

## MAHALO LETTER

by Pat Kalua, RN, MAOM, MSN, NHA  
 HHSC West Hawaii Region Chief Nurse Executive  
 Guest Contributor



Hello everyone,

As we mark our first month(s) post go-live, I cannot go another day without saying thank you.

There are certain Hawaiian values that all of you brought to this undertaking and, in so doing, brought success.

Kakou – the collective, inclusive “we”

Kulia I Ka Nu’u – strive for the highest, for excellence

Malama – to nurture and care for that which is ours; to serve

‘Ohana – family

Onipa’a – to stand firm and tall

Words can hardly express the gratitude from all of us in WHI for the phenomenal work and monumental support you provided leading up to and through our “go-live”. The hard work, dedication and sacrifice from all of you - from the very beginning until the moment we “dropped our pens” - is entirely obvious in this wonderful product and our successful event. You stood beside us, guided us and continue to help us as we stabilize and move from novice to expert. I know so much happens where we cannot see it. I know these words are inadequate to the breadth and depth of your efforts.

Please know how much we appreciate all your efforts and how much we appreciate each of you.

Me ka ‘oia ‘i ‘o mahalo. (A heartfelt thank you). A hui hou kakou. (Until we meet again.)

### **Mobile Medical Van Update**

The mobile medical van, Ka’a Ho’ōla, is based at Ka’u High School. The “vehicle of revitalization and well-being” is serving Hawaii county’s southernmost region as a result of a collaboration between KCH and HMSA.

One of the goals of this project is to improve capacity for medical services to underserved school-aged children. Currently, the van is operational every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Van coordinator, Jackie Murray, APRN treats on average five students and 3-4 staff and faculty per day. Exams and treatment include: blood pressure readings, skin, wound and other injuries, PPDs and immunotherapy injections.

During the summer, the van is slated to be stationed at St. Jude’s Episcopal Church in order to offer services to the Ocean View community. A concrete pad will be installed to provide appropriate parking.

All medical services are free of charge thanks to HMSA’s generous funding. All information gathered is confidential and compliant with HIPAA regulations



# KCH Participates in **LAVAMAN**

## Mahalo volunteers!

Kona Community Hospital staff turned out in force to support the 16th annual Lavaman Waikoloa Expo and Triathlon, which was held from March 22—24. The Waikoloa swim, run, bike event attracted over 1400 entrants, some participating on three-person relay teams, others going solo for all three legs.

At the Friday and Saturday Lava Man Expo, volunteers at KCH’s booth took blood pressure readings, resting pulse rates and oxygen saturation levels of expo-goers. The “What’s Your Number” theme was an opportunity to highlight heart health and KCH’s on-campus cardiology clinic. The vitals readings were a big hit with athletes and visitors alike.

On Sunday, Dr. Beth Groshong, the event’s medical director (and KCH anesthesiologist), along with a large contingent of Kona Community Hospital clinical and administrative staff and family members manned the triathlon medical tent and aide stations. The medical team saw over 140 people on race day.

Triage was organized into three treatment tiers: self-help, simple clean up and dressing, and the "Beach Chair Lounge" medical tent. Most injuries were minor cuts, scrapes and abrasions, which were cleaned and dressed. The medical team aided swimmers who encountered coral cuts or sea urchin spines. Bike injuries ranged from abrasions and a clavicle fracture to shoulder, ankle and knee injuries. Throughout the day, the medical team taped ankles, shoulders and knees for sprains and strains; infused IV's for dehydration, nausea and vomiting, and delivered oxygen and breathing treatments to asthmatics.

Dr. Groshong credited KCH’s Michelle Strobehn, Sandy Shelton, RN and Christine Woods, RPH for their organizational skills and pre-race preparations. She also extended praise to the large, all-volunteer community medical team, “A great big MAHALO for everyone who helped make this year’s Lavaman Waikoloa the best and safest EVER.”



*Photos: KCH "What's Your Number?" expo booth; mixed martial artist BJ Penn visits medical tent; Mayor Billy Kenoi with KCH medical volunteers)*

## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH—1st Quarter



January  
Cesar Rosabia



February  
Dietary Department



March  
Jennifer Stike