



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS TAKES SIGNIFICANT STEPS
TO SUPPORT STAFF DURING COVID CRISIS**

HONOLULU – The Queen's Health Systems (QHS) announced on Friday in a letter sent to all 7,000 staff members working on campuses throughout Hawaii, the establishment of a Temporary Pay Program. This program is part of an overall strategy to support staff during the COVID-19 pandemic that the QHS Board of Trustees approved late Friday afternoon.

“Our caregivers are doing an amazing job caring for every patient and their ‘ohana while simultaneously preparing for a potential surge of patients,” said Dr. Jill Hoggard Green, QHS President and CEO. “Even though they are incredibly resilient, we are keenly aware of the potential stress that can arise during these uncertain times.”

The Temporary Pay Program, one of many important interventions the QHS Leadership and Board have enacted, will run through April 28, 2020 and guarantees caregivers will be paid for their April scheduled hours. The program is designed to help keep employees financially whole during this crucial time as some may be temporarily reassigned to do critically needed work in other areas, some may have their work hours reduced, and some may even be asked to stay home to reduce the spread of the disease.

“We are so pleased that our Board recognizes our caregivers’ commitment and is supporting them so they can stay well physically, emotionally and financially in order to meet the needs of our patients and the community,” Dr. Hoggard Green said. “We want to continually show our appreciation to our caregivers, all of whom are displaying compassion and resourcefulness.”

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The Queen's Health Systems (QHS) is a nonprofit corporation established in 1985 to provide expanded health care capabilities to the people of Hawaii and the Pacific Basin. It is Hawaii's preeminent family of health care-related companies, and has more than 7,000 employees and more than 1,500 affiliated physicians and providers in its statewide network. QHS consists of The Queen's Medical Center (Hawaii's oldest hospital founded in 1859), The Queen's Medical Center – West O'ahu, Molokai General Hospital, Queen's North Hawaii Community Hospital, The Queen's Health Care Centers, Queen Emma Land Company, Queen's Development Corporation, Queen's Insurance Exchange, Queen's Clinically Integrated Physician Network, and Queen's 'Akoakoa, and has ownership interests in CareResource Hawaii, Hamamatsu/Queen's PET Imaging Center, and Diagnostic Laboratory Services.