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## Waikiki Health awarded \$25,000 grant supporting outreach services to the homeless

## from Waikiki Business Improvement District Association

(Honolulu, August 21, 2013) – For the seventh year, **Waikiki Business Improvement District Association(WBIDA)** has awarded a \$25,000 grant to **Waikiki Health** in support of the agency's focused, comprehensive services to homeless youth, adults and families living in the Waikiki area. As in prior years, WBIDA grant funds will go toward the employment of a Waikiki Social Worker.

Responsibilities of the Waikiki Social Worker include fieldwork and serving clients at the agency's homeless program sites. A key role of the Waikiki Social Worker is to serve as a point of contact for business owners, residents, police and others who wish to refer individuals for health care and/or social services.

WBIDA is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to creating a clean, safe, vibrant resort destination area reflective of its Hawaiian heritage that is attractive and welcoming to both visitors and residents, and contributes to the economic prosperity of Oahu, and the State of Hawai'i. The Association's motto, *Malama Waikiki* (Caring for Waikiki), is based on the concepts of stewardship and hospitality embraced by Hawaii's host culture.

Waikiki Health (previously Waikiki Health Center) is re-branding to increase awareness of the agency's mission, 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 Medical and Dental Clinic in McCully-Moiliili (opening in early 2014); PATH Clinic in Kaimuki; Next Step Shelter, an emergency/transitional 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; Care-A-Van's medically-equipped vehicles, serving the homeless across Oahu; and Friendly Neighbors, offering assistance to older seniors. For further information visit <u>www.waikikihealth.org</u>.

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