recently retired from a 45-year career in general dentistry. Dr. Sayre was a member of the KCH surgical staff as well as HHSC’s Management Advisory Committee for West Hawaii. Sayre has a long history community commitment and is a volunteer board member on the Daniel Sayre Memorial Foundation; Peoples Advocacy for Trails Hawaii (PATH), the Pu’u Wa’a Wa’a Advisory Council and Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization.

Steven Sparks is a real estate consultant new to the West Hawaii area. For the past 44 years, Mr. Sparks has acted as a commercial appraiser and consultant for special purchase properties including a full range of medical properties such as acute care hospitals in 38 states. Sparks’ background in the health care industry and specifically construction techniques and costs will be a positive contribution to the board and community.

The newly appointed board members join sitting members Bill Cliff, Chair; Renee Inaba, Vice Chair; Reginald T. Morimoto, Secretary/Treasurer; Joel Gimpel; Dr. Richard McDowell; Richard Taaffe; and Reed Flickinger to round out the 2014-2015 West Hawaii Region Board of Directors.

Outgoing board members due to term expirations are Dr. Alistair Bairos, Dr. Kevin Kunz, Patti Aoki, Daniel Rick, PT and David Kaapu, Esquire.

“A sincere ‘mahalo’ to our departing board members,” said Bill Cliff. “They are committed community leaders. Each has contributed countless hours of volunteer time to maximize the quality of life on our island by making Kona Community Hospital the best it could be.”

## Kona Hospital Foundation Bi-Monthly Lecture Hosts KCH Trauma Program



Dr. Richard McDowell, Wendi Wagner, RN, with Foundation Trustees Judi Nakamaru, Jane Dierenfield, and Jim Higgins.

The Kona Hospital Foundation held its bi-monthly Informal Lecture Series on Tuesday, July 22 at the Community Meeting Hale at the West Hawaii Civic Center. The lecture hosted members of Kona Community Hospital’s Trauma Program. The topic for July’s lecture was, “Understanding Emergency Care in Hawai‘i.”

Guest speakers, Dr. Richard McDowell, Trauma Medical Director and Wendi Wagner, Trauma Program Manager presented information on Kona Community Hospital’s Level III Trauma Center, access to emergency care in Hawai‘i County and injury prevention.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, injuries are the leading cause of death for children and adults ages 1— 44. The Kona Community Hospital Trauma Center team was activated 144 times in 2013. Dr. McDowell and Ms. Wagner discussed the



leading causes of traumatic injury in Hawaii County. In addition, they shared valuable safety tips on how to avoid injury.

The Kona Hospital Foundation is dedicated to improving Kona Community Hospital for the entire community. Their mission is to fund medical technology, expanded services and enhanced facilities that would otherwise be unavailable. The Foundation lectures are free and open to the public.

## Kona Hospital Auxiliary Awards \$15,000 in Nursing Scholarships

The Kona Community Hospital Auxiliary recently awarded \$15,000 in nursing scholarships to six local students seeking to pursue nursing careers.

The Kona Community Hospital Auxiliary nursing scholarship program annually awards up to \$2500 per recipient to nursing students. This year the program funded scholarships for three new nursing students and three returning recipients. New scholarship recipients include Robert Chadwick, Yarden Davis and Caryn Masutomi. Second year recipients are Sherrine Gray, June Mohr and Joli Remund,

To be considered for the Auxiliary's Nursing Scholarship, applicants must submit a resume, school transcripts, two letters of recommendation and a personal essay on why nursing was chosen as a career. In addition, students must already be accepted to a nursing school.

The Auxiliary's goal is to provide financial assistance to nursing students, and to aide Kona Community Hospital in meeting its future nursing needs.

"All of our candidates have been deeply touched by experiences in the health care environment. Each is enthusiastic and committed to performing care in the service of others, and they all have passion and heart that will make them great nurses," said Stephanie Irwin RN, director of education at Kona Community Hospital. "The Kona Hospital Auxiliary's goal is to build a strong nursing workforce that will provide excellent healthcare to West Hawaii in the future."

With 65 active members, the KCH Auxiliary is the largest volunteer organization at the hospital. There are numerous volunteer opportunities and they operate the hospital Gift Shop. Monies for nursing scholarships are generated by the Auxiliary's Friday Bake Sale, an annual rummage sale and other activities. To be a volunteer or to donate to the nursing scholarship fund, contact the Auxiliary office at 322-4577 or visit their website at <http://kchauxiliary.org>



Left to right: Auxiliary President Beverly Novak-Page; Joli Remund; June Mohr; Caryn Masutomi; Yarden David; Bobby Chadwick; and Auxiliary Treasurer David Clarke.

## Kona Community Hospital Employees Celebrate July Fourth

Kona Community Hospital celebrated the Fourth of July by marching in the 19th annual Kailua-Kona Independence Day Parade. This year's parade theme was "United As One."

