

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kelly Joseph

Phone: 791-9331

Email: kjoseph@waikikihealth.org

Waikiki Health granted \$90,000 by McInerny Foundation
toward primary medical care for uninsured and underserved patients

(Honolulu, June 24, 2013) – **Waikiki Health** has received a grant of \$90,000 from **McInerny Foundation** (Bank of Hawaii, trustee) toward primary care for those who are uninsured and underserved, including patients at the agency's newest facility: Makahiki Medical and Dental Clinic, now being established in McCully-Moiliili.

"Support from McInerny Foundation and others means that we are able to provide quality, patient-focused health and humanitarian services, targeting our island's most marginalized and vulnerable populations," Sheila Beckham, RD, MPH, Waikiki Health's chief executive officer, said. "Our patients know and are grateful that because of grants and contributions from private and public sources, no one is turned away from our clinics or outreach programs for inability to pay."

In 2012, Waikiki Health served 9,315 patients, of whom 72% were poor or had low-incomes, and 41% were homeless. (By comparison, the agency saw 5,733 patients in 2010 . . . In just two years, the number of patients increased by 62%.)

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: drop-in centers and clinics serving the homeless; medically-equipped vehicles, reaching out to the homeless across Oahu; and Friendly Neighbors, offering assistance to older seniors. For further information visit www.waikikihealth.org.

####