

# Sharing the Health

Straub Benioff Medical Center: Building the future of health care

“Nothing is more important than the health of our community and access to care for all who need it.”

Guests avoided raindrops as smiling attendants bearing umbrellas escorted them under a spacious white tent. The May showers fell like blessings, Kahu Kordell Kekoa told Straub Benioff Medical Center doctors, nurses, medical staff and supporters who came together to mark a new milestone.

On May 16, 2024, the ceremony at the construction site on King Street marked the start of the Straub Benioff Redevelopment project. Longstanding Hawai'i philanthropists Marc and Lynne Benioff joined Straub Benioff and Hawai'i leaders for the occasion. The chair and CEO of Salesforce and his wife gave \$100 million toward the health care campus of the future. The transformational gift is the largest donation to Hawai'i Pacific Health and one of the largest single private donations in Hawai'i history.

“We feel fortunate to have been part of the Hawai'i community for many decades and to be able to support our 'ohana in this way,” the Benioffs said. “Nothing is more important than the health of our community and access to care for all who need it.”

Health care has always been a top priority for Marc and Lynne, representing

a significant part of their more than \$1 billion in family philanthropy. In addition to the Straub Benioff donation, the Benioffs gave \$50 million to Hilo Benioff Medical Center to create a childbirth center, intensive care unit and neurosurgery program.

“We need to do more to improve access to the highest quality care for everyone, where they need it and when they need it,” Marc said at the event. “My mother lives with us on Hawai'i Island and is an amazing woman. She's beat cancer five times. Like so many people who care for their kupuna, I think of her health every single day.”

The gathering was held on the future site of a new environmentally friendly parking building. Along with additional parking spaces, it will feature a state-of-the-art conference center, rooftop garden and an employee fitness center. The next phases of the redevelopment project will include a new medical tower, outdoor space expansion and renovations to the current medical buildings.

“We are truly grateful to the Benioffs for their generosity, which will help us build on the medical center's more than 100-year legacy of providing exceptional care for our patients,” said Ray Vara, president & CEO of Hawai'i Pacific Health. “This is not only a gift for Straub Benioff Medical Center, it's a gift for Hawai'i.” ♥

[Give2Straub.org](http://Give2Straub.org)



From left: Kahu Kordell Kekoa; Dr. Todd Miller; Salesforce's Marc Benioff; Ray Vara, HPH president & CEO; Lynne Benioff; Dr. John Mickey, Straub Benioff internal medicine physician (photo courtesy HPH).