**THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS**

## QUEEN'S ISLAND URGENT CARE CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING IN KAHALA
*Event Marks the Return of Urgent Care Services in this East Oahu Community*

HONOLULU - The Queen's Health Systems (Queen's) is delighted to announce the much-anticipated grand opening last Friday of Queen's Island Urgent Care at 1215 Hunakai Street adjacent to Kahala Mall.

The new clinic is on the first level of a two-story, 10,000-square-foot building that will also eventually include the Queen's Health Care Centers, a team-based primary care clinic designed to improve the overall health of the area's residents.

"Our Queen's ohana is very excited to be expanding our outpatient services to Kahala," said Bernadette Merlino, vice president for QHS Ambulatory Services. "Queen's has made a commitment to provide high quality, accessible care to all the people of Hawaii, and our team looks forward to serving our East Oahu communities."

The opening of Queen's Island Urgent Care marks the return of urgent care services to Kahala. Two years ago, Island Urgent Care's flagship location at Kahala Square closed when the mall was demolished. Founded in 2006 by Dr. Robert Ruggieri, Island Urgent Care has been a pioneer in offering walk-in medical care at affordable prices.

"Island Urgent Care, previously Kahala Urgent Care, served the community for 13 wonderful years until redevelopment required us to leave in 2018. It was a sad day given all the memories of treating thousands of patients in Kahala from far and wide. Now that Island Urgent Care has become part of Queen's, we have this wonderful opportunity to return to our roots. We are excited to be operating again at 1215 Hunakai Street, barely a stone's throw from our original location," said Robert Ruggieri, MD, Medical Director of Queen's Island Urgent Care.

Queen's Island Urgent Care's medical providers have training and experience in all branches of medicine including adult, pediatrics, gynecology, orthopedics and others. The clinic has a dedicated x-ray suite and can provide care for many minor emergencies including cough/cold, asthma, flu, sprains/strains, stitches, fractures, allergic reactions, dehydration, migraines, pre-employment and school/sports physicals, and more.

Queen's Island Urgent Care also has clinics in Hawaii Kai, Kapahulu, Kakaʻako, Pearl Kai and Ewa Beach.

For added convenience, The Queen's Health Care Centers will be located on the second floor of the same building and is scheduled to open in November 2020. The goal of the new clinic will be to provide East Oahu residents with better access to primary care while focusing on enhancing the patient experience.

# # #