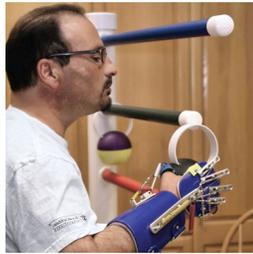




IMPACTReport



FALL
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Greetings Loyal Supporters!



So much exciting stuff is happening at VMC! I know I say that often, but trust me, this has been an extra incredible year...

History was made when **Jake Javier became the fifth person in the world to receive ten million stem-derived cells directly into his spinal cord** at VMC's renowned Rehabilitation Center. The VMC Foundation was proud to help move this trial forward!

Downtown San Jose finally has a state-of-the-art healthcare facility that will serve as a medical home for over 30,000 individuals and offer urgent care every day. This effort was made possible by voters who approved 2008's Measure A campaign, which the VMC Foundation strongly supported.

We're coming up on VMC's 140th Anniversary! Check out the back of this report for a fun story about our friend Janet Walworth and her father's service at VMC when it was still called "County Hospital."

If you haven't had a chance to peruse our 2015 Annual Report, you can find it on our website. I hope you'll check it out – the VMC Foundation simply would not be the vibrant, effective organization it is without your enthusiastic support.

With my thanks,

Chris Wilder, CEO

Donors Keep VMC Rehab at the Forefront of Cutting-Edge Technology

VMC is one of just 60 rehabilitation programs nationwide utilizing Ekso, a revolutionary exoskeleton robot, to help patients with brain and spinal cord injuries. With its motorized legs and backpack computer, Ekso gives hope to patients who fear they will never walk again.

This technology recently made a difference for Stacie Byars, a 52 year-old Seattle-based marketing consultant. While in Redwood City on business, Stacie suffered a stroke which left her paralyzed on her left side. She was brought to VMC for acute rehabilitation.

Stacie's rehab team used Ekso early in her therapy program. Her physical therapist, Amy Millan, DPT, explains, "Ekso can help patients like Stacie walk earlier, gain confidence and develop muscle memory." Amy adds, "Many patients like Stacie are afraid to take those first steps. In Ekso, the robot supports them and they learn about the movements of walking with confidence."

As a technical writer, the technology of Ekso was right up Stacie's alley. She shares, "The first time I used Ekso, it was rough. After that, there was a big leap forward. I felt powerful! It was definitely the beginning of my walking."

Because of generous gifts from donors like you, the VMC Foundation has provided almost \$75,000 for Ekso upgrades and staff training. If you would like to learn more about Ekso or how to support the rehabilitation programs at VMC, please contact Debbie Burdsall at (408) 885-5206.

"Ekso represents a huge investment in patient care!" Stacie Byars

STACIE BYARS taking steps forward in the Ekso robot ►



A New Family Lounge and Library, Inspired by Nora

The transformation of VMC's Women and Children's Center will start with the creation of a calming family space... all thanks to a little girl named Nora.

Nora was diagnosed with pulmonary hypertension soon after her birth in 2009. She spent the rest of her life in and out of hospitals and sadly passed away in 2013. Her parents, Thomas Boström and Claire McCormack, have since become fierce advocates for hospital safety and children's health issues.

Thomas and Claire proposed a small library area on VMC's 5th floor for kids to read books with their parents. "Nora especially loved reading books," shared Thomas. "We hope the space will offer an escape from the hospital setting for children and their families."

It's a fitting legacy for Nora that will benefit VMC families for decades.



Kudos to LEAH SAIM from the Transitional Care Neurosurgery Unit, a new Booster who recruited five of her coworkers to join the campaign. Leah has been a part of VMC since nursing school and feels compelled to give back and inspire others to do the same. "I am grateful to do something to support our VMC!"

94 SCVHHS employees showed their support through this year's Give a Booster Shot campaign, pledging more than \$150,000 to help support programs and services throughout the health and hospital system.

An incredibly valuable message is sent when VMC's own employees, who already give their heart and soul to VMC, choose to support us via the Booster Shot campaign. We know what a special place VMC is and our employee donations are a powerful testament to that!

Honoring Janet Walworth: A Top Advocate, Volunteer and Fundraiser

For nearly a decade, Janet Walworth has offered her time and talent to the VMC Foundation, helping to coordinate events and raise money. Caring for the health of her community is a family tradition for Janet.



Janet's father, Dr. David H. Walworth, began practicing medicine at "County Hospital" back in the 1950s. He made his mark as a founder of VMC's diabetes clinic and later served as chief of staff at VMC. Dr. Walworth cared deeply about the health of Santa Clara Valley residents and served as president of the Santa Clara County chapters of the Heart Association and the Diabetes Society.

Janet has shown similar dedication. In fact, she is our longest-standing volunteer, raising thousands of dollars for VMC's most pressing needs. In 2014, Janet was recognized by the Association of Fundraising Professionals with their Distinguished Volunteer Fundraiser award for her efforts on behalf of the VMC Foundation.

Janet has a message for those considering joining the VMC Foundation:

"VMC provides such capable, high-quality medical care without turning anyone away for inability to pay. Your support can make a real difference!"

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