

A publication of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center Foundation

JULY 2012

### POMONA VALLEY HOSPITAL

MEDICAL CENTER Foundation



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Save the date

"Celebrating with Style" Fashion Show and Luncheon Benefiting The Robert and Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center Saturday, October 6, 2012 DoubleTree Hotel, Ontario 10:30 am – 2:00 pm

Ladies Plastics Golf Organization 13th Annual Golf Tournament Benefits The Robert and Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center's Breast Health Fund Wednesday, November 7, 2012 Coyote Hills Golf Course

For more information contact PVHMC Foundation, 909.865.9139

AUXILIARY Celebrates

75 YEARS OF EXCEPTIONAL SUPPORT



From left to right, Michael Nelson, CFO, Kurt Weinmeister, COO, Marcia Paetau, Auxiliary President.

n 1937, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) administrators, prominent physicians, and community leaders approached their wives with an appeal that would have far-reaching benefits for the Hospital and the community: "We need an Auxiliary." Twenty four women responded, creating a non-profit organization dedicated to volunteer service, fund raising and community assistance.

This fall the PVHMC Auxiliary – almost 500 strong – celebrates its 75th year of providing crucial support to the Hospital and its patients.

In April the Auxiliary presented the Hospital with a check for \$100,000, representing funds raised in 2011, primarily proceeds from the Tender Touch Gift Shop and the Holiday Homes Tour. The gift is part of the Auxiliary's pledge to raise \$1 million toward the future construction and renovation of Hospital facilities.



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# THE **best** is yet to come...



tarting my second year as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center Foundation, it's a wonderful time to look back at where Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center has been. Certainly, 2011, was an important one for both the Hospital and for the community.

Not only did we enlist many new donor partners during the past year, but we also received a major bequest totaling \$932,000 (for the Stead Heart & Vascular Center and The Robert and Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center), in December from the estate of longtime friends

Dr. M. Hellen Rodriguez

and benefactors Iris and George Belding. While the recent passing of Iris Belding saddens us, the couple's generous gift will live on at PVHMC in the form of many important services and projects in those two Centers of Excellence.

We also began investigating the establishment of a state-of-the-art health care Simulation Center, where clinicians from throughout the Hospital would be able to simulate virtually any kind of clinical or interpersonal activity. As we advance forward, we're evaluating the level of support that exists among members of the medical staff leadership and are hopeful of someday raising the funds that will help us bring this important project to fruition.

These are two examples that symbolize the essential partnership that continues to develop between the community and the Hospital, including the medical staff and Associates. Each day, we strive to identify members of the community who are willing to stand with us philanthropically and in other ways as we continue to provide the most outstanding clinical programs and services available in our local communities.

Going forward, our goals will continue to revolve around our ability to identify generous partners within the community. During 2012, our hope is to create a greater awareness that Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center has the finest doctors, nurses and Hospital staff available 24 hours a day to meet the healthcare needs of this community, and that only through continued philanthropic support can the Hospital grow.

Each day, I see for myself the fruits of that support: the Stead Heart and Vascular Center, built in 1986 and lovingly supported by the Steads; The Robert and Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center, established in 1993 with generous support from the Lewis family; along with the many gifts we receive for the Women's Center and Regional Kidney Stone Center.

I'm more hopeful than ever that the generosity of our community will be evident as similar lifesaving projects are initiated and completed. After all, this Hospital was established by—and still belongs to—the citizens of Pomona and surrounding communities, and each and every member of this growing populace will someday require the services of PVHMC. Thank you for faithfully supporting Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center for so many years, and thank you in advance for your continued support during the years that lie ahead. Without friends like you, the Foundation's mission of positively impacting the lives of patients "through every philanthropic gift we receive" would be much more challenging.

#### Continued from page 1 -Auxiliary Celebrates 75 Years of Exceptional Support



Our caring volunteers who are so generous with their time.

"It was very, very important that we support the Hospital with this pledge," said John Mata, president of the Auxiliary in 2008, when the pledge was made. "It's a challenge but we felt it was necessary to make this commitment because there's a need. The money will be used to improve our facilities, reach out to our community, and advance medical care."

