

Hawaii Medical Center Observes National Nurses Week

by Marichris DIGA

AT THIS MOMENT, THERE IS A NURSE SOMEWHERE who is comforting someone in their time of need...a nurse listening to a grieving family...or a nurse helping save a stranger's life.

In observance of National Nurses Week, Hawaii Medical Center held a weeklong celebration at its East and West campuses from May 7-12, 2010. Nurses enjoyed refreshments, games, karaoke contests and an appreciation picnic.

National Nurses Week is typically observed each year on May 6, which is RN Recognition Day, and ends on May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, founder of nursing as a modern profession. It started in 1974 as a way to honor the many nurses who provide care to millions of patients each day of the year.



"National Nurses Week is a very special time for the hospital," says Rebecca Klungreseter, R.N., and Chief Nursing Officer of Hawaii Medical Center West. "Often times we fail to acknowledge the work that we as nurses do, so with Nurses Week, it allows us to stop

and take the time to show our appreciation for one another."

Hawaii Medical Center employs 336 nurses. In Hawaii, there are about 21,178 nurses according to the State of Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. ■