

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Nareit Hawaii Donates \$10,000 to FilCom CARES COVID Booster Program**

**HONOLULU – Feb. 10, 2022** – Nareit Hawaii has bolstered its support of the FilCom CARES COVID vaccination program with a \$10,000 donation to provide booster shots and further protect community members of all ages from getting sick due to the pandemic.

“The FilCom Center continues to help support and work with the community on vaccinations and testing during this ongoing pandemic,” said Donnie Juan, interim executive director of the Filipino Community Center, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. “These efforts could not be possible without the financial support of organizations like Nareit Hawaii and its leadership team. We appreciate their participation with our FilCom CARES program and thank them for continuing to reach out to us to lend their much-needed support as we all move forward from the challenges before us.”

In April 2021, Nareit Hawaii donated \$50,000 to support the expansion of the FilCom CARES vaccination program to communities statewide. Research reported at that time by the Hawaii State Department of Health showed that Filipino and Pacific Islander residents were contracting COVID at a higher rate than other ethnic groups but were among the lowest to be vaccinated.

Recently, the FilCom CARES initiative further expanded its efforts by providing clinics with COVID booster shots to vaccinated residents to maintain their health and avoid getting sick because of the virus. Nareit Hawaii provided the \$10,000 donation to support this new initiative.

Gladys Quinto Marrone, executive director of Nareit Hawaii, said, “The FilCom CARES program has been a wonderful success and the Filipino Community Center is making an incredible effort to try and keep our community safe and healthy from this deadly virus. We encourage everyone to get vaccinated and boosted as soon as possible so that we can all get back to a more normal way of life.”

With the support of Nareit Hawaii and other public and private partners, the FilCom CARES program has organized more than 90 vaccination clinics statewide for thousands of residents to receive the COVID vaccine. Numerous COVID testing sites have also been coordinated and public messages communicated on a continuous basis urging residents to protect their health by getting vaccinated.

Nareit Hawaii represents the interests of REITs in Hawaii and their participation in civic, community, and policy initiatives to benefit residents statewide, while also supporting community and charitable organizations that address social issues of importance. REITs are long-term property holders that own, renovate and manage affordable housing projects, commercial buildings, medical facilities, shopping centers, cell phone towers, public storage facilities, and hotels in Hawaii. For more information about Nareit Hawaii and REITs in Hawaii, please visit [www.nareithawaii.com](http://www.nareithawaii.com).

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