Each year the Auxiliary donates approximately \$100,000 toward meeting the pledge, in addition to contributing \$30,000 - \$40,000 throughout the year to aid other programs and departments in the Hospital through the Auxiliary's Sick Baby and Hospital Assistance Fund. Started in 1941, the fund continues to be the Auxiliary's way of fulfilling requests made by Hospital departments throughout the year. Donations, fund-raising activities and the annual Holiday Homes Tour all add to the bottom line. In fact, the Auxiliary is the largest donor to Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center.

These efforts have also included renovation of the pediatric playroom, providing car seats for new babies born at the Hospital when parents can't afford one, purchasing needed equipment for the NICU, providing clothing for emergency room patients and much more. The Auxiliary also gives \$12,000-\$20,000 each year in college scholarships to Hospital student volunteers studying to enter the medical field.

In addition to these vital gifts, an essential part of the Auxiliary's service is volunteering. The Auxiliary is comprised of all the Hospital's adult volunteers. They, together with student volunteers, give approximately 100,000 hours a year of service to the Hospital.

"Our volunteers are proud to belong to a Hospital which has received so many awards for superior quality care and customer satisfaction, and we like to think we help contribute to that." said Marcia Paetau, Auxiliary president. "Each time a volunteer can address the basic needs of a patient or lighten the load for the staff, we free them to provide maximum care for those patients who need it most."



Continued on page 4



"One of the greatest strengths of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center is the role members of the Auxiliary

have played in leadership positions. Every day, in thousands of ways, the Auxiliary, through volunteering in the Hospital, provides a caring touch to every person they come into contact with. Their smiles, conversations and ability to truly connect with our patients and their families and friends are precious gifts that are given freely by Auxiliary members, and are so appreciated. Just as valued is the energy Auxiliary members pour into all of their special fund raising activities and events, from the operation of the Gift Shop to the magical Holiday Homes Tour in December. Everything is well done and so favorably received."

- Richard Yochum, President & CEO

#### Continued from page 3 -Auxiliary Celebrates 75 Years of Exceptional Support

Stacy Mittelstaedt, Director of Volunteer Services and a member of the Auxiliary Board, explains how volunteers fulfill a wide variety of duties throughout the Hospital that are not provided by licensed health professionals or paid employees. "Delivering newspapers, assisting patients with their meal selection cards, driving the Hospital shuttle, staffing the gift shop, providing directions, holding and rocking newborn babies, sitting with sick patients whose family members can't be there, staffing the Hospital's information desks and offering smiles to those who desperately need them are just a few of the ways volunteers contribute."

One of the Hospital's most honored and long-time volunteers is Jane Goodfellow, who was recently elected 2012-2013 Chairman of the PVHMC Board of Directors. She is the first female Board Chairman in the Hospital's 109-year history and the first Board Chairman who is also an active volunteer. Jane has volunteered in the Hospital's surgical recovery room for four hours every other week for the past 29 years.

"I'm very honored to be elected as Chairman of the PVHMC Board of Directors," she said. "I especially want to recognize the many capable women – and men – who volunteer at the Hospital in every capacity. I feel the Hospital is a better place because of them."

Tony Spano calls volunteering "therapy for the heart and soul." Tony, a Hospital Board member and Auxiliary president in 2009-2010, has volunteered at the Hospital for the past 10 years.

"Patients and family members are often scared when they come to the Hospital," he said. "Having the volunteers just listening to their concerns helps make their stay less stressful. The Hospital can take care of the medical needs, and the volunteers help with the emotional needs."

Thank you to our many dedicated volunteers and auxiliary members for the time, effort, compassion and financial support given to Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center and Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center Foundation.





The first maternity tea in 1941, taken at the original entrance to the hospital. 60 mothers attended with their babies.

8th Annual

WINE TASTING EVENT





John & Jeanine Solomor

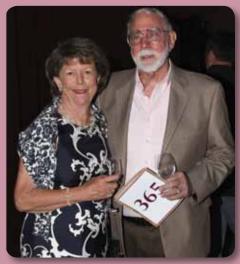
he 8th Annual Wine Tasting Event, hosted by PVHMC Foundation and Liquorama Fine Wine & Spirits, was held on Friday, May 11 at the beautiful new Sheraton Fairplex Hotel & Conference Center. For the second year in a row, Claremont Toyota was the Title Sponsor. Over 400 guests enjoyed sampling a variety of wines paired with exquisite food. A fortune teller and two caricature artists brought entertainment to the event.

