WAIKIKI HEALTH OFFERS MEDICAL CARE AND MORE

George has been coming to Waikiki Health since 2001. He first came to Care-A-Van for medical attention and emotional support. He eventually took control of his life, and moved into Next Step Shelter where he received a roof over his head and the resources he needed to move into permanent housing.

Even when things were going smoothly for him, he explained to his provider, Jeanelle Ahuna, he would occasionally feel a little lonely. “When I was alone, I would think too much and would just think of more problems. That’s when Jeanelle suggested I use Waikiki Health’s Friendly Neighbors program (see page 2). Having that companionship for those 2 to 3 hour visits made all the difference,” George said.

Now he feels like his life is on the right track. He still visits our Ohua location for regular check-ups and keeps his diabetes under control through the nutrition-planned program our registered dietitian provided him. “They truly work for the people,” says George. “They feel like family.”

“LIFE MATTERS” AT NEXT STEP SHELTER

When Next Step Shelter (NSS) Services Supervisor, Richard Kaai, opened a new account at the Hawaii USA Federal Credit Union, the last thing he expected was to get money back, but that’s exactly what happened. It all began when Richard started talking to Chelsie Rios, Financial Services Representative at the credit union about the work he did at the shelter. Chelsie was inspired by his enthusiasm and suggested their Hawaii USA FCU Community Connections Committee consider supporting NSS with a company-wide fundraiser. Lisa Chun, AVP Community Outreach at the credit union, thought it was a good idea and suggested a visit to the shelter.

Kapua Tani, NSS Volunteer Coordinator, gave Chelsie and Lisa a grand tour of the 30,000 square foot NSS facility. During the tour, Kapua spoke about the many services NSS provides to their clients such as housing placement, employment training, medical care, behavioral health.

“Waikiki Health launched its new Education and Counseling Center at a convenient location: right next door to Ohua Clinic, where the majority of our patients are seen.

The new facility houses a registered dietitian, tobacco treatment specialist, RN care coordinators, behavioral health care coordinator, clinical psychologist, health educator and referral clerks. The agency’s conference room also was relocated here.

Sheila Beckham, Waikiki Health’s CEO, says the new space offers “a comfortable, welcoming feeling” for patients meeting with counselors and educators.

Leaving no inch of precious space unused, the former conference room at Ohua Clinic has been converted into a small fitness room for the use of staff.

Historically, Ohua Clinic’s 2-story building once served as the elementary school for St. Augustine by the Sea Parish; and the adjacent building, once a chapel, is now Waikiki Health’s Education and Counseling Center. The school was closed in 1980 and the land purchased by the state in 1981. Today Waikiki Health and Waikiki Community Center are neighbors on land leased from the state.

Continued on page 2
Waikiki Health continues to reach out to the homeless families in Kakaako, offering services and support though Next Step Shelter is full. Dialogue about the potential to expand Next Step continues but no specific decisions have been made. Care-A-Van has initiated outreach to homeless individuals living in Pearl City who do not want to come to town for services. They have the support of a number of homeless service agencies in this collaborative effort.

We are in the process of initiating on-site comprehensive optometry services at Ohua Clinic on a part-time basis and are also working to be able to provide our patients with specialty medications through a unique three way partnership. We have also hired additional psychologists and a certified substance abuse licensed social worker, and will begin classes in chronic disease management focusing on hypertension and metabolic syndrome as we continue to help our patients in improving their quality of life.

Waikiki Health won a national Community Partners award from Mutual of America for its collaboration between the PATH Clinic and the Salvation Army. A film crew came to Hawaii to shoot a one hour documentary about PATH’s clients and how their lives interface with many WH sites and individuals. Eight staff members have been chosen to fly to New York for a celebration on the 20th anniversary of the Community Partners award.

Finally, we are in the process of upgrading our phone, payroll and electronic health record systems to enable us to benefit our constituents.

Thanks once again. Without your support we couldn’t do what we do in the community.

Mahalo nui loa.

Sheila Beckham, RD, MPH
Chief Executive Officer, Waikiki Health
Dr. Irwin Schatz

Dr. Irwin Schatz, a former Waikiki Health board member and chairman of the Department of Medicine at UH, who also played a key role in questioning the ethics of the infamous Tuskegee Study, passed away in April at the age of 83. In his published obituary provided by the Schatz family, he specifically asked that contributions be made to Waikiki Health or Island Hospice in his name. As a result of his kindness, and on behalf of his legacy, we have received 98 individual donations totaling nearly $10,000. Donations have come in from all over the country and throughout our state.

Dr. Schatz, father of U.S. Sen. Brian Schatz and Stephen Schatz, Deputy Superintendent of DOE, was chairman of the John A. Burns School of Medicine for more than two decades. “Dr. Schatz was loved by generations of medical students and his colleagues including myself,” said Waikiki Health’s Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Elliot Kalauawa. Dr. Schatz emphasized how listening and empathy improved patient care, prompting a new direction in medical education in Hawaii. According to his wife, Barbara, Dr. Schatz spent his career helping those less fortunate. He played an important role in questioning the moral ethics of the Tuskegee Study, which involved the study of untreated syphilis in African American male share-croppers.

Dr. Schatz served on the board of Waikiki Health and mentored many of our physicians. He additionally volunteered countless hours at our Ohua clinic, and we are very grateful for his support and the support of his generous friends and family. Mahalo to all.

Rosanna Hsi lives by the motto, “It’s better to light a candle than curse the darkness.” She truly believes that making a difference in the lives of others leaves the world a brighter place, and she has recently brightened the lives of many at our Next Step Shelter.

During a tour of the shelter earlier this year, Rosanna was inspired by the daily dinners served to shelter residents by volunteers in our community. “They need breakfast!” Rosanna exclaimed, expressing she felt that if these individuals wanted to make lasting change in their lives, they needed to start their day out with a nutritious meal to provide them with energy to achieve their goals.

Rosanna has had a heart for Waikiki Health’s mission for over five years. She’s inspired by our CEO, Sheila Beckham, describing her as “a passionate woman with a great vision and true dedication.” From the staff to the board members, she admires the way we work together as a team and appreciates how it “takes many to fulfill a dream.” She explains that sometimes in life “we must sail through difficult times and rough waters, and when everyone rides the storm together—that’s when we find true success.”

Rosanna’s support has come in many forms over the years. In 2013, she distributed blankets to the homeless at Care-A-Van with her husband, Peter, and last year, air mattresses to sleep on for Next Step residents. Most recently, it’s been morning meals, along with industrial fans to help Next Step residents keep cool.

When asked what changes she’d most like to see in our world, she replied that she hoped for more of us to open our hearts, to be more compassionate to those around us and for more of us to see the oneness in humanity.

Thank you Rosanna and Peter, we are extremely grateful for your bright light.
Healthcare Heroes Physician Winner: Dr. Elliot Kalauawa

Congratulations to Waikiki Health’s Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Elliot Kalauawa, for winning the 2015 Pacific Business News Healthcare Heroes Award for Best Physician.

Who We Serve

- Medicaid 48%
- Medicare 9%
- Private Insurance 18%
- Uninsured 25%

10,030 Patients were served in 2014, of whom more than half were below the Federal Poverty Level.

- 25% of our patients are uninsured
- 50% of our patients live below the poverty level (family of 4 < $27,890)
- 21% of our patients are homeless
- 800 patient visits a year for the treatment of HIV

Waikiki Health Matters.

Your support will help us succeed in our mission to provide medical care, dental care and social services to everyone, regardless of ability to pay.

Make a Difference! Become a Wiki Wiki Monthly Donor.

Call 791-9334 to sign up today!