

# Connection Is Everything

2024 Community Health Snapshot HAWAI'I



## A message from our leaders

At Kaiser Permanente, our mission is clear: to provide high-quality, affordable health care services and to improve the health of our members and the communities we serve. This mission is not just a guiding principle – it's the foundation of everything we do across our island state.

In 2024, we remained steadfast in our commitment to care, compassion, and community, even while facing challenges including the devastating Maui wildfires.

Whether we're investing in affordable housing for displaced health care workers, funding vital health research, or eliminating financial barriers to care, our work is rooted in partnership. We work with local nonprofits, government agencies, and community leaders because we know that improving health outcomes requires collective effort. From the Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i Annual

Day of Service to our support for food and housing security, we're proud to stand alongside those who share our vision of a healthier Hawai'i for all.

As you explore this community report, we hope you see the depth of our commitment and the breadth of our impact. By centering the voices, needs, and aspirations of our communities, we're building a healthier, more equitable future for all.

#### Ed Chan, MHA, RD, FACHE

President, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and Hospitals of Hawai'i

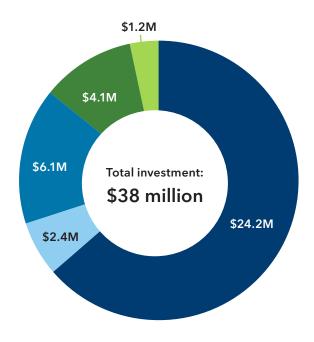
#### John Yang, MD

President and Medical Director, Hawaii Permanente Medical Group



## 2024 by the numbers

# Community health investment by program



### \$24.2 million

Charitable coverage and care

#### \$2.4 million

Research

#### \$6.1 million

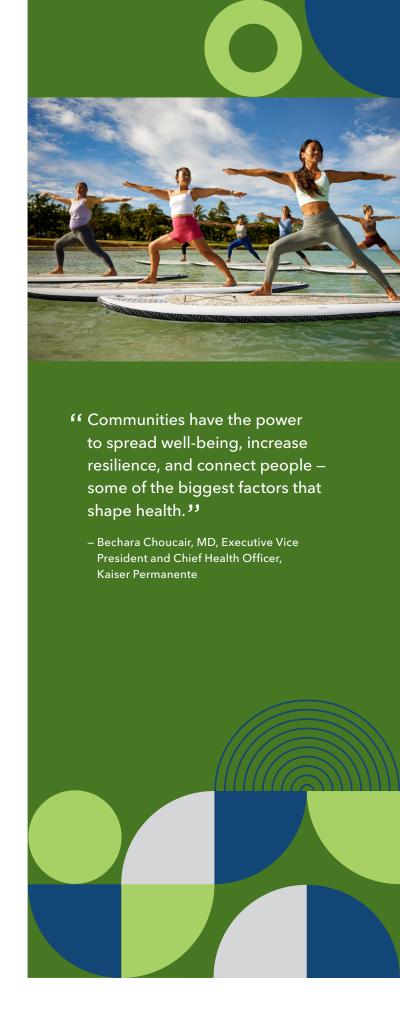
Grants and donations

#### \$4.1 million

Health professional training and consumer health education

#### \$1.2 million

Other community benefit spend



## Housing for health

Maui Health Foundation's Housing for Healthcare initiative addresses the urgent need for affordable housing.

In 2024, the county of Maui donated land to Maui Health Foundation. The land will be used to develop affordable housing. Kaiser Permanente supported the housing development through a social impact investment from the East Bay Community Foundation.

This unique-to-Hawai'i collaboration will help health care providers impacted by the wildfires. It is also a way to recruit health care professionals who are desperately needed in Maui.

Once this housing project is complete, the new homes will provide affordable rentals for health care providers as they rebuild their homes or search for new ones.

#### BY THE NUMBERS

**31** affordable rental homes under construction





## Maui Wildfire Exposure Study

In 2024, researchers at the University of Hawai'i conducted the Maui Wildfire Exposure Study, or MauiWES, with funding from the Hawai'i Community Foundation and Kaiser Permanente.