Guests had the opportunity to bid on 100 items in the silent auction and other unique items during the live auction. Winners left with tickets to sporting and entertainment events, domestic and international vacations, dinners to top restaurants, and so much more. The evening concluded with the announcement of the winner of our opportunity drawing. Pat Kusunis won a trip for two to Hawaii, including flights and a five-night stay at the elegant Fairmont Orchid Hotel.

A good time was had by all and the event was a tremendous success. Elise Magistro chaired the event for the second year in a row. Her leadership motivated the committee members and over \$81,000 was raised, which will be used to purchase a state-of-the-art NICU Transporter. This year we raised the largest net proceeds since the inception of the event in May 2005. Thank you to all who participated — *your support is appreciated.* Don't miss next year's event on May 10, 2013!



Elise Magistro, Wine Tasting Event Chairman



Hospital Board Chairman, Jane Goodfellow and husband, Bob Weatherton

## New Equipment for our newest patients — MOTHERS MILK IS THE BEST

omona Valley Hospital Medical Center has embarked upon a crusade to make sure that nothing prevents mothers from doing the most important thing they can to give their newborns a strong start: *breastfeed*. This has been made possible from a generous donation from a local family foundation.

In 2009, Hospital leaders decided to pursue Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations-(JCAHO) designation as a Baby-Friendly Hospital in accordance with standards set forth by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization. Using a grant from the statewide child advocacy organization First 5 LA, the effort included 16 hours of training for all obstetric and neonatal staff on how to articulate the benefits of breastfeeding to new moms. It also included forgoing the distribution of free formula to mothers who expressed an interest in breastfeeding exclusively as well as discouraging pacifier use after birth and daily rounding by a lactation expert.

"We're changing the way people are thinking," said Susan Miller, RN, nurse manager of obstetric services. "Many people believe formula is okay, but we want to let (mothers) know that breastfeeding really is the best thing for them and for their babies."

As the Medical Center prepares for its Baby-Friendly evaluation in 2013, clinicians in the NICU also have mounted an effort to make sure that immediate and exclusive breast milk is available for babies who are frequently too sick to breastfeed. Thanks to a \$100,000 grant from the Ludwick Family Foundation, the NICU is equipped with the necessary equipment to enhance the breastfeeding experience for mothers with premature babies.

"Our biggest job is protecting mom's milk supply for when the baby is ready," said Children's Services Director, Michele Atkins-Young, RN, adding that as premature babies are getting stronger they often receive mother's milk through a feeding tube. Two new freezers were funded by the Ludwick Family Foundation to keep breast milk frozen.



Michele Atkins-Young, RN, Children Services Director and Trista Campbell, Ludwick Family Foundation Program Manager

"That first portion of the breast milk is the most precious," Michele said. "It's like gold to the baby. It has all the necessary nutrients to help build the infant's immunity."

The Ludwick grant also enabled the Hospital to refurbish the mother's lactation rooms, purchase new breast pumps designed specifically for use during the baby's recovery in the NICU, and install waterless milk warmers for all 55 NICU bed spaces. Without the milk warmers nurses would have to spend extra time defrosting the milk in a tub of warm water, going back and forth to perform touch tests to make sure the milk did not overheat.

"Now, the milk is defrosted to the perfect temperature within 30 minutes, and it's right at the patient's bedside," Michele said. "We try to remove any barriers for nurses to do the right thing and make it as convenient as possible."



Hospital efforts to promote breastfeeding already have shown glowing results: breast milk usage in the NICU jumped from 44.3 percent in 2009 to 56.8 percent in 2010 and remained stable.

"The Ludwick Family Foundation supports organizations that help families and children," said Trista Campbell, the Foundation's program manager. When the Medical Center submitted the grant to help mother's breastfeed premature babies, "it hit right at the heart."



