



IMPACTReport



VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER
foundation

Helping Silicon Valley Care

Greetings from the CEO



Just over 140 years ago, the County of Santa Clara opened its first hospital. It remained a single hospital system – enduring earthquakes, the advent of modern medicine and the creation of Silicon Valley

– until March of this year. That’s when Santa Clara Valley Medical Center Hospital & Clinics (SCVMC) began operating O’Connor Hospital in San Jose, St. Louise Regional Hospital in Gilroy, and DePaul Health Center in Morgan Hill.

Why did the County take this historically unprecedented action? Because it’s the County’s job to protect the health of this community and losing these vital institutions to bankruptcy was too great a risk. The work of all SCVMC staff to keep these facilities operating has been extraordinary. They deserve our thanks and praise. But none of this work is easy. O’Connor, St. Louise and DePaul are joining the County of Santa Clara Health System at a time when big projects at SCVMC are already underway, and the VMC Foundation is being asked to help like never before. With your support, we can meet vital needs and strengthen SCVMC’s ability to serve everyone, regardless of where you live or how much you earn.

There’s never been a more important time to stand with us, and again, I’m so thankful that you are.

Yours in service,

Chris Wilder, CEO



New Tools for Therapeutic Play

Therapeutic play is a big part of the care model at SCVMC to help pediatric patients cope with the life-altering experience of an illness or trauma. Working with the VMC Foundation, SCVMC Child Life Specialist, Cristina Chandri is adding new tools to better incorporate fun and play into the daily lives of pediatric patients, like the Medikin Doll Teaching Aid, purchased with funds raised by the VMC Foundation.

This doll is used as a basic building block for teaching children about many illnesses and medical treatments. Hospital staff use the doll to show children exactly what to expect before undergoing a procedure. The doll comes with a variety of adapters and additions demonstrating conditions such as asthma, diabetes, burns, organ transplants and more.

Cristina says these dolls have made a world of difference for young patients by calming their fears before having a medical procedure or receiving a new diagnosis. The VMC Foundation is proud to support therapeutic play within the SCVMC Pediatric Unit.

The Art of Healing

The VMC Foundation is proud to partner with local arts and culture organizations to include unique pieces of art throughout the new Susan B. Wilson Woman and Children’s Center. In March, the first unveiling was of a piece by artist Susan Else. The quilted textile sculpture, called “We Live Here,” depicts a city block, telling intimate stories from our community that invite the viewer to gaze and imagine. Now displayed on the 3th floor, it is the first of dozens of pieces that will infuse the building with beauty and delight.



Learn more about the SCVMC Women & Children’s Center: imaginevmc.org

Physicians & Philanthropy

The VMC Foundation’s annual Physicians & Philanthropy Happy Hour was held Thursday, April 11th at the Wine Affairs in San Jose. We were thrilled to honor three SCVMC physicians, **Drs. Nam Cho, Priya Jegatheesan and Christina Sheridan** for their leadership in philanthropy and support of the VMC Foundation. Attendees enjoyed an evening of delicious appetizers and live music courtesy of SCVMC pediatrician Dr. Brendan Duterte!



Musicians on Call

We’ve all heard that music is good for the soul, and that’s just what we were thinking when we decided to partner with Musicians on Call, a nationwide program that brings more music to hospital rooms.



Musicians on Call coordinates with local and touring musicians to deliver the healing power of music to patients, family, and hospital staff. The VMC Foundation struck a partnership with this program earlier this year and Chris Janson was a classy first act. Janson – a successful country musician – called his visit to SCVMC a “blessed afternoon.”



SCVMC patients will receive visits about twice a month for the next three years, with a mix of nationally touring acts and local performers. Impactful programs like this wouldn’t be possible without the generosity of donors like you. Thank you for believing in our mission and supporting the efforts of SCVMC to provide quality, compassionate care to all.

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