

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Dallas Walker
Clinic & Elder Services Manager
Cell: 953-5315 / Office: 738-9366
Email: dwalker@waikikihealth.org

**Navy Active Duty Service Members Bringing Kokua
to Waikiki Seniors through Friendly Neighbors Program**

(Honolulu, June 25, 2013) – Already heroes, Navy Active Duty Service Members are going the extra mile by volunteering to help kupuna through Waikiki Health's Friendly Neighbors Program. Saturday, June 29, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 10 service members will help Friendly Neighbors clients who need help with heavy cleaning projects in their homes.

"This is a much needed service," Dallas Walker, Clinic & Elder Services Manager, explained. "The majority of our seniors live alone and have trouble with physical tasks such as cleaning. This assistance is especially helpful because many seniors in Waikiki live in affordable housing, and their apartments need to be orderly when they renew their leases."

Friendly Neighbors recruits, trains and coordinates the work of community volunteers, including student interns, who assist seniors with everyday tasks, light cleaning and other help as needed. Providing companionship is also important for seniors who may have outlived their family and friends. Prospective volunteers interested in assisting seniors through the Friendly Neighbors Program may contact program staff at 926-8032. Further information is available at Waikiki Health's website at www.waikikihealth.org

Waikiki Health (previously Waikiki Health Center) is re-branding to increase awareness of the agency's mission, expanded and enhanced programs, and new service sites. The agency's mission is to provide quality medical and social services that are accessible and affordable for everyone, regardless of ability to pay. Waikiki Health's primary care clinics and outreach programs include: Ohua Clinic in Waikiki; Makahiki Clinic in McCully-Moiliili (now being established); PATH Clinic in Kaimuki; Next Step Shelter, an emergency homeless shelter in Kaka'ako; Care-A-Van in Kaimuki and Youth Outreach (YO) in Waikiki, which operate drop-in centers and clinics serving the homeless; medically-equipped vehicles, reaching out to the homeless across Oahu; and Friendly Neighbors, offering assistance to Waikiki seniors.

#