



# TRIPLER ARMY MEDICAL CENTER

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**December 29, 2008**

## **Tripler's Adult Medicine Clinic spreads Christmas cheer**

Honolulu, HI-- "Instead of the usual gift exchange, our Christmas party committee all agreed this would be a good idea," Mona Kurashima said. The diabetes nurse practitioner at the Tripler Army Medical Center explained, "It's like the Lokahi and Christmas Angel Tree in the community, but we wanted to give to a family in the Tripler system."

The idea snowballed. Instead of exchanging "\$10-or-less" gifts at the Adult Medicine Clinic's annual Christmas party, more than forty clinic staff members pitched in to raise several hundred dollars to purchase more than a dozen gifts for a Tripler family.

After consulting with various Tripler staff, the clinic decided to present their gifts to Tedura Hannibal and her family of five children and two grandchildren. One of her children is now being treated for cancer at Tripler.

On Dec. 22, Hannibal and three of her children visited the Adult Medicine Clinic for an early Christmas, when Capt. Benjamin Bancheck, the clinic's head nurse, and the Adult Medicine Clinic ohana presented them with a gift on each family member's wish list. Gifts included a complete family holiday meal from a local supermarket, gift cards for clothes, DVDs, and electronic games and toys for the children.

"This was a very special gift for the family," said Donna Gatewood, Tripler Social Service's clinical social worker who nominated the family. "It is good to know that there are such caring people within Tripler. I hope we can do this for more families in the years to come."



**Tripler Diabetes Nurse Practitioner Mona Kurashima (from left) presents Tedura Hannibal with a card for a holiday meal gift certificate, while her children Tyrone Moultrie and Acsona Moultrie look on. Instead of sharing gifts at their staff Christmas party, Tripler Army Medical Center's Adult Medicine Clinic staffers decided to give cheer to a deserving family at Tripler. Tripler AMC photo by Nicole Bednar.**