KCH employees, families, friends and Auxiliary members marched the distance from the Kekuaokalani Gym/Pool Complex to Coconut Grove Marketplace handing out trinkets and newly made ti-leaf leis to cheering parade watchers along the way.

The July 4 parade is popular among West Hawai'i residents and visitors alike. For Kona Community Hospital marchers, seeing friends and coworkers along the parade route always creates a fun and festive mood.

With 19 marchers, the KCH Dietary Department again took the "Largest Departmental Team" prize.

This year, hospital marchers received an added surprise when they were awarded third place in the parade's Marching Division. Congratulations, Kona Community Hospital!



KCH employees, auxiliary volunteers, families, and pets at the July 4th parade.

# Kaua'i Region

## Mahelona Hospital Steps Up to Worksite Wellness Challenge



A seven-month, island-wide Worksite Wellness Challenge is under way on Kaua'i – and Samuel Mahelona Memorial Hospital (SMMH) has joined the challenge. Sponsored by the Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition of Kaua'i County and Get Fit Kaua'i's Worksite Wellness Task Force, the competition is designed to encourage businesses to implement healthy practices in the workplace and to create sustainable wellness policies and environmental changes that focus on nutritional and physical activity improvements.

"As a healthcare facility, we should help make sure our own employees have a healthy workplace," stated SMMH's Su Smith, Dietitian IV. "Employees should be able to practice healthy eating, to exercise, manage stress and their general health, and/or access tobacco cessation options through work. We recently started meeting as an official Worksite Wellness Committee and are excited about implementing ideas regarding both physical activity and nutrition. We've already implemented a 'no fried foods' unwritten policy and provided nutrition education during National Nutrition Month earlier this year. We have a nutrition education area with brochures and handouts to go, located on the bulletin board above our posted menu. We have also used more fresh fruits, vegetables, and whole grains like quinoa, 'hapa,' and brown rice to improve the fiber content of the meals served at lunchtime."

Get Fit Kaua'i's Worksite Wellness Challenge 2014 winner, determined in November, will have made the greatest improvement from their initial status score. The winning company will receive a perpetual trophy to display until the end of 2015.

## West Kauai Medical Center Staff Appreciation Tea



Approximately 50 KVMH and West Kauai Clinics employees enjoyed an Appreciation Tea hosted by the Waimea United Church of Christ on September 4, 2014. It was the fourth time the church hosted the event to recognize staff for their commitment to caring for patients and families, as well as their contributions to the improvement of the health of the west Kauai community.

Pastor Olaf and Waimea United Church of Christ members generously donated tea, coffee, finger foods and desserts and visited with employees to express their appreciation for their hard work and dedication.

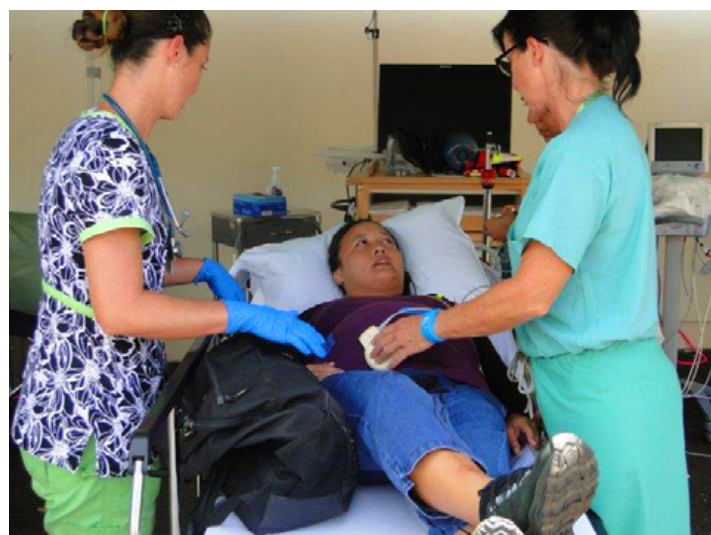
## Kauai Region Hospitals Participate in RIMPAC

Kauai Veterans Memorial Hospital (KVMH) and Samuel Mahelona Memorial Hospital (SMMH) participated in RIMPAC - the world's largest, international, maritime exercise. Held in July, the mock humanitarian assistance disaster relief operation marked only the second time in RIMPAC history that US hospitals have participated.

"KVMH and SMMH were a part of the statewide exercise, working with other hospitals and agencies to test communication and coordination of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief efforts," stated KVMH's Leah Aguilung, RN, Incident Commander. "Additionally, eleven Kauai region employees participated as 'casualty-actors' in the exercise which simulated the mass care and evacuation of more than one hundred sixty patients to hospitals after a hurricane struck the fictitious island nation of Griffon. Five Kauai Region employees were flown to Oahu, then moulaged to simulate injured patients. After a triage process, the 'casualty-actors' were transported to Pacific Missile Range Facility via U.S. Army helicopters and then ambulance to KVMH and SMMH. An additional six employee casualty-actors then joined the exercise when the Oahu actors arrived at KVMH."



