PUBLISHED FOR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS OF CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER

# **Foundation Update**

**OCTOBER 2017 - MAY 2018** 



Ross University School of Medicine students along with Director of Education Amritpal Kamboj, RN, DNP, MSN/FNP-BC, DSD (front left), Trauma Surgeon Olivier Urayeneza, MD (back center), Medical Director of Trauma Services Gudata Hinika, MD (back right), and Simulation Center Manager Anthony Morales, RTT, gather around one of the high-tech mannequins in CHMC's Simulation Laboratory.

## Ross University School of Medicine Empowers Caregivers through Simulation Training



Imagine a medical learning environment that precisely replicates a fully functional hospital room, complete with high-tech mannequin "patients" that are so life-like, they will blink, breathe, and even talk to you.

Thanks to the generous partnership of **Ross University School of Medicine**, California Hospital Medical Center's Department of Education is now home to a new Simulation Center that opened in March 2018 to facilitate hands-on education and training for medical students, nurses, physicians, and first responders including emergency medical technicians, local police, and fire department staff. *Continued on page 4*.

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# A Message from Our Chair



The mission of Dignity Health California Hospital Medical Center (CHMC) is rooted in kindness.

It's easy to think of a hospital as just a place where people go when they are ill or injured, or to deliver their baby. But CHMC is so much more than that—we are actively working to identify the best ways to keep people well and extending our mission far beyond our walls. One way we accomplish this is by serving as a training site for the next generation of caregivers.

In a given year, California Hospital will welcome more than 1,200 medical residents, fellows, and students for clinical rotations across our campus. Additionally, about 700 nursing students and technicians count on CHMC for hands-on training in all areas of nursing as well as radiology, pharmacy, rehabilitation, surgery, and more. The hospital also has a program partnership with COPE Health Solutions that provides upwards of 500 college undergraduates and recent graduates who are thinking about a career in medicine, the chance to work alongside our nurses and physicians each year.

Being a teaching hospital is as valuable to the organization as it is to the student. Our staff must continually be learning themselves to keep up with the latest treatments, trends, and technology so they can pass this knowledge along to their eager students. In return, the students challenge their teachers by asking questions that can lead to deeper understanding and sometimes even new ways of looking at our protocols and how to improve them. The studentteacher dynamic that is active throughout the hospital helps attract a high caliber of staff and physicians and fosters an environment of continuous quality improvement that ultimately benefits our patients.

As a friend of California Hospital, your support extends well beyond the day, month, or even year that you make your gift. You help make our hospital the best it can be, and the lessons our students absorb about caring for diverse populations with humankindness will remain with them forever. As they enter their professional careers, they will remember not only the hands-on experience they received at CHMC, but also the true meaning of Dignity Health's mission, which breathes life into everything we do.

Kris H. Davis, Chair California Hospital Medical Center Foundation Board of Directors

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The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual La Grande Affaire Friday November 2, 2018



California Hospital Annual Giving Society President's Reception Thursday January 24, 2019



Circle of Hope Champions for Children Luncheon Friday February 22, 2019



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The Center was carefully designed to help caregivers refine their professional skills, leading to increased patient safety and reduced waste through more efficient practice. Staff practice CPR, intubation, neonatal resuscitation, normal and abnormal deliveries, IVs, phlebotomy, ultrasound imaging,



"The hands-on practice without [being] scared really helps. It's a great next step in between the classroom and the patient room."

— Rena Muni, MD

and other critical competencies on mannequins—some with simulated blood flow representing patients of all ages.

One of the most important aspects of the Sim Center is that it teaches communication, teamwork, and problem-solving. "The handson practice without having to be scared really helps," said **Rena Muni, MD, the Center's former simulation educator.** "It's a great next step in between the classroom and the patient room."

After running through a scenario, each team will review a video of their exercise, debrief as a group, and then practice again and again until each participant feels comfortable with their skills and roles. "The lab allows individuals to reflect on their actions, critique themselves, and learn from their mistakes without judgment or the risk of harming a patient," explained **Center manager Anthony Morales, RRT.** Simulation training empowers caregivers by developing their confidence level in knowing not only how to respond to a patient's needs, but also when it's appropriate to call for help.

