

From the Pacific Business News:

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/news/2019/11/22/sneak-a-peek-at-kapiolani-medical-center-new.html>

Kapiolani Medical Center's new multimillion-dollar family dining room: Slideshow

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The Kapiolani Medical Center for Women & Children announced it will open its new Kobayashi & Kosasa family dining room on Tuesday, offering triple the capacity of the existing cafeteria.

Click through the gallery above to see a preview of the new dining room.

The new space, which cost \$13 million to complete, features seven new serving areas, three conference rooms, cellphone charging stations, free WiFi, a Keiki Zone with an interactive kids play area, an 1,800 square foot outdoor lanai, and a Starbucks – the only 24/7 licensed location on Oahu.



EUGENE TANNER | PBN

"Our staff is thrilled about the Starbucks," said Martha Smith, the medical center's CEO. "When designing the concept, we wanted to create a nice place for families to escape and find rest."

The dining room was designed by Peter Vincent Architects and built by Constructors Hawaii, Inc. Kapiolani Medical Center has roughly 1,700 staff members, 600 of which are doctors.

"We're a teaching hospital, so the addition of the conference rooms is also crucial," Smith said.

Jesse Dowling, executive chef, is excited to be working behind-the-scenes in the 9,000 square foot kitchen, where he will be bringing favorites like house fried rice and vegetarian pizza on cauliflower crust seven-days-a-week.

"What inspired the menu was the seasons and also sustainability," Dowling told Pacific Business News. "We want to make healthy options for our guests that also taste good by using quality, fresh ingredients."

Dowling has been with the medical center for three years and, prior to this, worked mostly in the hotel and restaurant industry.

"We're changing the idea behind hospital food," he said. "Now, it's more equivalent to room service you'd get at a hotel. We deliver it right to you."

Dowling and his staff are also looking forward to working in the air-conditioned kitchen, which they didn't have at the existing cafeteria.

"The [existing] cafeteria will eventually close and we will utilize the space for something else," Smith told PBN. "We're a hospital, we can always use the extra space."

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