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**Dignity California Hospital Medical Center Raises \$675,000 at Gala to Support Expansion and Modernization of Downtown Los Angeles Campus**

*Hospital to Break Ground in January on \$215 Million Project Centered Around New Patient Care Tower Designed to Add Capacity and Enhance Efficiencies*

(LOS ANGELES – Nov. 28, 2018) — With more than 700 leaders of the Los Angeles downtown business and healthcare communities in attendance, California Hospital Medical Center (CHMC) raised more than \$675,000 at its annual La Grande Affaire gala earlier this month. The funds will support the \$215 million expansion and modernization of the only hospital located in the heart of downtown Los Angeles.

The event also served to recognize the Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Foundation and its President Kathleen McCarthy Kostlan, which committed \$5 million to name the hospital's new neonatal intensive care unit. Thanks to their generosity and that of others, the hospital has reached \$15 million of its \$50 million capital campaign goal to help fund a new four-story patient care tower.

The new patient care tower, its official groundbreaking will take place in January, will house a state-of-the-art emergency and trauma department including a 51 percent increase in the number of beds. CHMC currently operates the busiest private trauma center in Los Angeles, and last year its emergency department saw 85,000 patients in a space equipped to accommodate 55,000 visits. The new tower will also house an enhanced neonatal intensive care unit, labor and delivery, and postpartum services and will bring new technologies, nursing efficiencies and family-bonding opportunities to families. CHMC is a cornerstone of maternity care in Los Angeles and home to 3,500 births a year.

“On behalf of Dignity Health, please accept my heartfelt appreciation for investing in the future of California Hospital Medical Center,” said Dignity Health President and CEO Lloyd Dean before the gathering. “California Hospital has been a cornerstone of our Southern

California ministry and will now serve children in greater Los Angeles for generations to come.”

Also acknowledged at the gala were capital campaign co-chairs Robert Margolis, M.D., and Wayne Ratkovich. Margolis is a longtime member of the CHMC Foundation board of directors, while Ratkovich is the founder and CEO of The Ratkovich Company, a Los Angeles development firm focused on developments that improve the quality of urban life. “These two gentlemen are icons in their own right, and they are lending their time and support to help California Hospital Medical Center succeed,” said Julie Sprengel, Dignity Health’s senior vice president of operations for Southern California. “Thank you for stepping forward to lead this historic campaign that advances healthcare for the city of Los Angeles.”

CHMC has played a major role in the growth, development and health of the downtown Los Angeles area for more than 130 years, delivering care regardless of one’s background or circumstances. In fiscal year 2018 alone, Dignity Health California Hospital Medical Center provided more than \$21 million in patient financial assistance, community health improvement services, health professions education, community grants and other community benefits.

“The reason why California Hospital exists is simple: We are here to care for those who need us,” said Hospital President Margaret R. Peterson, Ph.D., during her remarks at the gala. “Your support translates into lifesaving care for our most vulnerable patients. The unprecedented growth and transformation of downtown Los Angeles has put tremendous demands on our major service lines, and the funds we raise tonight will translate directly into tangible benefits for our patients”

La Grande Affaire was held at the JW Marriott Los Angeles and featured an Italian-inspired meal created by Chef Eric Branger and silent and live auctions.

### **About Dignity Health California Hospital Medical Center**

Founded in 1887, Dignity Health California Hospital Medical Center is a 318-bed, acute care, nonprofit hospital located in downtown Los Angeles. The hospital offers a full complement of services including a Level II trauma center, the Los Angeles Center for Women’s Health, obstetrics and pediatric services, and comprehensive cardiac and surgical services. The hospital shares a legacy of humankindness with Dignity Health, one of the nation’s five largest healthcare systems. Visit [dignityhealth.org/californiahospital](https://dignityhealth.org/californiahospital) for more information.

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