



**THE QUEEN'S
MEDICAL CENTER**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 5, 2020

Media Contact:

Sean Ibara

808-691-4010

sibara@queens.org

**ASSETS SCHOOL DONATES HOSPITAL ROBOT ASSISTANT TO
THE QUEEN'S MEDICAL CENTER**

*Queen's applauds students' efforts and surprises school with a \$5,000
donation to its robotics program*

HONOLULU – Recognizing the need to support those on the frontline of the COVID-19 pandemic, three robotics students from Assets School built and designed a robot which is able to deliver items into a patient's room while minimizing human interaction. The robot, which is controlled by a remote control, essentially acts as a rolling cart.

High school juniors Owen Burke, William Wong, and Christopher Noon started work on the project in June. They were guided by their Assets School robotics teacher Peter Han. Last month, the students completed work on the robot and have graciously donated it to The Queen's Medical Center.

“We are truly appreciative of the kind gesture and the hard work these three students put in to designing and building this robot. This is a shining example of how our young leaders can make a difference in our community,” said Jill Hoggard Green, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Queen's Health Systems. “It is these types of students who will create the next set of tools for our clinicians to do exactly what they need to do, which is to reduce pain and suffering.”

In a surprise announcement made yesterday during the robot presentation and demonstration at The Queen's Medical Center, Green presented the robotics students and their teacher with a \$5,000 donation on behalf of Queen's to go towards the school's robotics program. “When I heard about these students' endeavor I was inspired. This financial contribution will help to ensure more students, especially younger ones, have opportunities to learn and grow using robotics,” said Green.

“We cannot thank the Queen's leadership team enough for their generosity. Their financial support of our robotics program will make a significant difference. We thank all those working at Queen's and all the frontline medical professionals for what they are doing to keep our community safe and healthy,” said Assets Head of School Ryan Masa. “I am so proud of Owen, Chris, and William. Their project represents what makes Assets such an incredible school community - creative students, authentic experiences,



THE QUEEN'S MEDICAL CENTER

individualized learning, developing your strengths and using them to imagine a better future.”

Plans are for the robot to be implemented in Queen’s new Advanced Respiratory and Emerging Infectious Disease Unit on Queen Emma Tower 9 Diamond Head.

“We are extremely grateful to Owen, William, and Christopher for their willingness to step forward to help our frontline caregivers. This robot will help our caregivers deliver high quality care in a safe environment. We applaud their efforts and encourage them to continue thinking about ways they can get involved and be a part of the solution,” said Jason Chang, Chief Operating Officer of The Queen’s Health Systems and President of The Queen’s Medical Center.

"This isn't just a robot," said Assets School Teacher and Robotics Coach Peter Han. "This is a lesson in humility, hard work, and collaboration. I am extremely happy for this student-led project to happen and do what we can as STEM learners to contribute to our local community."

###

The Queen’s Medical Center (Queen’s), a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation established in 1859 by Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV, is an acute care medical facility accredited by The Joint Commission. The facility is licensed for 575 acute beds and serves as the major tertiary and quaternary referral center for cancer, cardiovascular disease, neuroscience, orthopaedics, surgery, emergency medicine and behavioral health medicine. It is the state’s designated trauma center verified as Level I by the American College of Surgeons. It has the only organ transplantation program in Hawaii. Queen’s is a major teaching hospital, serving as a clinical training site for the residency programs sponsored by the John A. Burns School of Medicine at the University of Hawaii. Queen’s is the only hospital in Hawaii to achieve Magnet® status – the highest institutional honor for hospital excellence – from the American Nurses Credentialing Center.