

KONA HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

The Kona Hospital Foundation is dedicated to improving Kona Community Hospital for the entire community. We fund medical technology, expanded services and enhanced facilities that would otherwise be unavailable.

Cardiology Clinic Campaign Has a Great Beginning

The Kona Hospital Foundation recently received a generous donation from the KCH Auxiliary in support of its *cardiology clinic campaign*. David Clarke, Auxiliary Treasurer and Mary Quinn, Auxiliary President presented a check in the amount of \$15,000 to Foundation Chair Jim Higgins.



David Clarke, Mary Quinn, and Jim Higgins

The Foundation is awaiting receipt of a new EKG machine, which has been purchased with the Auxiliary's endowment.

In November, the Foundation's annual Gala successfully launched the campaign to provide equipment for Kona community Hospital's new cardiology clinic

The Kona Hospital Foundation's Informal Lecture Series continued on January 23 with a lecture on acid reflux disease (GERD) presented by Dr. Nathan Tomita.

On March 26, Dr. Kathleen Rokavec's presentation topic was how to navigate a hospital stay and get the best care possible. As KCH's Medical Director and author of *"The Hospital Book,"* Dr. Rokavec shared her insight on managing the complexities of a hospital stay.

The 12th annual Hoku Concert was held on Saturday, April 13. This year's performers were Tony award winner, Lisa Hopkins Seegmiller and nationally acclaimed tenor, Isaac

For more information, please contact the Kona Hospital Foundation at 322-4587 or go to www.khfhawaii.org



HOLIDAY HOUSE & RUMMAGE SALE SUCCESSES

The Kona Community Hospital Auxiliary held it's two large fundraisers recently. First, the annual *Holiday House—Christmas At The Volcano* was held in November and December. This seasonal event raised nearly \$5000. More recently, the Auxiliary held its annual rummage sale in KCH conference rooms 2 and 3. This event raised nearly \$8000.

Many mahalos to all donors and shoppers for both events. "These are our two biggest fundraisers, and they are so important to funding our Nursing Scholarship Program," said Auxiliary Director, Christine Hoffman.

In January, the Auxiliary held its Annual Membership Meeting at the Kona Vistas community center. Guest speaker, Senator Josh Green, MD outlined his goals for West Hawaii, and answered questions from the membership and guests.

Members were awarded for their hours of volunteer service. From July 2011 through June 2012, Auxiliary volunteers donated 7,423 in (reported) hours!

In addition, a new Board was nominated for 2013.

For more information, call 322-4577 or go to www.kchauxiliary.org

Talk Story

Winter/Spring 2013 Volume 8 Issue 1

The official newsletter for Kona Community Hospital employees, medical staff, volunteers and affiliates.



Kona Community Hospital Activates Rotor Program

Kona Community Hospital (KCH) welcomed a new emergency medical helicopter as it made its maiden landing on the hospital's helipad on February 14. The Hawaii Life Flight (HLF) crew manning the rotor copter was greeted by KCH administration as well as members of the KCH trauma team, emergency and security departments.

The rotor program at Kona Community Hospital, which officially became operational at 7:00 am on Friday morning, February 15, activated its first emergency transfer at 10:15 am. "This patient is being sent directly to the receiving hospital...there's no ground transportation involved," reported Wendi Wagner, KCH Trauma Coordinator.

HLF has been contracted to operate the American Eurocopter AS350 Be. The helicopter was configured for medical emergency transport prior to arrival on the Big Island. The Thursday landing gave the HLF flight crew a chance to familiarize KCH trauma, emergency and security personnel with the new aircraft. David Steel, Rotor Chief Flight Paramedic and Mark Leggett, Medical Department Chief, showed off medical equipment and other features of the rotor copter and answered questions about its capabilities.

The helicopter, also referred to as an AStar rotor copter, is stationed at Kona International Airport and is dedicated to Kona Community Hospital for facility to facility patient transport. Initially the rotor copter will fly daytime hours only from 7:00am to dark, based on the pilot's discretion and flight turn-around time. Soon, however, the rotor program will provide 24/7 access to emergency transfer from KCH.

The KCH trauma team will coordinate patient transfers with Hawaii Life Flight critical care communications. Once activated, the AStar can make the trip from the airport to KCH in eight minutes. It will cut transit time down from four hours it currently takes to transport a patient to Oahu, to about one hour – depending on weather conditions. As of Tuesday, April 16, HLF has been cleared to land at Maui Memorial Medical Center heliport. The flight to Maui can be made in approximately 35 minutes.

"This is a major accomplishment for Kona Community Hospital and for West Hawaii residents," said Jay Kreuzer, KCH CEO. "We are now able to greatly reduce emergency transit times for patients who require transfer, which in turn will improve outcomes for those patients."



KCH staff and HLF crew members orient to the new helicopter:

The Talk Story Breaking News: On April 2nd, Kona Community Hospital began renovations to the ceilings and floors on the Med-Surg unit. The project started on the mauka side of the building is progressing up the hall and around to the makai side. Approximately five rooms will be closed at a time to allow construction to take place. Signage is in place to re-route traffic, and when possible an Auxiliary volunteer will be present to direct visitors and patients. Med-Surg and SNF units will both experience intermittent hammering and pounding noise. Please help us to extend sincere appreciation to patients and visitors for their understanding during this time. ###



MEDICAL STAFF NEWS

The KCH Medical Staff currently consists of 168 physicians representing 26 specialties.