"The unique thing about our Sim Center is that we can tailor it to the specific health needs found in our community," said Dr. Muni. Scenarios and patient conditions that our caregivers face on a daily basis can be recreated in the lab so that best practices can be developed and shared.

"We are deeply grateful to Ross University School of Medicine for bringing this leading-edge technology to our hospital," said hospital president Margaret R. Peterson, PhD. "We take seriously our responsibility to help the caregivers of today and tomorrow be the best they can possibly be, and this Sim Center is a resource that will have an enduring and farreaching impact throughout our community."

### **VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT**

# Canine Kindness Supports *humankindness* at CHMC

Pet therapy is among the many programs offered through California Hospital's Volunteer Services department. Known as Canine Kindness throughout Dignity Health, these volunteer teams enhance the hospital environment for patients, visitors, and staff members. **"Man's best friend" instantly converts what could be an intimidating or stressful place into a warm and comforting space.** 

Former hospital chaplain Denise LaChance shared a story she heard from a patient who enjoyed such a visit. "The patient had received some bad news medically and was feeling alone and frightened. She wasn't sure what to make of the offer of *a little visitor*, until she saw the dog—and she loves dogs. The patient reported that 'the dog knew exactly what to do and even gave me a hug.'" Chaplain Denise remarked, "She had experienced the visit as a gift given at exactly the time she needed it."

During a therapy session, physical therapists were walking with a patient, Maria, when they saw the Canine Kindness team approach. The therapists invited the team to walk along with them to help encourage Maria to keep going. Maria, brightened by the sight of the dog, commented that she "missed her dogs and this made her feel at home." Patients who welcome these special visitors are transported back home as they share memories and photos of their own pets.

Watching co-workers melt when they see a four-legged visitor coming toward them is another example of the many rewards these visits bring. There is a palpable change in the energy of the department that is enjoying a visit. Smiles are broad and cell





phones emerge so staff members can take a selfie with their new furry friend. A 10-minute visit is the equivalent of hitting a reset button, as important work is resumed with a lighthearted, refreshed attitude. **One of our regular dogs, Timmy, is now always welcomed to the pediatric unit with a song created especially for him by the nursing staff.** 

The wonder of it all is that whether it is a brief chance encounter in the hallway or a longer interaction in a patient room, Canine Kindness has the power to create a positive memory that leaves a lasting impression and supports the healing process.



CHMC Foundation Board, Community Board, and Event Planning Committee Members: (L to R back row) Benny Hayoun, Event Chair Jeffrey R. Germain, and Vincent DiCarlo; (L to R front row) Kelly Bruno, Sarah E. Pacini, Robert Buente, Javier Cano, Eileen Conn, Wendy On, Faye Lee, MD, FACC, Robert J. (RJ) Noonan, Jeanne E. Raya, Richard O. Oxford, and Bryan Lewitt.

### Most Successful La Grande Affaire to Date

California Hospital Medical Center Foundation would like to thank our generous sponsors and supporters for making our **27th Annual La Grande Affaire** on November 17 the most successful gala to date, with **more than \$650,000 raised!** 

Event proceeds will support the hospital's clinical laboratory and surgical department with the purchase of state-of-the-art equipment.





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### GRATEFUL PATIENT SPOTLIGHT



"I was in good hands at California Hospital. They had all of the technology to properly diagnose me. They were extremely professional and I felt like I was getting the best care possible."

-Brad Gessner, Senior Vice President, Convention Center AEG Facilities

Brad Gessner has a full schedule. but he always takes the time to let people know how precious health can be, and how grateful he is for the care he received at California Hospital Medical Center (CHMC) nearly two years ago.

As Senior Vice President of Convention Centers for AEG Facilities, Brad oversees management services and delivery of best practices for convention center operations, guest services, sales and marketing, and has management oversight of the Los Angeles, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico Convention Centers. He also serves as General Manager of the Los Angeles Convention Center.