Twenty-two nations, forty-nine surface ships, six submarines, more than two hundred aircraft, twenty five thousand personnel and nineteen Hawaii hospitals participated in RIMPAC from June 26 - Aug. 1, 2014, in and around the Hawaiian Islands and Southern California. The twenty-two nations represented include: Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Colombia, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the People's Republic of China, Peru, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of the Philippines, Singapore, Tonga, the United Kingdom and the United States. RIMPAC provides a unique training opportunity that helps participants foster and sustain the cooperative relationships that are critical to ensuring the safety of sea lanes and security on the world's oceans. RIMPAC 2014 was the twenty-fourth exercise in the series that began in 1971.



## Mahelona, KVMH Bon Dances Bring Culture & Tradition to Residents

"Growing up in Hawai'i and attending bon dances during the summer is a life-long tradition for many kupuna", said Josie

Pablo, Recreational Therapist at Mahelona Hospital. "We take some of our residents to bon dances in the community, but there are those who are not able to make the trip. For those, we bring the bon dance here." Bon Dances were held at Samuel Mahe-lona Memorial Hospital (SMMH) and Kauai Veterans Memorial Hospital (KVMH) on August 14th and 15th, 2014, respectively.

With the aid of SMMH and KVMH employees from all departments, the hospital's auxiliaries, employee associations and numerous community volunteers, the bon dances brought happiness to long-term care residents at both facilities. KVMH Occupational Therapist Steve Kline stated, "It's awesome that our residents can enjoy these beautiful traditions and festivities which arrived with the Japanese immigrants more than a hundred years ago."

"Everyone pitches in so the residents can enjoy this rich celebration of Hawaii heritage, which included flying saucers and other traditional Bon Dance fare. These dances are a demonstration of how our employees and the community come together for our residents," Pablo added. "We, along with our residents, are very grateful."



Dru and Nicole Yamagiwa of Chicago, Illinois visit with Helen Saiki of Wailua at the Mahelona Hospital bon dance.



Mahelona employees Erme Bueno, Juliet Cruz, Nelia Melchor-Asuncion, Barbara Nakamura, and Freddie Woodard.





KVMH Bon Dance

## Kauai Region Volunteers Help Marathon Runners Finish Strong

The 6th Annual Kauai Marathon and Half Marathon featured over 1,800 participants, and a host of Kauai Region employees were there to share their expertise and care for runners both before and after the race. Volunteers from Kauai Veterans Memorial Hospital and Samuel Mahelona Memorial Hospital included physicians, nurses and physical therapy staff.

Gregg Pacilio, Physical Therapist (PT), and Kelsey Flanders, SPT, joined Meynard Enriques, DPT, of Hawaii Sport and Balance Center, to give a presentation, “Arthritis and Running – Keep on Running into Your Later Years” at the Sports and Fitness Expo held prior to the race. “The runners were glad to hear that many factors are under their control when it comes to managing arthritis and marathon running,” Pacilio said. “This is our fifth year volunteering at the marathon and it has always been an extremely rewarding experience. The runners never fail to inspire us to push our own limits. This year a particularly inspiring runner was a young woman with diabetes who ran the half marathon with her father carrying her blood sugar testing kit, insulin needles and snacks. At the finish line, we were kept busy restoring effective movement to exhausted, cramping runners. Together with other volunteers we had five PTs, one chiropractor and four PT Aides working. I realized it is similar to providing acute interventions in the hospital that get our people walking again when it doesn’t seem possible.”

Emergency room physician Dr. Dave Gregorius returned to the event for the fourth time to serve as race medical director. “This year was definitely the busiest the medical tent has been in four years. The weather was very bad, super hot, muggy with barely any winds, so terrible running conditions. I would approximate that about 60 runners were treated, mostly for heat and exercise-related complaints such as heat exhaustion, dehydration and vomiting. We also had musculoskeletal complaints,” Gregorius

stated. “Once our ten cots were full, we sent the musculoskeletal complaints to the Physical therapy tent.” Other HHSC volunteers included Dr. Carla Nelson, Bob Burke, Clayton Falvey, Ernest Abrams, Elizabeth Joyce, Stacie Aguinaldo and Brian Fern. ED nurse Leah Aguilin is one of my two roving medical vans every year and puts in a tremendous amount of time.” Also helping Dr. Gregorius care for runners were medical staffers from Wilcox Hospital. He added, “Working in the ER, you never know what’s going to come in the door. You’ve got to be prepared for anything. Especially in a marathon, you never know what you’re going to experience on the course or in the medical tent. So our volunteers play a very important role and are very much appreciated.”



