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**Hawaii to Host the 2012 Pacific Global Health Conference**

*Conference expected to attract leading health professionals from across the globe*

**HONOLULU, HI** – Over 400 leading health professionals are expected to attend the 5<sup>th</sup> Pacific Global Health Conference, *Transforming Public Health in the Pacific*, to be held at the Ala Moana Hotel in Honolulu, HI from October 8-10.

The conference will bring together academics, policymakers and practitioners from across Hawaii and the Pacific to share research, discuss current issues, develop strategies for the future, and increase avenues of communication on public health issues. Conference tracks will include research and best practices in workforce development, health and culture, health communications, as well health policy and advocacy.

Keynote speakers include Dr. David Jenkins, founder of SurfAid International, a non-profit humanitarian organization dedicated to improving the health, wellbeing, and self-reliance of people living in isolated communities. As well as newly elected American Public Health Association President, Adewale Troutman, MD who is featured in the Public Broadcasting Service's nationally televised series, *"Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?"*

"We are very excited to host this event during a pivotal time in which the University of Hawaii is building stronger public health collaborations through the establishment of our School of Global and Community Health," said Jay Maddock, PhD, Director of the University of Hawaii's Office of Public Health Studies and member of the Board of the Hawaii Public Health Association. "We need to continue working collectively to address urgent health problems, including obesity, poor nutrition and the prevention of chronic and infectious diseases not only in Hawaii and across the Pacific Rim, but globally as well."

The conference is being organized and sponsored by the Hawaii Public Health Association (HPHA) which is supported by local health organizations that include the University of Hawaii Cancer Center, the John A. Burns School of Medicine, the Office of Public Health Studies, the Hawaii State Department of Health, the Coalition for A Tobacco Free Hawaii and the Hawaii Public Health Training Hui. The HPHA is a professional association dedicated to improving public health in Hawai'i and the US-associated Pacific Islands through leadership, collaboration, education, and advocacy. It also serves as a voice for public health professionals and as a repository for information about public health in Hawaii and the Pacific.

More information about the conference can be found at: [www.hawaiipublichealth.org/PGHC](http://www.hawaiipublichealth.org/PGHC)

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*The University of Hawai'i Cancer Center is one of 66 research institutions designated by the National Cancer Institute. A unit of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, the Center is dedicated to eliminating cancer through research, education, and improved patient care. Construction is under way on a new state-of-the-art research center, opening in 2013 to better serve the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific. Learn more about the Center's work at [www.uhcancercenter.org](http://www.uhcancercenter.org).*