



## HAWAI'I PACIFIC HEALTH

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Kapi'olani • Pali Momi • Straub • Wilcox

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### **RAY VARA APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF HAWAI'I PACIFIC HEALTH**

**HONOLULU (January 27, 2012)** – Hawai'i Pacific Health, the state's largest health care provider and parent company of Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Pali Momi Medical Center, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital (Kaua'i), has announced the appointment of Raymond Vara as president. For the past ten years, Vara has served as executive vice president and CEO of operations, working closely with Chuck Sted who retains the title of CEO.

"Ray's appointment underscores Hawai'i Pacific Health's focus on the future. With our Sustainable Health Care Initiative, we're transforming health care so future generations in Hawai'i will have access to the highest quality care. Ray has already played a key role in this transformation and now as president will continue leading the execution of our strategic plans," said Chuck Sted, CEO of Hawai'i Pacific Health.

Vara joined Hawai'i Pacific Health in 2002 and currently oversees the day-to-day operations of the health care system. Under Vara's leadership, Hawai'i Pacific Health's hospitals have increased patients served by 46% over the past ten years and in fiscal year 2010, the system provided \$129M in community benefit.

Prior to joining Hawai'i Pacific Health, Vara was the chief executive officer for Los Alamos Medical Center, a member of Banner Health System in Los Alamos, New Mexico. He also served in various assignments with the U.S. Army Medical Department including assistant administrator and chief financial officer for Bassett Army Community Hospital in Fairbanks, Alaska and deputy chief financial officer for Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma, Washington.

Vara holds a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Hawai'i Pacific University and earned his Master's of Business Administration from the University of Alaska at Fairbanks. He is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives and serves on several local and national boards including the Regional Policy Board of the American Hospital Association, the Western States Region of the American Heart Association, Hawai'i Pacific University, Island Insurance, the American Red Cross Hawai'i State Chapter and 'Ahahui Koa Ānuenuē.

Vara is part of the Hawai'i Pacific Health executive leadership team that has a combined tenure of 98+ years. In addition to Sted and Vara, the executive team is comprised of David Okabe, executive vice president (EVP) and chief financial officer; Kenneth Robbins, M.D., EVP and chief medical officer; Gail Lerch, EVP for Human Resources and Organizational Development; Ginny Pressler, M.D., EVP for strategic planning and government relations; Steve Robertson, EVP and chief information officer and Bob Ching, EVP and general counsel.

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“High performing organizations such as Hawai’i Pacific Health prepare for the future through careful succession planning,” said Karen Chang, chairwoman of the board for Hawai’i Pacific Health. “Hawai’i Pacific Health has done an exceptional job of cultivating its future leaders and as a result we now have an even stronger executive team in place. The board of directors is pleased to recognize Ray for his accomplishments, leadership and commitment to the health care industry.”

“Hawai’i Pacific Health serves an awesome mission,” said Vara. “I am honored to be in a position to lead an outstanding team who will ensure that the hospitals and physicians of Hawai’i Pacific Health will continue to provide the highest quality health care and shape the future of health care in Hawai’i.”

**About Hawai’i Pacific Health**

Hawai’i Pacific Health is a nonprofit health care system and the state’s largest health care provider, committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai’i and the Pacific Region through its four hospitals, 49 outpatient clinics and service sites, and more than 1,300 affiliated physicians. The system is anchored by its four nonprofit hospitals: Kapi’olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Pali Momi Medical Center, Straub Clinic & Hospital, and Wilcox Memorial Hospital. They have leading strategic initiatives in women’s health, pediatric care, cardiovascular services, cancer care and bone and joint services. Hawai’i Pacific Health ranks among the top 5 percent of hospitals nationwide in the adoption of electronic medical records, with system-wide implementation that allows its hospitals and physicians to offer integrated, coordinated care throughout the state. Learn more at: <http://www.hawaiipacifichealth.org>.

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