

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Sherri Rigg
C: 808-782-5180
E: riggcomm@gmail.com

WAIALUA HEALTH CLINIC OPENED TODAY EXPANDING ACCESS TO CARE ON O'AHU'S NORTH SHORE

New Waialua Health Clinic advances Wahiawā Health's mission following its achievement of fully funded Section 330 Federally Qualified Health Center status

WAIALUA, Hawai'i - Wahiawā Health today opened the new Waialua Health Clinic at Waialua Shopping Center, expanding access to affordable, compassionate and high-quality health care for residents of Waialua and neighboring North Shore communities. The clinic is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome, and appointments are recommended.

The new clinic offers primary and preventive care for adults and children, behavioral health, geriatric care, diabetes care and management, telehealth, care coordination and medication delivery. Patients of all ages - from keiki and adolescents to adults, kūpuna and families - will receive care in a welcoming, safe environment. Services are available regardless of a patient's ability to pay, with a sliding-fee discount program based on family size and income. The clinic also accepts certain state and private insurance plans.

The clinic's location reflects two years of engagement with residents, community leaders, farmers, schools and local organizations to understand the area's health care needs. Community input and findings from Wahiawā Health's 2024 Community Health Needs Assessment identified challenges in accessing quality care and obtaining timely appointments. Waialua Shopping Center was selected as a central, convenient location for Waialua and neighboring communities.

"For two years, we listened closely to Waialua residents, community leaders, farmers, schools and local organizations about what they need from their health care system. Their voices shaped this clinic," said Bev Harbin, Chief Executive Officer of Wahiawā Health. "By choosing Waialua Shopping Center as a central and familiar location, we are bringing culturally respectful, compassionate care closer to home."

"The opening of Waialua Health Clinic means families can receive timely primary care, behavioral health support and essential wrap-around services in the community they know and trust - regardless of their financial circumstances," continued Harbin. "Our goal is to promote health, wellness, and prevention throughout this community and make it easier for people to receive the care they need before health concerns become emergencies, thus reducing emergency room visits. We welcome walk-in visits when patients need care right away."

Community Support Beyond the Exam Room

To reduce barriers to care, Waialua Health Clinic's community health workers help patients navigate the health care system and access insurance benefits, including enrollment assistance for people who are uninsured, houseless, elderly or chronically ill. They also connect patients with wrap-around support for housing, food insecurity, financial assistance, translation, care coordination and transportation to and from the clinic.

Fully Funded Federally Qualified Health Center Status

The Waiialua Health Clinic opening builds on a major milestone announced August 1, when the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), awarded Wahiawā Health fully funded Section 330 Federally Qualified Health Center status. HRSA also awarded Wahiawā Health a \$650,000 H80 Health Center Program grant through the New Access Points initiative.

The designation elevated Wahiawā Health from an FQHC Look-Alike to a fully funded Section 330 Health Center. It recognizes the organization's ability to meet rigorous federal standards for community-based primary care and provides direct federal grant funding, enhanced Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement, and additional resources to expand services for medically underserved populations.

As part of the New Access Point initiative, Wahiawā Health established the Waiialua Health Clinic in response to documented community need. The clinic extends the reach of a fully funded FQHC into a rural North Shore community where residents have experienced provider shortages and barriers to timely, affordable care.

Location and Hours

Waiialua Health Clinic

Waiialua Shopping Center

67-292 Goodale Avenue, Suite A4, Waiialua, HI 96791

Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Walk-ins welcome; appointments recommended

Phone: (808) 377-4200 | Email: info@wahiawahealth.org

SERVICES

- **Primary Care for Adults and Preventive Medicine** - Physicals, sick visits, chronic disease management, laboratory services, screenings, immunizations and health education.
- **Primary Care for Infants and Children** - Well-child visits from 2 weeks through age 3 and annually thereafter, immunizations for school entry, and sports physicals.
- **Behavioral Health** - Counseling for anxiety, depression and PTSD; stress and anger management; substance-use treatment; smoking cessation; and weight management.
- **Geriatric Care** - Medication, cognition, mobility and patient-priority management, including cognitive testing.
- **Diabetes Care and Management** - Screening, diagnosis, prevention, evaluation and monitoring of A1C, blood pressure and cholesterol.
- **Medication Delivery** - Wahiawā Health's in-house pharmacy will deliver medications to the Waiialua clinic and provide free home delivery to patients.
- **Telehealth** - Remote visits and follow-up care.
- **Community Health Worker Support** - Insurance enrollment, care coordination, translation, transportation and connections to housing, food and financial resources.

PROVIDERS

- **Kristia Leanne P. D. Fuentes, DNP, APRN-Rx, AGPCNP-BC, Nurse Practitioner.** Kristia is a dedicated and compassionate and believes in providing thoughtful, patient-centered care that treats the whole person. She is passionate about building genuine relationships with her patients and families and providing care that is culturally sensitive and centered around what matters most to each individual. Kristia received her Doctor of Nursing Practice and Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

- **Christy Werner, LCSW - Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Therapist.** Christy has been a Licensed Clinical Social Worker for over 16 years and has spent much of her career supporting children, adolescents, adults, couples, and families throughout Hawai'i. She approaches therapy with warmth, curiosity, humor, and respect, creating a space where people can feel heard and understood while working toward meaningful change. She earned her Master of Social Work from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.
- **Skye Kaohu - Lead Outreach and Care Coordinator.** A Wahiawā native and Kamehameha Schools graduate, Skye works closely with individuals and families to connect them to essential resources and supportive services. Skye is committed to improving health equity and strengthening the well-being of the Wahiawā and Waialua communities through outreach and advocacy.
- **May Jane Trinidad - Registered Nurse Case Manager.** May Jane attended James Campbell High School and earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Hawai'i Pacific University. She supports patients through coordinated, compassionate care and looks forward to serving patients in her new role as a Registered Nurse Case Manager.
- **Catherine Nguyen, FNP-BC, APRN-RX - Nurse Practitioner.** Catherine is a family nurse practitioner with more than a decade of experience in community health, acute medicine and mental health, including advanced training in family practice and pediatrics. She is fluent in English and French and has additional proficiency in Spanish and Vietnamese.

About Wahiawā Health and Waialua Health Clinic

Wahiawā Health opened in 2012 and reached a significant milestone in August 2026, achieving fully-funded, Section 330 Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) status, allowing the nonprofit clinic to expand its commitment to providing comprehensive, affordable, high-quality health care to Central O'ahu and North Shore residents.

Guided by their mission, "In the spirit of aloha and compassion, Wahiawā Health and Waialua Health Clinic provide access to affordable, quality health care and wellness services to promote a healthy community."

Wahiawā Health offers comprehensive primary care, behavioral health, men and women's health, pediatrics, and geriatrics and diabetes specialty centers. Its 340B pharmacy provides medication management, pill pouch packaging, free medication delivery on Oahu and financial assistance for patients.

The Waialua Health Clinic provides care for the entire 'ohana including primary care for all ages, behavioral health, diabetes and geriatric care, and preventative and chronic condition care.

Wahiawā Health is located at 302 California Avenue, Suite 106, and is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information and a full list of service hours, visit www.wahiawahealth.org, call (808) 622-1618, or email info@wahiawahealth.org.

Waialua Health Clinic is located at the Waialua Shopping Center, 67-292 Goodale Avenue, Suite A4, and is open Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome, appointments are recommended. To book an appointment, phone: (808) 377-4200.