



**Shriners Hospitals
for Children™**

Honolulu
Pediatric Specialty Care
Orthopaedics

Fax Transmittal

Date: June 6, 2013

To: The Honorable Ernest Y. Martin, Chair, Honolulu
City Council 808.768.5011

Fax: Sending 3 pages (including cover page)

From: John C. Keene, Vice President of Development
Shriners Hospitals for Children Honolulu
IN SUPPORT – C.R. 134 (Bill 11, CD2) Relating to the
Executive Operating Budget and Program for the
Fiscal Year July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.

Reference: _____

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Shriners Hospitals
for Children®

June 6, 2013

The Honorable Ernest Y. Martin
Chair, Honolulu City Council
Honolulu Hale
530 S. King St., Room 302
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Martin and members of the Honolulu City Council:

My name is John Keene, and I am testifying in support of Bill 11, CD2, relating to the City and County Budget, with particular regards to its support of those nonprofit organizations seeking to provide greatly-needed community services to the people of Oahu. I do this in my capacity as vice president of development for one of those organizations - Shriners Hospitals for Children - Honolulu (SHCH). We are part of a national network of children hospitals specializing in orthopaedic and burn care.

Our mission is to provide the highest quality care for children with neuromuscular and skeletal conditions, post-burn deformities and other orthopaedic-related special healthcare needs within a compassionate, family-centered, and collaborative care environment. We also educate physicians and ancillary healthcare professionals. Moreover, we conduct research to discover new knowledge that improves the surgical outcomes and quality of life for our patients. Our mission is carried-out without regard to race, color, gender, creed, religion or disability, or the ability to pay.

Since 1923, SHCH has provided the highest quality care for more than 18,000 of Hawaii's children in need of specialized orthopaedic and neuromuscular care. Nearly half its patients are either uninsured, on Medicaid or receive coverage from carriers that cover low-income patients. Many patients cope with severe disabilities and arrive using crutches or wheelchairs. Their expectation is the life-changing care they will receive will improve physical functions and / or appearances; provide opportunities to assert maximum control over their bodies; and increased confidence with a healthier self-esteem.

The Friends of Shriners Hospitals – Honolulu, Inc. has requested a \$100,000 grant-in-aid from the City and County of Honolulu for FY 2014 to assist SHCH in completing the final stage of the capital project for the new hospital facility, which will include the internal build-out of the remaining portions of the project and the construction of a wing which together double the capacity of the Hale Ohana Family Center from ten (10) hotel-like rooms to twenty (20). Coupled with our recent approval of CDBG funding, this modest request represents about 1% of the total project cost of \$73 million, and will be expended directly on construction activities.

The sole purpose of the Hale Ohana Family Center is to accommodate the temporary housing needs of penurious families residing outside Honolulu's urban core and are accompanying their children for skilled treatment at Shriners Hospital. The new hospital facility was opened in August 2009, and construction of the Education & Administration Building was completed in December 2010. What remains is the final build-out and interior construction of the Hale Ohana Family Center, from which SHCH will be able to provide necessary social services and assistance to additional families while their children are either in the hospital, or undergoing treatment and therapy as outpatients. It should be noted that Shriners International, our parent organization, has already provided 85% of the project's \$73 million cost.

The new 135,919-sq. ft. SHCH hospital facility includes: an open, two-story lobby with an atrium; 24 beds in twelve inpatient rooms; two operating suites with a recovery unit; an outpatient clinic with 13 examination rooms; a physical therapy department; an imaging department with two digital radiography rooms; a prosthetics and orthotics fitting room and fabrication lab; a children's library; private areas for patient registration and waiting, a dining room which is open to the public; a dental clinic that provides free care to patients; and ample space for laundry services, environment services, facility maintenance, security, and storage.

The Education & Administrative Building include: a multi-purpose auditorium; a dedicated boardroom; and offices and meeting rooms for the hospital's administration and medical staff. The auditorium is available for use by outside not-for-profit and non-political organizations at no charge, which allows SHCH to initiate, develop and enhance relationships with other healthcare professionals and community organizations.

The Hale Ohana Family Center and Recreational Therapy wing features a 10-unit family quarters; complete with a large kitchen; recreational and dining areas; and sizable common space equipped with TVs and computers with internet access. This new facility has since proven itself cost-effective in terms of reducing transportation and lodging costs for needy families; and most importantly, providing for the immediate proximity of children's families during periods of hospitalization which facilitates a faster recovery time for these fragile patients. When fully completed, SHCH can house and serve about 625 patient families, of whom about 60% reside at or below the federal poverty level and could not otherwise afford such accomodations near their child.

SHCH is fully compliant with all applicable state and federal standards and guidelines regarding the construction of a modern medical facility, and is particularly sensitive to those requirements which ensure public access for persons with physical disabilities - given the Shriners Hospitals' mission and the general demographics of the SHCH patient base. Furthermore, SHCH has always adhered to all stated applicable federal guidelines regarding fair labor standards, both in its operations and during the period of construction of the new facilities, and will continue to do so.

We appreciate the support of the City and County of Honolulu in assisting us with the completion of our project which serves a significant community need. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN C. KEENE
Vice President of Development
Shriners Hospitals for Children - Honolulu