



HALE MAKUA HEALTH SERVICES

COMPASSION COMMITMENT COMMUNITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Annual Luau Fundraiser Raises Close to \$45,000 for Healthcare Non-Profit

KAHULUI, Hawaii, July 31, 2009 – The 21st annual Ohana Luau, a benefit for Hale Makua Health Services, was held on Sunday, July 26th, at the Kihei Community Center and raised close to \$45,000. This year's headline entertainment featured an encore performance by Na Hoku Hanohano award winning Danny Couch, with a special hula and dance performances by Couch's sister, members of the audience, and Phyllis Colon of Maui PACE. The evening began with the soothing sounds of the Hawaiian Serenaders and a pule by Reverend Nahi Guzman. Board Director, Mitch Mitchell, was the emcee for the evening.

Mitchell, along with Betty and Roy Sakamoto (all of Sakamoto Properties in Lahaina), have been instrumental in the continuing success of Hale Makua Health Services' fundraising efforts. Roy Sakamoto, who has served on Hale Makua Health Services Board for twenty years, paid tribute to the evening's honorees, Elsie and the late Manabu Kimura. Manabu was an active member of Hale Makua Health Services' Board from 1999 – 2008, and along with Elsie they shared their love of music by bringing members of their church to sing for the residents, and fulfill residents' wishes to go to the Maui County Fair by assisting residents to make the trip. Elsie also used to play the piano in the dining room every Wednesday for residents to enjoy. She continues to share her passion for music by playing her organ for residents every Tuesday, and bringing in ukulele and youth groups from Kahului Union Church to perform throughout the year.

Proceeds from the Ohana Luau will benefit three key areas within Hale Makua Health Services: 1) Through the Luana project Hale Makua strives to create more homelike environments and communities for residents, and enables resident centric care; 2) Continuing the Brain Gym at Hale Makua helps residents with concentration and focus, memory, physical coordination, relationships, and self-responsibility; and 3) Creating Maui PACE Adult Day Health scholarships for individuals currently enrolled in the program, but cannot afford the cost of Day Health.

Hale Makua Health Services is a private, non-profit 501(c)3 corporation that was established in 1946. The organization is committed to the mission of excellence in healthcare in our home and yours. Hale Makua Health Services is one of Maui's largest nongovernment employers with over 500 employees serving four home- and community-based healthcare programs. Programs include: Hale Makua Long-Term Care with two campuses, one in Wailuku caring for 124 residents and the other in Kahului providing homes for up to 254 people; Home Health by Hale

Makua, which provides post-acute care and social work services to homebound clients of all ages and adult foster family care management; Rehab by Hale Makua; and the Hawaii's only Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly, Maui PACE. Visit us online at www.HaleMakua.org.

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