



Why Maui County needs Malulani Health and Medical Center

Maui is the only major Hawaiian island without at least two acute-care hospitals. Bed shortages at Maui Memorial occur on a regular basis, potentially endangering the well being of critically ill patients. Residents must go to Oahu to receive medical care that should be provided on Maui. This increases costs and creates unnecessary burdens on Maui County residents.

According to a state study, between 1990 and 2000, Maui's was the fastest-growing county in Hawaii, accounting for 27 percent of the state's population growth. By 2015, Maui County will have an estimated 167,000 residents, up from the current 140,533. And while growth will occur in every age group, the number of older residents, who typically require more frequent and acute medical care, will grow much faster.

Onsite medevac services with a heliport next to Malulani's emergency department, will help the hospital to dramatically reduce transport time for trauma, stroke, cardiac, obstetric and other critically ill patients for whom minutes can literally mean life or death. These critical and life-saving services can make the Malulani Health and Medical Center the "community and referral hospital" for West Maui, Hana, Upcountry, Lanai and Molokai.

The Malulani Health and Medical Center is named in honor of Maui's first hospital, which opened in 1884 under the auspices of Hawaii's Queen Kapiolani and Mother Marianne, the Franciscan nun who served with Father Damien at Kalaupapa. If the CON is approved, Malulani Health and Medical Center will be historic in its own right: a health-care facility that integrates Western, complementary and alternative medicines; an all-digital, state-of-the-art facility on a campus whose contemplative gardens and ponds will nourish the psyche as the body repairs.

Malulani will serve residents and visitors regardless of their ability to pay, while generating an estimated \$10 million annually for the state and county through provider, property and income taxes.

And in an age when natural and man-made disasters have overwhelmed medical providers—from Hurricane Katrina to the Indonesian tsunami, a second comprehensive medical



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center, geographically separate from the existing facility, can offer residents and visitors alike peace of mind, knowing that life-saving services will be available during a worst-case scenario.

Although Maui Memorial Medical Center is undergoing an expansion, the Wailuku facility is limited by the amount of land it has to build on, and has historically been hampered by a chronic lack of adequate funding. In comparison, the Malulani Health and Medical Center has significant financial backing, and a 40+ acre site with ample room for growth.

It will take all that to meet the county's projected needs, and neither Malulani nor Maui Memorial will have the capacity to meet those needs alone.

Malulani is planned to supplement the existing system, as well as add services that have never been available on Maui before, such as acute cardiac intervention with angioplasty and open heart surgery. The capital investment required to plan, build, equip, finance, and run Malulani Health and Medical Center—estimated at \$211.8 million—is the price any organization will incur to build and equip a facility capable of providing state-of-the-art facilities. We understand that the State of Hawaii cannot assume this burden. Therefore, we have developed a financially sustainable model to bring needed health facilities to Maui's residents and visitors.

Developing a pool of health professionals will be one of the key initiatives Malulani Health and Medical Center management will pursue between CON approval and opening. We will work aggressively with Maui Community College and other local and state programs to increase the numbers of nurses and allied-health professionals graduating each year.

The lack of choice in hospitals and the condition of existing facilities on Maui may contribute to the current staffing shortage. The chance to work in a state-of-the-art, tertiary-care hospital on Maui will be very attractive.

At Malulani, all patients will have private rooms that are large enough to accommodate family members who wish to stay with and comfort their loved ones. State-of-the-art ventilation and fire safety systems will not only ensure that contagious diseases are contained, but also will protect and sustain life during an emergency. Electronic medical records and order entry, and rapid



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access to lab and x-ray reports will decrease medical errors, improve outcomes, shorten lengths of stay, and enable doctors and nurses to spend more time with their patients.

Maui, again voted the best island and resort destination in the world, deserves to have a medical facility of the same order.

The Malulani Health and Medical Center is a partnership between Triad Hospitals and Malulani Health Systems, a not for profit community corporation. For more information, please contact Malulani Health Systems at (808) 244-5022 or by email at Malulani@malulani.org. Or visit online at www.malulani.org.

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