One of our newly remodeled Lactation Suites



Zoey Perez

#### FAMILY HONORS 1ST BIRTHDAY WITH SPECIAL GIFT TO THE NICU

A child's first birthday is a very special occasion. Zoey Perez's family and friends honored her first year of life with a gift of \$705 to PVHMC Foundation for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

Zoey spent her first month of life in PVHMC's NICU, and her parents, Victoria and Joseph are forever grateful for the excellent care their daughter received, and are enjoying spending time with the active and healthy 1 year old.

PVHMC Foundation thanks the Perez family for requesting that cash gifts be made in honor of Zoey. Their generosity is greatly appreciated and will help other families who have a child in the NICU.

## LUDWICK FAMILY FOUNDATION GRANT ALREADY PROVING INVALUABLE

A generous grant from the Ludwick Family Foundation, which enabled the PVHMC Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) to acquire specially designed medical freezers where mothers may store breast milk that is later used to nourish their sick babies, has proven invaluable to at least one local family.

On March 27, Jack Stratton was born slightly premature to parents Laura and Casey Stratton of Claremont. Doctors diagnosed him with respiratory distress syndrome and admitted him to the NICU, where a ventilator was used to assist his breathing.

Because early breast milk is full of important antibodies that the Stratton's wanted Jack to receive, staff went the extra mile to make sure it happened. A hospital-grade pump, also made available by the Ludwick Family Foundation grant, was provided, instruction was given, and Laura pumped every three hours during Jack's hospitalization. He initially received breast milk through a feeding tube, but after his strength increased he began receiving his mother's milk through bottles provided in the NICU.

"It's been great," Laura said. "Not only does the hospital store my milk, but they labeled and numbered the bottles from the beginning to make sure Jack received the all-important early milk. A lactation expert provided instruction, and the hospital supplies all the bottles and equipment we need. It's really been amazing to have the milk on hand even if I'm not in the room."

With Jack receiving breast milk (through a bottle and by directly breastfeeding), his health improved dramatically. He was moved from the primary NICU on the first floor up to the less acute NICU on the third floor, and his family took him home in mid-April. The Ludwick Family Foundation grant has truly been a blessing for the Stratton's.

"Jack is really doing great," Laura said. "Everyone has been very supportive—the level of care that we've received as a family has been above and beyond anything we could ever have expected. We are so fortunate that this is the hospital where my doctor wanted us to deliver."



Deana Kuhlman, RNC, BSN, Nursing Supervisor NICU and Laura and baby Jack Stratton

Stead Heart

## AND VASCULAR CENTER PUTS PATIENT CARE AT THE HEART OF ITS WORKS

ursuing a mission of providing patients with access to the highest quality and most state-of-theart cardiac and vascular services in the region, the Stead Heart and Vascular Center at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) has celebrated a string of recognitions, awards and distinctions in its 25 years of existence.



Ironically, the Center's goal has never been one of achieving awards, but instead has been focused squarely on achieving the best possible care and outcomes for each patient treated at the Center.

Now in 2012, the Stead Heart and Vascular Center stands poised to fully realize its vision of maintaining an ongoing commitment to quality outcomes and patient-centered approaches that assures the most



Deborah Keasler, R.N.

comprehensive and coordinated care, from prevention and diagnosis to treatment and rehabilitation.

Stead Heart and Vascular Center Director, Deborah Keasler, R.N., notes that "during the past 25 years, we have responded to patient's needs, expanding from a heart surgery center to include a vascular center, a heart failure program with some of the top outcomes in the nation and a health, a stroke center and an all-inclusive cardiac rehabilitation program that helps patients, supported by trained staff, to prevent a reoccurrence of heart and vascular symptoms."

Deborah—who is in charge of the day-to-day operation of the Center, assuring the quality of treatment, and building the Center's capabilities as new knowledge, technology and treatments are developed—notes that it's an exciting time in heart and vascular care as new technologies are revolutionizing all facets of services the center provides.

One area where the Stead Heart and Vascular Center is making great strides is in electrophysiology. "Electrophysiology allows us to map the electrical current in the heart so that we can work to prevent cardiac arrhythmia, or irregularities in a person's heartbeat" Deborah explains.

The work has resulted in the Center's addition of five Electrophysiologists through an affiliation with UCLA Medical Center.

