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Waialua Health Clinic now open on Oahu

By **Nina Wu**

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COURTESY WAHIAWA HEALTH

Waialua Health Clinic opening team, from left, Rebecca McIlvaine, patient services representative; Dorkas Jamie Lakmis, medical assistant; May Jane Trinidad, registered nurse case manager; Kristia Fuentes, advanced practice registered nurse.

Wahiawa Health has opened a new clinic on Oahu's North Shore to serve the rural community's growing needs.

The new Waialua Health Clinic opened Monday at Waialua Shopping Center, and is now offering primary and preventive care for patients of all ages — from infants and keiki to adults and kupuna.

It will be open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. While walk-ins are welcome, appointments are recommended.

As a federally qualified health center, the clinic will offer services regardless of a patient's ability to pay, with a sliding-fee discount program based on family size and income. The clinic also accepts state and private insurance plans.

"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," said Bev Harbin, CEO of Wahiawa

Health, in a news release. “Their voices shaped this clinic. By choosing Waialua Shopping Center as a central and familiar location, we are bringing culturally respectful, compassionate care closer to home.”

Following the Kona-low storms in March, Wahiawa Health deployed a free, [pop-up medical clinic](#) at Waialua Elementary School, offering first aid and wound care, antibiotics and prescription help.

At the time, plans to open the permanent new clinic at Waialua Shopping Center were already in the works.

Harbin said findings from the 2024 Community Health Needs Assessment produced by private nonprofit hospitals identified challenges in accessing quality care and getting timely appointments in the area.

On Aug. 1, Wahiawa Health became a fully funded Section 330 federally qualified health center. To earn the status, an organization must meet strict standards managed by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration.

It qualifies Wahiawa Health for direct federal grant funding, along with enhanced Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements, and additional resources to serve medically underserved populations. HRSA also awarded Wahiawa Health a \$650,000 grant through its New Access Points initiative to open the new clinic on the rural North Shore of Oahu.

Waialua Health Clinic also offers behavioral health services, geriatric care, diabetes management, telehealth and medication delivery.

The clinic’s staff includes nurse practitioners, a registered nurse, licensed clinical social worker and therapist, and care coordinator.

Community health workers will be available to help patients access insurance benefits. They can also help connect patients with wraparound support services for other needs, including housing, food, financial assistance, and transport to and from the clinic.

“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,” said Harbin in a statement. “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.”

She added that walk-in visits are welcome when patients need care right away.

The Waialua Health Clinic is at Waialua Shopping Center, 67-292 Goodale Ave., Suite A4. To make an appointment, call 808-377-4200. For more information, email info@wahiawahealth.org.