For years, he had issues with high blood pressure but on his birthday in the fall of 2016, his vision began

to blur and he was light-headed. That's when he realized he needed to be taken to an emergency room-and fast. He left his office at the LA Convention Center and an onsite Fire Marshal brought him to nearby California Hospital.

The team at CHMC's J. Thomas McCarthy Center for Emergency Services quickly determined that Brad's condition was serious. Physicians immediately ordered tests including an MRI and CAT scan to ensure that there wasn't any damage to his brain, and he was given a diagnosis of Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA). Some might call TIA a "mini-stroke" because it's a temporary blockage of blood flow to the brain, but according to the American Stroke Association, it's a major warning that a full-blown stroke could have been ahead.

Brad was hospitalized overnight and released after he had stabilized. "The neurologist who cared for me was impressive and truly an expert in his area. Everyone was so professional and the nurses consistently checked on me. I didn't feel lost in the shuffle because the staff was very attentive."

He finds it reassuring to know that excellent medical care is available 24/7 just steps away from the Convention Center to care for staff and more than 2.5 million annual visitors. He now makes it a point to recommend California Hospital Medical Center to others who may not realize this life-saving resource is right in their neighborhood.



The luncheon was a huge success thanks to the efforts of Hope Street Fund Development Committee members: (L to R top) Shianne Hollander, Susan Berk, Kim Krug, Marike Smith, Ramona Quinn, Penny Orloff, Lilith Borko, Sandy Warde White, Sarah Vogel; (L to R front) Committee Chair Richard O. Oxford, Event Co-chair Eloise Appel, Event Co-chair Linda Ellman, Jeanne Raya; (Not shown: Kelly Jones, MD, Hannah Kirschner, Suzan Vida Konell, Esq., Michelle Lainez, David Marquez, John Opgenorth, Sharon Shelton, Raúl Vargas, Fernando Villa.)

### Circle of Hope Champions for Children Luncheon Raises Record Support

The theme "Celebrating Strength of Character" brought together over 300 generous supporters for the **4th Annual Circle of Hope Champions for Children Luncheon benefiting Hope Street Margolis Family Center.** Held at the Jonathan Club on February 1, **the event raised over \$385,000** for education and wellness programs supporting over 5,000 low-income children and families living in downtown Los Angeles and surrounding communities.

Matthew Katz, CEO and Founder of Verifi, Inc., and UCLA BruinCorps leadership, Dr. Debra Pounds, Director, and Dr. Justyn Patterson, Assistant Director, were this year's

#### Champions for Children honorees.

Mr. Katz was recognized for his 10+ years supporting Hope Street's youth and family activities

including funding the meals for students enrolled in Hope Street's afterschool and summer programs. The UCLA BruinCorps was recognized for nearly

20 years of service to Hope Street provided by its members, many of whom are first generation college students themselves, who serve as tutors and mentors to students inspiring them to see that college is attainable. Event Co-chairs, Eloise Appel and Linda Ellman, produced an enlightening program reflective of Hope Street's impact. A video



created by Hope Street students depicted their challenges and also mirrored the positive effect Hope Street has on their lives. Hope

Street's Founding Director, Vickie Kropenske, shared the story of Amelia whose oldest son, José, is soon to graduate from UCLA and plans to be an attorney.

Vickie shared the background of Amelia's life—although she and

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Award for his support of Hope Street Margolis Family Center.





Guests of Donna Ellman Garber (seated second from left) enjoy the program at the Circle of Hope Champions for Children Luncheon.

her husband work long hours as garment factory workers, their income is still below the poverty level. Vickie shared a recent conversation she had with Amelia who told her, "I am thankful to Hope Street. All of my children will go to college. All of my children will be educated—and I—I will be the last one who will sew."

Hope Street wishes to give special thanks to our sponsors, donors, and all who attended and supported the luncheon as well as those individuals and companies who provided exceptional auction and raffle items contributing to the overall phenomenal success of the event.