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## RECOGNITION & DESIGNATIONS

- Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties' designation as an acute heart attack (STEMI) Receiving Center.
- Ranked 3rd in LA County's 32-hospital STEMI Receiving Center System, for STEMI treatment times.
- Top 5% nationally for STEMI treatment times (American College of Cadiology).
- Top 5% nationally for Stroke Treatment (HealthGrades).
- Top 5 % nationally for Heart Failure Treatment (HealthGrades).
- Top 10% nationally for cardiac surgery outcomes (Society for Thoracic Surgeons).
- Neurovascular Stroke Receiving Center for San Bernardino, Inyo and Mono Counties. Primary Stroke Center and Approved Stroke Center for Los Angeles County Emergency Medical Services Agency.
- Received American Heart Association/ American Stroke Association "Get with the Guidelines" Gold Recognition award for treating heart failure patients with 85% compliance, for at least 24 months, to core standard levels of care.
- Received American Heart Association/ American Stroke Association "Get with the Guidelines" Gold Recognition award for treating coronary artery disease patients with 85% compliance for at least 12 months, to core standard levels of care.
- Listed as a Blue Distinction Center for Cardiac Care, for quality measures and patient satisfaction, by the BlueCross BlueShield Association since 2005.
- One of only five hospitals in California with BETTER than expected cardiac surgery outcomes (California Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG) Outcomes Reporting Program--CCORP).
- Named one of Thomson Reuters' 50 Top Cardio Hospitals in the nation in 2011.



#### FIRST CARDIAC CATH PATIENT – BARBARA RISKAS

In October of 1986, Barbara Riskas of Claremont was the first patient at the new Stead Heart Center's Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory.

In the early 1970s Barbara experienced a "funny sensation within her body." She was seen by a Los Angeles cardiologist who found nothing amiss.

In the early 1980s Barbara began experiencing pain in her jaw, neck, left arm and in her carotid artery. Having recently moved to the Pomona Valley, Barbara saw local cardiologist, Dr. Rama Thumati.

With her symptoms continuing to occur intermittently, Dr. Thumati performed an angiogram in the Hospital's new Cardiac Cath Lab. He found a bulge on the side of one of Barbara's arteries. Blood was coagulating there and when the pooled blood burst loose it caused the pain and odd sensations that Barbara experienced.

The diagnosis was Coronary Artery Disease and Barbara has taken medication since 1986 to manage the disease. Today, Barbara continues to enjoy an active lifestyle with her husband, Mike, their two adult children and six grandchildren. "Little did I know when I was on the gurney going into the cardiac cath lab that I would be here 25 years later talking about it," shared Barbara.



Barbara Riskas

#### Continued from page 9 -Stead Heart and Vascular Center puts patient care at the heart of its works

Another important innovation the Center has followed over time, is that "heart surgeries are becoming much less invasive," says Deborah, noting that procedures similar to angiograms can now be used to perform surgeries that previously would have required opening the chest. "This not only decreases recovery times, but also offers better outcomes overall," Deborah says.

The Heart and Vascular Center also has made great strides in cardiac telemetry monitoring. "We have one of largest telemetry monitoring programs in the region," Deborah points out, emphasizing the Center has worked cooperatively with other units in the Hospital to expand its telemetry capacity to 64 beds and the demand continues. "Our community has a growing need for cardiovascular care which, if we had more funding, could increase our telemetry unit," said Deborah.

In addition to staying at the leading edge of heart and vascular care for patients treated at the Hospital, one of the key components of the Center's work is "reaching out to our community to serve its needs as well," Debbie explains.

"In recent years we've been doing more outreach, to educate more people about heart disease, risk factor modifications, and making connections between science and wellness," Deborah offers, adding that she is especially pleased with a program to raise awareness and increase knowledge about the use of Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) among area youth.

"Once participants have had the experience of practicing use of an AED, they have that 'muscle memory' that may lead to their having a part in saving a person's life." She explains, adding "and it's a great thing to be a part of that."

It's also satisfying for Deborah to see the Hospital be honored with national and regional awards and distinctions. "To help ensure quality outcomes for our patients, we participate in national registries for cardiac catheterization labs, cardiac surgeries and treatment of heart failure, acute myocardial infarction, and stroke," she explains.

