

## Nonprofit wins small victory in effort to recruit doctor

By [JEFF HANSEL Hawaii Tribune-Herald](#) | Thursday, January 18, 2018, 12:05 a.m.

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A physician who is training to become an internal medicine specialist says she plans to return home to practice medicine on Hawaii Island — a big win for a nonprofit that’s fighting the doctor shortage.

Physicians complete a residency program of at least three years after medical school, alongside doctors in their chosen specialty.

Dr. Tara Reed just passed the halfway point of her internal medicine residency at Oregon Health & Science University. Upon completion of her residency, she expects to return to Hawaii Island to practice medicine at Bay Clinic.

“She wants to come back,” said Dr. David Jung, a board member of the nonprofit Hui Kahu Malama, or “caretakers group.” The group was formed by Hawaii Island physicians seeking new doctors to offset a prolonged shortage.

“We’re blessed to have a physician like Tara come back home,” said Hui Kahu Malama board member Breeani Lee.

Reed is the first physician the nonprofit has worked with who has committed to practicing medicine on the island long term.

Hui Kahu Malama helps physicians afford a rural medicine rotation during their residency programs by paying for necessities such as travel. Board members cite research that physicians tend to stay near where they train. A rural medicine rotation on the island, they hope, will entice more physicians to settle here.

Reed met with Hui Kahu Malama board members Tuesday at the office of Mayor Harry Kim during an assessment of the nonprofit’s work so far.