The Kauai Marathon Medical Tent - volunteers included HHSC employees Ernest Abrams, Dr. Carla Nelson, Brian Fern and Elizabeth Joyce.



Gregg Pacilio, PT, and student Kelsey Flanders, SPT, at the Kauai Marathon finish line Physical Therapy tent.





The Kauai Marathon Keiki Run.

## Maui Region

### New Laundry Equipment for MMMC

The MMC Laundry Department in Facilities Engineering recently replaced some older equipment with the addition of two brand new washers and a gas dryer. The washers were installed in April of 2014 and now mean that our outstanding Laundry crew can be even more efficient than before.

Not only do the new washers have greater capacity, the new gas dryer (installed in July of 2014) has larger capacity (150- to 450-lbs), is more energy efficient and has faster drying times (almost half the time).

This project required much coordination with the contractor and hospital staff to remove the old machines, install the new equipment and provide in-service to staff. Our ever-helpful Facilities crew were right there when we needed them to move this project along. Thank you to our Facilities Engineering, Laundry staff and everyone involved in this project for continuing to provide the quality work that makes our hospital run so smoothly.



Displaying the new dryer are left to right: Placido ( Jr ) Topinio, Lanie Tomas, Arnold Valencia, Francisco Balasan (sitting in dryer). Jing Jing Piano, Jocelyn Tabisola, Rufino Almarez, Sheergent LLaneza and Romeo Pardillo ( kneeling).

### MMMC Outpatient Clinic Readies for October Opening

Construction on the infrastructure at the new Maui Memorial Medical Center Outpatient Clinic is moving along toward an end of October opening.

The Outpatient Clinic will provide an important part of integrated care by allowing our growing team of physicians a place to offer follow-up outpatient care in the convenient Maui Lani location. The Clinic will also be instrumental in attracting new specialty physicians.

When completed, the Clinic will be home to the following services: Medical Oncology, Heart & Vascular, Cardiac Diagnostic, Gastro-intestinal and Orthopedic.

### Patient Story



Robin Foundher is a person who is well-known on Maui, having lived and worked here for the past 23 years. So it was no surprise when she was diagnosed with thyroid cancer that many of her long-time friends would step up to advise her on the best course of treatment.

“Nearly every one of them asked if I was going to Oahu for treatment,” she says. “They immediately assumed that the care I received here would be second rate.”

However, after two surgeries, including a total thyroidectomy and several months of follow-up treatment, she is now cancer-free and proof that cancer treatment on Maui is in fact up to par with the rest of the nation.

As Robin is quick to point out, it was not only the stellar care that she received from her lead physician Dr. David Crow, but the entire MMMC team from beginning to end that gave her the reassurance that her care was indeed the very best.

“During my time at MMMC, I was in receipt of kindness, compassion and understanding by your staff. From the pre-admittance phone interview to the ladies in Admitting, to the wonderful nurses and doctors at the surgery center and the post-op and nuclear medicine staff, each were experts in their field and went above and beyond to ease all that comes with a cancer diagnosis,” says Robin.

## Regional HR Director



Debbi Brown is our new Regional Human Resources Director. Debbi joins MMMC from the University of Hawaii Maui College (UHMC) where she served as the Chief Personnel Officer since 1996. In this role, Debbi was responsible for all human resources functions, including recruitment services, administration of policies and procedures, comprehensive benefits, classification and compensation programs, regulatory

compliance and employee relations. She also served as the labor relations expert, advising campus supervisors and administrators in all aspects of employee matters.

## MMMC in Best Hospitals



Congratulations to MMMC for being included in the US News & World Report for being among the Best Hospitals for the 2015 edition. MMMC was acknowledged for their Get With The Guidelines Gold Plus award for heart failure care.

## Oahu Region

### Leahi Hospital 8th Annual Bon Dance

Leahi Hospital celebrated their 8th annual bon dance on Saturday, July 19th in their front parking lot. The lure of teriyaki beef, chow mein noodles, andagi, and shaved ice brought back many fond memories, as it added to the ambience of the evening. Dancers from the Hawaii Shin Kobukai dance club assisted with music, dance, and taiko drumming. Residents enjoyed the evening with family and friends.



### DOKKOI ISHO!!! It's Bon Dance Time at Maluhia!

We held our annual Bon Dance on Saturday, August 23, 2014. The residents had the time of their life. “Just like the real thing.” ~ resident (D.P.) There was even andagi for sale to benefit residents council. Thanks to our RT staff, Neal (OT), Tricia (IT), Julie (PT), Social Services department, Volunteers and dancers, and Dr. Linda Tom and Derek Akiyoshi for assisting in the event.