Long-time generous Hope Street supporters Sharon and Hal Lampert



# **Record-breaking Year** for Heart of the City 5K

Our **6th Annual Heart of the City 5K** on March 24 raised **more than \$255,000**, making it the most successful race yet. California Hospital Medical Center Foundation extends our warmest appreciation to our generous runners/ walkers, fundraisers, and sponsors for making this achievement possible.

100% of the event proceeds will help modernize our campus, including the construction of a new four-story patient care tower.

Whether you were a walker, runner, or just stopping by for the food and fun, thank you for dedicating your Saturday morning to supporting California Hospital Medical Center!



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Members of the Event Executive Committee and Planning Committee on race day: (L to R back row) Barry Altshuler, Event Co-chair Cary D. Jones, Amit Parekh, and Andrew Howard; (L to R middle row) Benjamin McAlister, Kim Ray, and Kim Shultz; (L to R front row) Event Co-chair Marc Futernick, MD and Sandra Ramos.



On your mark, get set, go! Nearly 3,000 participants supported California Hospital on race day!



Participants were congratulated by members of the 501st Legion at the finish line.



Members of the Golf Event Planning Committee with special guests: (L to R back row) Kyle L. Seeman, Patrick Posey, Dan Madden, Chris Brown, Founding Event Chair Robert J. Margolis, MD, Event Co-chair Jeffrey D. Cunningham, Special Guest Rick Neuheisel, Rodney Cheng, MD, CHMC Foundation President Nathan R. Nusbaum; (L to R bottom row) Craig L. Winterman, Paul J. Smith, CHMC Hospital President Margaret R. Peterson, PhD, Faye Lee, MD, FACC, Robert J. (RJ) Noonan, and Rashad Morton.

### California Hospital Golf Classic Has a **Milestone Year**

The **12th Annual California Hospital Golf Classic** on May 23 at Industry Hills Golf Club at Pacific Palms Resort drew 200 golfers and **raised more than \$259,000** to support California Hospital Medical Center.

California Hospital Medical Center Foundation would like to thank our participants, sponsors, and our volunteer event committee led by Founding Chair, Robert J. Margolis, MD, and event co-chairs Jeffrey D. Cunningham and Robert K. Rothbart, MD, for making this year's tournament our most successful to date!





Goldman Sachs wins 1st Place Net Team on the Eisenhower Course



Managed Care Support Systems and Hooper Healthcare Consulting wins 1st Place Net Team on the Babe Course.





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Los Angeles Cancer Network wins Top Grossing Team on the Babe Course.

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### DONOR SPOTLIGHT

### **Simple Comforts**

Being in the hospital, whether for outpatient surgery or an extended stay, can be especially frightening and stressful for a child. A cuddly stuffed animal or coloring book and crayons can make a world of difference, bringing reassurance and a welcome distraction from the unfamiliar sights, sounds, and smells of the hospital environment.

We are most grateful to the many kindhearted groups and individuals who donate new toys and funds to ensure that our Pediatrics and Surgery Departments can provide this simple comfort to our youngest patients. For more information on helping us meet this year-round need—for example, by setting up a toy drive through your workplace, church, or service organization please contact the CHMC Foundation at 213.742.5747.



Melodie Cochran, co-owner of the Chayil Maison salon in Downtown Los Angeles, and her staff donated toys to California Hospital last December



Tony McKlem from Farmers Insurance in Downtown Los Angeles, makes giving back to his community a priority and hosted a toy drive in his office.

## Planned Giving A GIFT THAT GIVES BACK

Is it possible to make a gift that also contributes to your own financial security? With a charitable gift annuity, the answer is yes!

#### THE BENEFITS OF GIVING

A charitable gift annuity (CGA) provides fixed payments to you (and a loved one, if you so choose) for life in exchange for a gift to Dignity Health California Hospital Medical Center (CHMC). It's easy to set up, and with the increase in CGA rates that took effect on July 1, 2018, there's never been a better time to consider supporting CHMC in this way.





#### HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

- You make an irrevocable transfer of cash, securities, or other assets to Dignity Health California Hospital Medical Center.
- 2. In exchange, CHMC pays you a fixed amount annually for your lifetime—guaranteed.
- 3. At the end of the annuity, the remaining principal is used to further the hospital's mission.

Additional benefits can include savings on income taxes and capital gains taxes. Furthermore, each annual payment will be partially income tax-free throughout your estimated life expectancy.

**The older you are, the higher your rate.** For example, the payment for a single 75-year-old donor can be as high as 6.2%. If you're younger than 60 years old, you may want to consider a deferred CGA, wherein payments will start at a later date, such as when you retire—providing you with the security of a lifetime guaranteed income stream.

#### SEE WHAT A CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY MIGHT MEAN FOR YOU

For more information, including a confidential, no-obligation illustration of how a CGA might fit into your financial and charitable planning, please call Susan Shum in the Foundation office at 213.742.5662.



### FUNDER SPOTLIGHT "Bringing joy to another



Kelsey Ikemoto, Kimberly Espinoza, and Virginia Villagomez, JFS service navigators, provide crucial community linkages to patients with mental health concerns.

### Transition to Wellness Project Funded by UniHealth Foundation Helps Address Patients' Mental Health Needs

It's estimated that 43.6 million Americans over age 18 experience some form of mental illness. The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) reports that one of every eight emergency department (ED) visits in the U.S. is related to mental disorders and/or substance abuse, translating to nearly 12 million ED visits annually. Hospitals such as California Hospital Medical Center (CHMC) are increasingly treating patients with psychiatric diagnoses who visit the ED but do not have a medical condition that warrants hospital admission. These visits—which often occur when patients are not adequately connected to community resources that could help manage their mental health issues—can create undue strain on hospital resources and potentially delay appropriate treatment for these individuals.

CHMC's Community Health Needs Assessment process has consistently identified mental health services as a prioritized need in our service area. To address this serious public health issue, CHMC has partnered with Jewish Family Service Los Angeles (JFS) to develop the Transition to Wellness Project. Generously funded by a three-year grant from UniHealth Foundation, the project provides comprehensive post-discharge navigation services to patients with mental illness treated in the emergency department and inpatient hospital units. Three Richard arrived at the emergency department with suicidal ideation. He was assessed by CHMC's ED social worker and referred to the JFS service navigator. Previously diagnosed with schizophrenia, depression, and anxiety, Richard had a history of multiple hospital visits and was homeless at the time. He was voluntarily transferred to a psychiatric hospital, and the service navigator worked closely with their staff to ensure that Richard had a comprehensive discharge plan when he was released three days later. She met with Richard shortly after his discharge and connected him to temporary housing while she explored additional community resources. In addition,

she accompanied Richard to the Department of Public Services to obtain General Relief benefits, and to the Department of Mental Health to access further care. Richard was able to secure housing, and his mental health is now stable thanks to ongoing treatment.



master's level social workers employed by JFS and stationed at CHMC, work closely with hospital social workers and case managers to connect patients with community resources and treatment interventions. Through this coordinated approach, the project aims to ensure that patients are "anchored" and well-connected to mental health and substance abuse counseling, medication support, social services, and primary health care. Utilizing the "whatever it takes" model, the navigators assess and address patients' needs, accompany them to appointments, conduct home visits when appropriate, and provide ongoing coordination services for up to 90 days after hospital discharge.

Supported by a grant from UniHealth Foundation, a non-profit philanthropic organization whose mission is to support and facilitate activities that significantly improve the health and well-being of individuals and communities within its service area.

### PHYSICIAN SPOTLIGHT



"Through their generosity, the CHMC Foundation's donors have provided the means to offer cuttingedge treatments to an at-risk population."

> — Marc J. Girsky, MD, Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology

### Cardiac Cath Lab Upgrade Provided by **Donor Support**



(L to R) Marc J. Girsky, MD, Gina Cordero, Lead R.T. RCIS, and Miguel Galicia, CVT, stand next to the newly purchased electrophysiological equipment.

