

Media Release

For Immediate Release
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Celebrating 100 Years of Struggle and Triumph: Kula Hospital Launches *KULA SAN Maui's Healing Place* at Ho'olaule'a on September 12, 2010

(Honolulu, Hawai'i)—In celebration of its 100th anniversary, Kula Hospital (formerly Kula Sanatorium), will launch *KULA SAN Maui's Healing Place*, 325-page pictorial history book that chronicles the hospital's long lost vibrant past, its challenges and successes, and the unique conditions that made the landmark hospital a leading national and international health care institution.

Founded in 1910 to meet the scourge of tuberculosis, Kula Sanatorium was spearheaded by visionary leaders from business, government, and the medical community. Additional buildings, such as the hospital's main facility, were designed by prominent Hawai'i architect C.W. Dickey. "Not many people know of Kula San's significant role in tuberculosis disease prevention, treatment and wellness in the early 20th century," said Marie Hara, who edited the book written by Dr. Patricia A. Brown. Brown's parents were employees at "Kula San," as it was affectionately known throughout the state of Hawaii.

"In addition to tracing Kula San's rich history through annual reports, newspaper articles, and research data, this book also highlights the personal stories of patients, employees and community leaders. There was a tight-knit '*ohana* thriving on the slopes of Haleakala, which was a beautiful healing place that served as a shining example of holistic health care," Hara added.

The upcoming Kula Hospital Ho'olaule'a pays tribute to Kula San's "golden era," which spanned 1910 to approximately 1976, when the last tuberculosis patient was released. By then, Maui County had already relinquished control of the hospital to the State in 1970. Dr. Jack Lewin, who worked at Kula Hospital from 1977 to 1986 and is a former director of the Hawai'i State Department of Health, recalls the hospital's legacy of healing and innovation.

Healing the body, mind and spirit—of countless plantation workers and residents afflicted by a prevalent and feared condition—was an important touchstone for the Maui community. "Kula San was once decades ahead of its time in fostering prevention-based care and *wellness*, long before that term had even been coined," Lewin noted.

The book is a welcome addition to the body of locally-published works that chronicle a simpler but unique period in Hawaii's social history. Dr. Patricia Brown noted that the process of interviewing people and researching old documents led her to discover that the "lessons of community, leadership and compassion are as relevant today as it was 100 years ago."

Event Details

What: Kula Hospital Ho'olaule'a and Book Launch of *KULA SAN Maui's Healing Place*
Food and craft booths, entertainment, children's activities, and book signing

Where: Kula Hospital, 100 Keokea Place

When: Sunday, September 12, 2010
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Cost: Free and open to the public

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