



SPRING  
2016



# IMPACTReport

the VMC foundation  
Helping Silicon Valley Care

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## Greetings Supporters!



We've had a great start to the new year, thanks to donors like you who have joined us to make VMC the very best medical center.

I've been thrilled by all the exciting energy – from bustling hospital tours to the upcoming launch of our new health clinic in downtown San Jose...this really is a fantastic place to work.

We are proud to have so many loyal supporters and have launched a new donor appreciation program! Our giving circles celebrate donors who give at least \$100 annually, and benefits range from invitations to special events to naming opportunities in a VMC building, and much more. Please check out our website for details and let me know if you have any questions or suggestions!

We're plugging away at our \$25M fundraising goal to establish a Women & Children's Center at VMC. I'd love to fill you in on our progress! Give me a call at (408) 885-5299 or send an email – christopher.wilder@hhs.sccgov.org.

Looking forward to another extraordinary year, with your support!

Chris Wilder, CEO

## Injured SF Giants Fan Visits VMC

Dodger Stadium attack victim Bryan Stow recently returned to Valley Medical Center, where he made his miraculous comeback, to thank the caregivers who helped save his life. Bryan walked into VMC on crutches... one of the first times since he was assaulted by two men outside Dodger Stadium in March 2011 that he appeared in public without a wheelchair.

There is still a long way to go, but Bryan says he has improved considerably. The first crucial stage of rehabilitation took place at VMC. The rehabilitation team members who played such an important part in Bryan's recovery were thrilled to see his progress. "It's great that Bryan is walking again, but more important to me is that Bryan's telling me stories, he's joking with me," said rehab relations manager Ann Perkins. "The personality that he had before his brain injury is really re-emerging."

Bryan's amazing recovery from the devastating head injuries he sustained during the attack is a testament to the innovative care he received in the VMC rehabilitation center. Donors to the VMC Foundation have helped equip the rehab center's therapy gym and have provided adaptive devices so patients can use computers to keep up with work and school, or access community resources. These donations keep VMC at the "top of its game" with the latest in technology and equipment. In response to questions about his tremendous progress, Bryan had this to say about his VMC rehab team, "The people here have that will to push you forward."

Bryan Stow's phenomenal recovery has led to an important effort... to end bullying among school children. Through the recently established Bryan Stow Foundation, Bryan speaks with students around the Bay Area about his own experiences to highlight the costs of bullying. We applaud his efforts!

Therapist Scott Shields and Bryan Stow demonstrate how they used "catch" to improve Bryan's coordination and function.



## Donor Dedication: Improving Care for Pediatric Patients

A donation from **John and Ann Rademakers** made it possible for VMC to obtain a new, cutting-edge imaging system for pediatric patients who undergo pulmonary bronchoscopy and gastrointestinal endoscopy procedures at VMC. This equipment improves provider-to-provider communication and preserves resources by avoiding duplication of procedures. Providers can upload and share images, including videos and pictures, with other physicians and with patient families.



“This is a perfect example of an understated piece of equipment that can have a huge impact on the kids in our care. We’ve already seen what an enormous difference it has made to our most complex patients, and it helps providers more easily share information. It’s a win-win!” Dr. Rami Keisari

The VMC Foundation often seeks donations for essential equipment purchases like this imaging system. Our thanks to the Rademakers for providing the resources needed for this vital equipment, and for their greater support of the entire Women & Children’s Center transformation at VMC. For information about VMC’s pediatric units and their current needs, contact Elizabeth Nielsen at (408) 373-6647.

## Easing Stress for Pediatric Patients

iPads have proven to be a big help in keeping kids calm as they await often painful or scary procedures. According to Dr. Jennifer Tong, Chief Medical Information Officer, the devices comfort children and help providers stay focused as they administer medication and prepare for procedures. Once again, VMC Foundation donors have stepped up by providing funding for these useful tablets.



## VMC’s Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Honored with the Wirtschafter Quality Improvement Award

The California Association of Neonatologists recognized the excellent “Quality Improvement” work of the VMC NICU staff in boosting outcomes for preterm babies through enhanced breastfeeding practices, advanced breast milk nutrient analysis, home healthcare visits to help families transition from the hospital setting, and delayed umbilical cord clamping during delivery, resulting in lower rates of intraventricular hemorrhage, intubation, and transfusion. The VMC Foundation is proud to support the NICU by providing donations that fund new equipment purchases and staff training for these innovative therapies. Donors include FIRST 5 Santa Clara County, the Will Rogers Institute, and many generous individuals.

“We are extremely grateful to the donors of the VMC Foundation for enabling our cutting-edge work with very fragile babies, and for making VMC one of the safest hospitals in California to give birth. Thank you for your support!” Dr. Balaji Govindaswami, VMC’s Chief of Newborn Medicine and Director of the NICU

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