



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

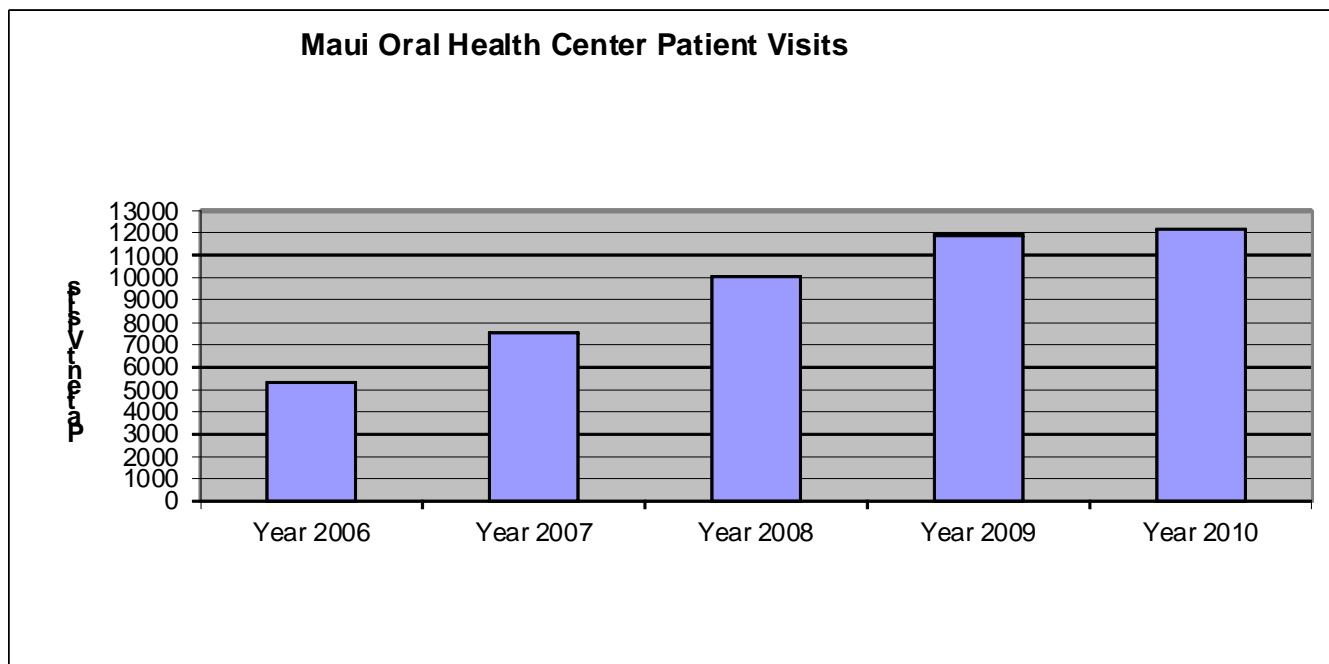
Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
April 3, 2012 at 8:30am

by
John Morton
Vice President for Community Colleges, University of Hawai'i

HB304 HD1 Proposed SD1 - RELATING TO STATE FINANCES

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

The support from the Hawai'i Department of Human Services, through a Taskorder from 2002- 2010, the "Rainy Day fund" in 2011, and the County of Maui have allowed development of the UH Maui College Maui Oral Health Center (MOHC). The Mission of the MOHC is Education and Service. The MOHC provides the clinical education site for the Dental Assisting (DA) Certificate and The Dental Hygiene (DH) Associate Degree Programs. In addition, it services as the primary access to dental care for Medicaid eligible and uninsured dental patients on Maui. Currently, UH Maui College MOHC has 2 full time staff dentists, and 2 dentists enrolled in the residence program from Lutheran Medical Center in New York. The American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) accredits all the DA, DH, and Dental Residency programs. The table below illustrates the number of patient visits. There are between 800-1,000 patient visits per month at the Maui Oral Health Center.



In 2011 UHMC was recognized by the Hawai'i Dental Association in January 2011 for collaborative activities to enhance dental care on Maui and in Hawai'i (see attached information). It is important to note that without access to dental care, patients with acute dental problem seek care in the Maui Memorial Medical Center Emergency room, the most expensive care possible.

The table below illustrates DHS data that shows the cost of flying dental patients to O'ahu for care. The low number of patients flow to O'ahu from Maui is due to access on Maui at MOHC.

Neighbor Island patients to O'ahu 7/1/09-6/30/10

	# Children	\$ Children	# Adult	\$ Adult	TOTAL #	TOTAL \$
Hilo	1752	\$517,892.60	7	\$ 1,148.20	1759	\$519,040.80
Kona	382	\$120,716.59	4	\$ 1,259.30	386	\$121,975.89
Maui	187	\$ 57,859.72	27	\$ 5,174.35	214	\$ 63,034.07
Lana'i	8	\$ 2,496.00	2	\$ 669.00	10	\$ 3,165.00
Kaua'i	371	\$112,440.17	86	\$15,330.54	457	\$127,770.71
Moloka'i	106	\$ 46,741.10	8	\$ 2,466.60	114	\$ 49,207.70
TOTAL	2806	\$858,146.18	134	\$26,047.99	2940	\$884,194.17

The proposed \$100,000 of Department of Human Services support for "adult dental care" would permit the University of Hawai'i Maui College Maui Oral Health Center to provide oral care as well as an educational lab for Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene students.

