

Hospice of Hilo Receives \$100,000 Grant from First Hawaiian Bank Foundation

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(Honolulu, Hawaii, September 2, 2011) – Hospice of Hilo has been given a grant of \$100,000 by the First Hawaiian Bank Foundation, according to an announcement today by Bob Harrison, First Hawaiian Bank president and chief operating officer. The grant will support the construction of a new Hospice of Hilo in-patient facility.

"We are certainly fortunate that First Hawaiian recognizes the value of an in-patient hospice facility in Hilo which will allow us to offer another level of hospice care to our residents," said Brenda Ho, Hospice of Hilo chief executive officer. "Our home can provide peace of mind for family members who are unable to care for loved ones because they live on another island or on the Mainland."

"We are proud to partner with Hospice of Hilo in this vital step to strengthen the overall continuum of care for patients in East Hawaii, said Bob Harrison. "The level of care and compassion that patients and their families receive from Hospice of Hilo is extraordinary."

The 12-bed in-patient hospice facility will be the first of its kind built on a Neighbor Island. It is expected to serve approximately 300 patients a year and will provide assistance to terminally ill patients of all ages who are too sick to be cared for at home or who do not have family members who can serve as caregivers. For more than 28 years, Hospice of Hilo has been providing quality, compassionate end-of-life care for Big Island residents in their own homes.

The First Hawaiian Bank Foundation and bank contributed \$2.5 million last year to more than 400 non-profit organizations in Hawaii, Guam and CNMI. The foundation funds educational opportunities, health and human service needs, programs for children and youth, as well as culture and the arts.

Hospice of Hilo is a private, non-profit agency providing compassionate, quality end-of-life care through support, counseling and education. Since 1983, Hospice of Hilo has served the east and south portions of Hawaii Island. For more information please visit www.hospiceofhilo.org

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