



# IMPACTReport



VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER  
foundation

Helping Silicon Valley Care

## Greetings from the CEO



The future is here! Now is the time for a new chapter, for growth, and for big changes. Ready?

I'm referring, of course, to the County of Santa Clara's purchase of O'Connor Hospital and St. Louise Regional Hospital earlier

this year. It was a very big deal for the County to make this move, but since no one else stepped up to bid on the two hospitals (that were in bankruptcy, keep in mind), there were only two options: the County of Santa Clara Health System makes the acquisition or we all watch the doors close on O'Connor and St. Louise.

Can you imagine what could have happened if, on that terrible afternoon late July at the Gilroy Garlic Festival, the only hospital in South County hadn't been there?

Though heroism was on full display that tragic day, and many lives were saved, the loss is with us all and will be for a long, long time. We are grateful to the donors, to those who helped, and especially those whose medical expertise stood at the ready – and stands ready for us every day.

Three hospitals strong. Gilroy strong. And as our foundation grows, your gifts make us stronger. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.

Yours in service,

Chris Wilder, CEO



Alicia Anderson, Sr. Healthcare Program Manager, Jazmin Buntic, LMFT, and Nancy Mager, LMFT – Behavioral Health Whole Person Care Team

## People First

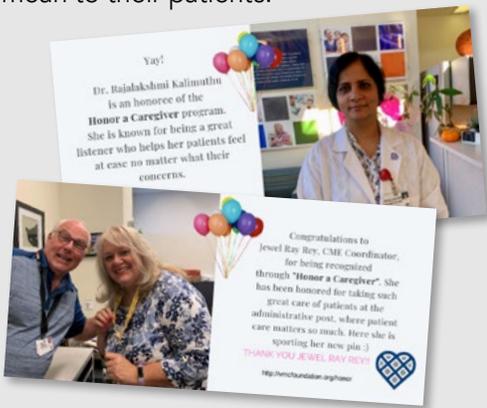
When SCVMC began a pilot program called **Whole Person Care** in 2018, the main goal was to reduce emergency room visits and shorten hospital stays among high risk patients. But really, the most important goal was to give patients hope, hope that they could regain control of their health and ultimately their lives.

The key method would be to put people-first. By focusing on the surrounding needs of these patients, care providers across service areas work together – a therapist may work with a medical doctor, who talks with a social services advocate, who might link to a food pantry. Whatever the connections need to be, they are determined by a focus on the unique circumstances of the patient.

With donors by our side, the VMC Foundation supports Whole Person Care by providing basic needs that make a world of difference. For one homeless patient living in an unsafe RV, donors helped us provide a tarp that could shelter her from rain and wind. This helps foster a sense of trust that allows her to work with her care team and focus on her health.

## Honor a Caregiver

Sometimes, the most important parts of healing are the caring providers who show up by our side. The VMC Foundation launched "Honor a Caregiver," a program designed to acknowledge the talented, untiring, and caring work of SCVMC staff. When a donor makes a gift in honor of a caregiver at SCVMC, we present that caregiver with a special pin to wear with pride. There is nothing like seeing a care provider understand how much they mean to their patients.



A moment of recognition for trauma and ED staff at the Oktoberfest Gala

## Heroes Among Us!

"Oktoberfest," the 2019 VMC Foundation Annual Gala & Auction was a smashing success this September in Campbell. Nearly 500 attendees enjoyed a Bavarian-themed party, raising \$350,000 in support of Silicon Valley's most essential health system. Normally a festive affair, attendees paused the revelry for an emotional moment to recognize SCVMC trauma and emergency department staff who were on-duty the night of the Gilroy shooting. The Foundation invited these special guests to attend free of charge, and Tina Thibeau-Boyd, Nurse Manager for the SCVMC Emergency Department said a few moving words about the valor and professionalism her colleagues displayed on that tragic evening.

## Art for All

With great support from **NorCal SCI** and **Global Wealth Partners**, we were introduced to a talented artist, **Mio Dzakula**. Mio was overwhelmed by Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, staff, and patients, and decided to donate 22 pieces of artwork for the Sobrato Building.

His artwork features local celebrity athletes, an underwater oasis, and a glimpse into our solar system. Dr. James Crew, Chair of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation shared, "It has added a vibrancy that is traditionally lacking in the hospital setting. Patients and families have commented on how many of the pieces provide a distraction when times are tough, but also a reminder about life outside the hospital."



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