Group effort led to UH-MC dental initiatives

KA'ANA MANA'O
by Clyde Sakamoto



Last month, the Hawaii Dental Association recognized Nancy Johnson and me for our

roles in developing the Maui Oral Health Care Center and University of Hawaii Maui College dental programs. But we represent only two players in a much larger cast that brought basic dental health care services to Maui.

Ten years ago, Maui County District Health Officer Lorin Pang and Dr. Fumio Tsuji advised the college that one third of our local residents lacked basic oral care. The college

leadership confirmed that the need was dire and that our local percentages reflected state and national statistics.

Responding to the oral care needs of our community was complex and required the help of a large number of supportive partners.

But identifying unmet needs and addressing important, persistent challenges provide higher education with opportunities to serve students and community simultaneously; that's the story behind the Maui Oral Health Care Center and the college's dental programs.

In 2002, the college established the center when Dr. Mickey Damerell donated dental equipment, and Herb Ushiroda, owner of a local dental office, installed an access ele-

vator in his building and offered the college a favorable lease.

College faculty and staff collaborated to develop the Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene Programs and the Maui Oral Health Center. In the spring of 2003, the Dental Assisting program graduated its first students.

The Dental Hygiene program was added in 2009.

To make the program self-sustaining, the mayor, Maui County Council and state directors of health and human services helped develop funding and Medicaid support for the college, benefiting both dental services and the education program.

Finally, the college partnered with the New York Lutheran Medical Center Den-

tal Residence Program, which brought us three dental residents and two staff dentists. They serve patients and offer clinical practice opportunities for UH-MC students.

And what difference has this made? In 2010, the center provided dental care to more than 3,000 patients in more than 11,000 appointments. Overall, the program has served approximately 8,000 patients for a total of 61,700 appointments. By May 2011, 142 dental assistants and nine dental hygienists will have completed their respective programs.

Our program owes its vitality to the many community members who have contributed their time, expertise, and resources.

We are indebted to more

than 50 Maui dentists, 30 organizations, and 100 donors — including the Strong Foundation.

There were many, many people who helped create and sustain these programs and services. We celebrate our many partners and are grateful for the kokua we continue to receive.

Dr. James Merrett of Maui Smiles has been involved in the Maui Oral Health Initiative since 2002.

He and many other dentists have been guest lecturers and UH-MC Dental Advisory Committee members. They have also funded supplies, student scholarships, and externship sites in their offices.

Dr. Merrett said he has enjoyed being involved with the programs.

"It gives me a chance to give back to my community and raise the level of dental care to the public," he said. "The students that graduate from the program are equipped with the skills that I need to

■ Clyde Sakamoto is chancellor of the University of Hawaii Maui College. Ka'ana Mana'o, which means "sharing thoughts," is scheduled to appear on the fourth Sunday of each month. It is penned by UH Maui College staff and is intended to provide the community of Maui County information about opportunities available through the college at its Kahului campus and its education centers.



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII
MAUI COLLEGE

Mahalo from the Maui Oral Health Initiative

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII MAUI COLLEGE FACULTY

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Rosie Vierra, MS, RDH, Dental Hygiene Program Coordinator
Joyce Yamada, MS, RDH, Dental Assisting Program Coordinator
June Vierra, MS, RDH, Initial Dental Assisting Program Coordinator
*Dr. Spencer Owades, DMD, Current Dental Director
Dr. Steven Farmer, DH, Pharmacology Instructor
Dr. Joanne Gabot, Dental Assisting Instructor
Stacy Hanada, RDH, Dental Hygiene Instructor
*Dr. Frank Kihara, DDS, Dental Hygiene Instructor
Dr. Emi Orikasa, DDS, Dental Hygiene Instructor
*Dr. Melaine Vallejos, DDS, Dental Hygiene Instructor

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Dr. Dean Arashiro, DDS
Dr. Barkley Bastian, DDS
Dr. Suji Bhatia, DDS
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Joanne Kennedy, CDA
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Cindy Nakamura, CDA
Patricia Knobloch, CDA
David Ohta, CDA
Mara Sandi, CDA^
Debbie Sinclair, CDA
Elizabeth Smith, DDS, Dental Resident
Veronica Smith, CDA
Linda Visitacion
Sandra Yoshizawa, CDA

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Bail Hawaii
Church of Good Shepherd
Community Clinic of Maui
*Department of Labor, RDP
*Frank M. & Gertrude R. Doyle Foundation
*Hawaii Dental Association
*Hawaii Dental Service
Hawaii Family Dental Centers
*HMSA Foundation
*Hawaii State Legislature
*Henry Schein Dental
*Lutheran Medical Center Dental Residency
March of Dimes
*Maui County Council
Maui County Dental Alliance
*Maui County Dental Hygienists' Association
*Maui County Dental Society
Maui Drug Court
Makawao Union Church
Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
*Maui Memorial Medical Center Foundation
*Office for Social Ministry, Catholic Church
Po'okela Church
Research Corporation University of Hawaii
*Strong Foundation
*University of Hawaii Foundation
Wailuku Dental Group
*Young Brothers, Ltd.

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*Major Supporter

*UH Maui College Dental Advisory Committee Member