Natl. Medical Staff Services Awareness Week

Nov. 4—10

Physicians' Lounge:
Renovations have been completed on the 2nd floor physicians lounge.

New KCH Physicians:

Linda Gerner, MD - Radiation Oncology
Paul Hayward, DO - Internal Medicine
Simong Youmans, MD - Emergency Medicine

1st & 2nd Quarter 2013 Events:

January 1: Kona Community and Kohala Hospitals become smoke-free.

February 1: Kona Community and Kohala Hospitals "go-live" with electronic medical records

March 22-24 Lavaman Expo and Triathlon at Waikoloa Beach Resort

April 13: Kona Hospital Foundation's 12th Annual Hoku Event held at a beautiful Oceanside estate in Keauhou. Performers—Tony award winner, Lisa Hopkins Seegmiller and nationally acclaimed tenor, Isaac Hurtado.

April 21-27: National Volunteer Appreciation Week

May: National Mental Health Awareness month

May 6-12: National Nurses Week

May 12-18: National Hospital Week

May 15: Spring Fling employee celebration barbeque

June 13-20: National Nursing Assistants Week

June 23: Kona Marathon & Family Runs. KCH staff and family planning to participate, contact Jenn Stike (322-6968) or online at konamarathon.com

KCH MARCHES IN HOLIDAY PARADE

In December, Kona Community Hospital employees, families, friends and KCH Auxiliary members marched in the 28th annual Kailua-Kona Christmas Parade. This year's parade was also a food drive co-sponsored by area Rotary clubs and the Food Basket, with a 10-pound bag of rice being the entry fee. However, KCH employees generously collected and donated over 200 pounds of food to the event!

The 2012 holiday season charity drives for Family Support Hawai'i Kalikimaka No Na Keiki, Toys For Tots and the Humane Society were also very successful this year. Mahalo to everyone for giving so generously to our community.



EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH—4th Quarter



October
Kathi Kam



November
Paul Marcinkowski



December
Carol Yamamoto

Teamwork

Kona Community Hospital Infection Rates Decline

At Kona Community Hospital, Healthcare Acquired Infections (HAIs) are trending down across all infection types. The third quarter 2012 HAI Surveillance Report indicated that HAIs have been on the decline at KCH for the entire year.

Of note, in the previous six quarters (572 days), KCH has had no healthcare acquired Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) infections. The intensive care unit (ICU) has had no catheter associated blood stream infections in the past seven months.

HAIs are infections caused by bacteria, fungi or viruses in the course of receiving care in any healthcare setting, including hospitals. KCH Infection Control Director, Lisa Downing, RN says that the hospital has been developing policies and programs that adhere to proven infection prevention measures. Success is due to continued attention to infection prevention protocols by a hospital-wide multidisciplinary team.

"Wherever patient care is provided at KCH, we are focusing on adherence to infection prevention guidelines in order to ensure safe patient care," said Downing. She attributes effective teamwork by all hospital departments. Downing notes, "This is not one department doing a good job. It is a team of dedicated staff working together to reduce infections and provide excellent patient care."

KCH has just wrapped up a two-year collaborative effort with Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH). This collaboration was aimed specifically at reducing central line associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI), catheter associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI) and MRSA infections.

Further, in September 2012, the hospital entered into a statewide Surgical Unit Safety Program (SUSP) to target and reduce surgical site infections. This is a 27-month collaborative with Johns Hopkins Medicine, the American College of Surgeons and the World Health Organization.

RUNNERS, WALKERS AND TODDLERS: THE KONA MARATHON AND FAMILY RUN IS COMING

KCH is ready to run! We're putting a few teams together for this



year's Kona Marathon and Family Runs. For event details, visit www.konamarathon.com.

Jennifer Stike in Medical Staff Services (322-6968) is coordinating entries for KCH so that entrants can take advantage of the group discounts on registration fees.

OB has already signed 11 team members!

New Ohana Members

October:

Caroline Kirk, Surgical Services
Edna Martin, Skilled Nursing
Judith Diamond, DIS/CT
Shyla Ku, Float Pool
Gabriel Morrow, Float Pool
Angeline Melchi, ES
Arnold Balisalisa, Skilled Nursing
Shanarel Ancheta, Skilled Nursing
Tawnci Simpson, G4S
Larry Nelson, Maintenance

November:

Michael Armstrong, Float
Robin Olson, Education
Michael Kelley, Float
Daniel Higuchi, Skilled Nursing
Kellie Lara, MedSurg
David Weber, Chemo/Infusion
Patricia O'Neal, Pharmacy

December:

Susan Kohnke, Oncology
Yolande Kualia, Security
Leah B. Kittrell, WHS
Francine Soucy, G4S
Michael Savage, Respiratory
Jackie Murray, Medical Van

January:

Tracy Crochet, CSR
Shawn Farley, Float
Tiffany Malloe, Family Support

February:

Nahe Nobriga, MedSurg
Tommye Lane, MedSurg
Marci Peterhans, N. Admin.

March:

Sheila Maupin, ES
Tiffany Farris, ES
Sheryl Cubangbang, SNF
Rachel Rodrigues, Dietary
Mark Torres, Maintenance
Stephen Graham, Maintenance
Jefferson Mayo, Security

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Did you know...

Birthday Lunch—

is a celebration that will occur the first Friday of every month from Noon to 1 p.m. with CEO Jay Kreuzer. If your birthday falls within that month, you are invited.