**Electrophysiology, the study of electrical activity in the heart,** is a robust specialty within our Cardiac Service Line at California Hospital.

This spring, through funds raised by the Annual Giving Society, **the CHMC Foundation was able to fund the purchase of new electrophysiological equipment.** By upgrading to the newest version, cardiac physicians such as Dr. Girsky are now able to use this state-of-the art technology on patients with heart rhythm disturbances such as atrial fibrillation.



(L to R) CHMC Foundation Board Chair Kris H. Davis, Honorees Pat Britt, RJ Noonan, Sarita and Jose Spiwak, MD, and CHMC Hospital President Margaret R. Peterson, PhD.

### Annual Giving Society 2017 Spirit of Philanthropy Awards

California Hospital Medical Center Foundation's third annual President's Reception in November celebrated the generous members of our Annual Giving Society (AGS). Hosted by CHMC President Margaret R. Peterson, PhD, the event drew more than 130 AGS donors and friends to the observation deck of Los Angeles City Hall. The evening opened with remarks from City Attorney Mike Feuer and Trauma Medical Director

**Gudata Hinika, MD,** followed by the surprise presentation of the 2017 Spirit of Philanthropy Awards to four individuals who exemplify humankindness and giving to help others.

### The awards were presented to Sarita and Jose Spiwak, MD,

long-time caregivers and CHMC supporters; **Pat Britt**, **RN**, in honor of her more than 40-year tenure at CHMC; and **Robert J. (RJ) Noonan**, Board Member and generous friend of the CHMC Foundation.

The Foundation wishes to thank all of the donors who contributed in 2017 and continue to support the life-giving work being done at CHMC.

#### If you have questions or would like to join the Annual Giving Society, please contact Susan Shum, Sr. Director of Philanthropy, at 213.742.5662 or susan.shum@ dignityhealth.org.

### HOSPITAL AWARDS



Circle of Excellence

Leading by Example



**Health Care** 

Dignity Health

Our Hospital President, Margaret R. Peterson, PhD, was honored by the

Los Angeles Business Journal with the prestigious "Leader in Health Care" award at the Annual Health Care Leadership Forum & Awards Ceremony in May. The award highlights the extraordinary accomplishments of individuals and organizations that have made significant strides in providing high-quality health care. Congratulations to Dr. Peterson on this much-deserved honor and for the outstanding leadership that she demonstrates each day.



### **Foundation Update**

Published for Friends and Supporters of California Hospital Medical Center

#### California Hospital Medical Center Foundation. A Dignity Health Member

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#### California Hospital Medical Center Foundation: What We Do

Since 1887, California Hospital Medical Center (CHMC) has provided quality affordable health care. Whether you live, work, or visit downtown Los Angeles, CHMC is your hospital. CHMC Foundation supports the hospital's mission by raising funds for capital improvements, new technology, staff education, and community services.

Please consider including California Hospital Medical Center Foundation in your estate planning.

If you prefer not to receive any further communications from us, please call 213.742.5867 or email chmcfoundation@dignityhealth.org and leave a message identifying yourself and stating that you do not wish to receive fundraising communications.

If you have changed your address, please call CHMC Foundation at 213.742.5703.

#### Dignity Health — Mission, Vision and Values

#### **OUR MISSION**

We are committed to furthering the healing ministry of Jesus. We dedicate our resources to:

- Delivering compassionate, high-quality, affordable health services;
- Serving and advocating for our sisters and brothers who are poor and disenfranchised;
- Partnering with others in the community to improve the quality of life.

#### **OUR VALUES**

Dignity Health is committed to providing high-quality, affordable health care to the communities we serve. Above all else we value:

**Dignity** — Respecting the inherent value and worth of each person.

**Collaboration** — Working together with people who support common values and vision to achieve shared goals.

**Justice** — Advocating for social change and acting in ways that promote respect for all persons and demonstrate compassion for our sisters and brothers who are powerless.

**Stewardship** — Cultivating the resources entrusted to us to promote healing and wholeness.

**Excellence** — Exceeding expectations through teamwork and innovation.

