Senator Dwight Takamine and Representative Mark Nakashima announced that thanks to the hard work and perseverance of numerous individuals and community groups the long-awaited Grand Opening of the new wing at Hale Ho'ola Hamakua has arrived. The legislators invite all interested community members to attend the Grand Opening celebration of Hale Ho'ola Hamakua's new Maile wing on Friday, July 30 at 1:30 p.m.

"As you may recall, eighty-nine organizations joined hundreds of community members who signed petitions and sent individual letters to the Governor asking for the release of \$9.2 million for the expansion of Hale Ho'ola Hamakua," said Representative Nakashima, who continued, "This was another instance of our community's collective response to support one another whenever it matters the most."

The new wing will provide up to 28 additional beds for the kupuna and families of North Hawai'i and twenty permanent jobs. For more information about the grand opening, please call Representative Nakashima's office at 974-4000 ext 66680 or email at <u>RepNakashima@capitol.hawaii.gov</u>.