



IMPACTReport



Greetings Supporters,



Uncertainty or reliability? Keeping up with the almost daily back-and-forth in Washington, especially about the future of health care, you might be feeling confused,

uncertain, anxious or worried. I understand. Let's help each other.

First, remembering that Tip O'Neill said, "all politics is local," and that Santa Clara Valley Medical Center has been here since 1851, let me say with confidence that SCVMC isn't going anywhere. Our amazing public medical center has weathered all sorts of political storms, and its leadership is taking the long view – as it has for generations. SCVMC has always been the model of reliability: We're here when you need us. Count on it.

But weathering a storm is never easy. This is where you can help. We can't know precisely what the future holds, but we can prepare. Your generous gifts have kept the VMC Foundation growing for decades, and in turn we've helped ensure that SCVMC always has what it needs.

Thank you for being a partner in stability, reliability and dedication as Silicon Valley's most vital medical center meets its mission, every day.

Chris Wilder, CEO

New Laser Gives Patients a Fresh Start

Local governments partner with VMC Foundation donors to make this exciting advancement in care possible

Years of trauma and neglect were destabilizing to Rebecca Esparza's young life. She was just 15 years old when she got her first tattoo, followed by several more. Some poor choices resulted in a brief stay at juvenile hall.

A supportive case manager was able to help Rebecca map out a more hopeful future, which included thinking about how her tattoos might affect her job prospects. Rebecca's case manager helped her enroll in the City of San Jose's Clean Slate Tattoo Removal Program.

Clean Slate was created in 1994 to allow former gang members to "wipe the slate clean" and remove the tattoos that visibly linked them with gangs and crime. The program has grown to serve victims of human trafficking who are often branded with tattoos as a sign of ownership.

Rebecca will graduate from Cal State East Bay next spring with a communications degree. She is also a part-time recreation leader with the City of San Jose, working with the Clean Slate Program to help other young people seeking new beginnings.

"I appreciate being given the opportunity to remove my tattoos for free, but most of all I appreciate the supportive staff at VMC and Clean Slate. They have made a huge difference in my life," shared Rebecca.

Because of generous funding from the County of Santa Clara, the City of San Jose, and donors to the VMC Foundation, newer, state-of-the-art

tattoo removal laser equipment is ready at SCVMC to help others make fresh starts. The upgraded equipment requires fewer treatments per patient, decreases treatment time and is less invasive.



VMC's new PicoWay laser removing a tattoo.



Heroes Run Proceeds Bring Children's Play Cubes to VMC Clinics

The VMC Foundation has long supported efforts to make the patient experience a better and more comfortable one, especially for kids. In June, with proceeds from the annual Heroes Run, the VMC Foundation supported a request by the Patient Family Advisory Team to purchase play cubes for six SCVMC clinic waiting rooms. The play cubes include multiple features and games to occupy kids during their visit, providing entertainment and sensory development through play.



Employee Donors Lead by Example

Rachelle Huemoeller is a Nurse Practitioner in VMC's Pulmonary Clinic. She is a long-time donor to the VMC Foundation's Give a Booster Shot employee giving program and recently reached the \$5,000 donation milestone. But she's not stopping there! Rachelle renewed her support and will continue giving through regular paycheck deductions. We were also thrilled to welcome Amy Labra, Assistant Nurse Manager for the Medical Specialty Clinics, as a new employee donor this year – she's already increased her donation level and has recruited several coworkers to become donors too!



Amy (left) and Rachelle (right) showing their love for VMC!

VMC's Chief Nursing Officer Jill Sproul Shares Her Passion

Earlier this year I proudly became VMC's Chief Nursing Officer. In my new role, I have the honor of leading 2,000 of the most dedicated, hardest working nurses in all of healthcare. With a 28-year career in nursing, and nearly all of that time at VMC, I'm often asked why I love this work and why I'm so committed to VMC. The answer is always the same – it's the incredible teams I've had the fortune to be a part of.

Every single member of our nursing staff is 100% committed to our patients. And that's what makes VMC so special... our mission is to provide care for all, regardless of ability to pay. The patients always come first – it's why we get up every day and give our very best. It is powerful and inspiring!

I'm extremely proud of my time at VMC and the advancements we've accomplished in the Burn Center where I served as the nurse manager. Now I'm excited to bring my passion and energy to all of VMC as CNO. I've seen firsthand how individual donations can make an enormous difference in the lives of our patients, from new equipment to improved treatments to support once they return home.

Thank you, donors – your partnership is part of what enables VMC to offer truly exceptional care to all who come through our doors!



VMC's CNO Jill Sproul received a Nurse Philanthropy Award from the VMC Foundation in 2017 (pictured with VMC Foundation board chair Ralph Dickman)

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