This study followed the health and recovery of Maui wildfire survivors, finding that 46% of residents reported their health had declined since the wildfires in August 2023.

The study assessed health risk factors residents may have experienced as a result of the fires. These included access to healthy food or medical care, employment status, mental health, and exposure to air pollution from smoke.

Understanding the conditions where participants live is critical to preventing long-term health issues among Maui's wildfire survivors. For instance, the study found that up to 60% of participants now suffer from poor respiratory health. Identifying these risk factors is the first step to preventing long-term health problems for participants.

The second report will expand to includ children. Researchers will continue monitoring the health and well-being of survivors over the next 8 years.

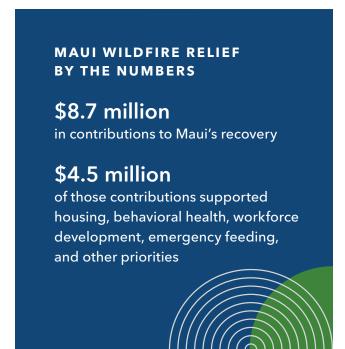




## **Annual Day of Service**

On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, more than 1,000 of our health care providers, staff, and their family members volunteered across the islands. They took part in an organization wide tradition known as the Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i Annual Day of Service, hosted by Hawai'i Permanente Medical Group.

Improving the health of our community is part of our mission and our calling. In the spirit of ho'oku'ikahi, "to unify as one" in Hawaiian, we partner with nonprofits, government organizations, and businesses across the islands to address the statewide health clinician shortage, improve health for everyone, and promote environmental stewardship.

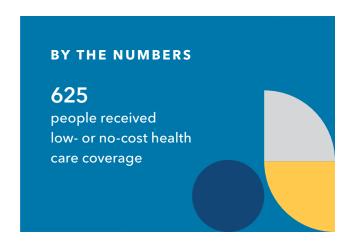




## Hawai'i Health Access Program

The Hawai'i Health Access Program provides a health care subsidy for people who don't have access to Medicaid or other health coverage.

The program eliminates monthly premiums, copays, and out-of-pocket costs for most services at Kaiser Permanente facilities. Participating residents receive full-coverage health plans, including preventive care preventive care, prescription drugs, and pediatric vision services. In 2025 the program will expand from Maui to include O'ahu in order to serve more members of our community.



Our priority is to ensure that everyone in our communities receives the affordable, high-quality health care they deserve. By expanding the Hawai'i Health Access Program to O'ahu, we can reach even more residents and continue offering critical support to those on Maui." – Ed Chan, President, Kaiser Foundation Health Plans and Hospitals, Hawai'i

## Health care career initiatives

Hawai'i faces a significant health care worker shortage. To help address this, Kaiser Permanente radiologist Lee Miyasato, MD, and students from Maui High School worked together to raise awareness and provide learning opportunities for young people interested in health care careers.

Over 5 years, the Maui students built a comprehensive website that introduces students to a range of health care careers. The website features a wealth of content including interviews with health care professionals, detailed career information, and educational resources.



"This project has really been a labor of love. It's been incredibly rewarding to see students not only gain skills in website development and content creation but also become inspired to pursue careers in health care."

— Lee Miyasato, MD, Radiologist, Kaiser Permanente



## Community Health Committee of the Boards of Directors

Ramón Baez Regina Benjamin, MD, MBA Jenny J. Ming Richard P. Shannon, MD

## Kaiser Permanente Leadership

**Greg A. Adams** 

Chair and Chief Executive Officer Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. Kaiser Foundation Hospitals Bechara Choucair, MD

Executive Vice President and Chief Health Officer Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. Kaiser Foundation Hospitals

# Community and Social Health National Leadership

Stephanie Ledesma
Senior Vice President

**Anand Shah, MD** 

Vice President, Social Health

## **Regional Leadership**

Ed Chan, MHA, RD, FACHE

President, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and Hospitals Hawai'i John Yang, MD

President and Medical Director, Hawaii Permanente Medical Group