"We put ourselves out there to let the medical community know how we're doing, Deborah notes, emphasizing that "even when we are benchmarked against hospitals in some cases three times our size, we find that we rank high... in the top 50 in the nation in 2011!" Bill Stead appreciates our multifaceted approach including peer assessment, pursuit of the latest technology and treatment, and community education and outreach. Since giving a gift of real estate some 27 years ago to help fund the Center, Bill and his wife, Carole, have been pleased to see the Center grow.

"We feel privileged to have had the opportunity to give the hospital staff the tools to do their important life-saving work, but it's their brains, and their hands, and their hearts that have led to the Center's many accomplishments," Bill, a member of the Hospital's Board of Directors, insists. "You know," shares Bill, "my dad received the first pacemaker placed by this Hospital, and the fact that the Heart Center we named in his and my mom's memory continues to grow, is evidence of its commitment to offering the most dedicated and cutting-edge care."

And that commitment promises a future where the Stead Heart and Vascular Center "can build on the excellent foundation we've laid, while maintaining the highest quality patient care" declares Debbie, adding that "we will continue to be a leader in heart and vascular care in the region, advancing our legacy of cutting edge treatment coupled with heartfelt caring."

#### A HOSPITAL WITH A HEART

#### - Article by William Stead

As a Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) board member and emeritus board member of PVHMC Foundation, and as a donor who helped establish the Stead Heart and Vascular Center, it matters to me that the Hospital offers its patients cutting-edge health care using the latest medical technology and best practices.

But as a community member with a long history connecting me and my family to PVHMC, it also matters to me that the Hospital offers all its patients heartfelt service at a facility that truly cares for its community.

I was born at Pomona Valley Hospital in 1929, and my parents—dad was a Hospital board member and mom as a founding member of the Auxiliary—gave many hours to help the Hospital pursue its vision of community healthcare. So it's no surprise that I care deeply about the Hospital and the community it serves.

What may be surprising is the many different ways the Hospital's Administration, Associates and Volunteers go beyond simply providing the best in health care. They offer deeply-felt, compassionate caregiving for our patients and for the larger community PVHMC serves.

The Hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, for example, is able to offer the most cutting-edge care for premature infants with equipment financed by a grant from the Ludwick Family Foundation. The staff there goes beyond the technology to offer the kind of dedicated caregiving families need.

Programs like the PVHMC Family Health Center's Reach Out and Read program—which offers encouragement, reading opportunities and books for young patients and their parents—show that caring for patients is about more than their medical needs.

As a community-based Hospital, PVHMC is there to serve the people of this region and I'm pleased to see that we're not restricting our work to medical treatments, but also making efforts to improve our patients' total well-being and quality of life.

The Stead Heart and Vascular Center is near and dear to my heart and I'm so proud of their accomplishments. Not only is it one of the top 50 cardiovascular centers in the nation, it's also been ranked in the top 5% for patient care.



Bill & Carole Stead

My wife and I have been on the receiving end of both the quality care and compassionate caregiving provided by PVHMC, not only as patients at the Hospital, but also through the care PVHMC Associates provided to our son, Brad, who passed away from throat cancer two years ago. The doctors, nurses and other Hospital Associates went out of their way to help and comfort us through it, and we feel very grateful.

Because so many patients and family members have had these kinds of positive experiences, the Foundation now offers the Guardian Angel Program, which allows donors to show their gratitude by honoring a specific staff member or unit with a gift to support the Hospital's important work.

I, of course, want to see the Hospital continue to provide the best care there is, and when organizations and individuals tell me about the outstanding and caring treatment PVHMC provides, I feel good to be connected to an organization that's got such a good heart.



PVHMC FOUNDATION In the News

## 'REACH OUT AND READ' IMPROVES HEALTH THROUGH LITERACY

ecause clinicians play a vital role in encouraging parents to read aloud to their children, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) has joined nearly 5,000 programs nationwide to offer "Reach Out and Read" to the community.

Under the program, parents who bring their children to the PVHMC Family Health Center for routine wellness visits will receive clinical advice as well as information on the health benefits of reading aloud with their children.

"When children are educated and ready to go to school. those qualities have a longterm impact on their health," PhD, director of operations at the Family Health Center.



L-R Michael Parenteau, RN, Glenda Ferguson, Director of Development, John Solomon, Owner: Liquorama said Darlene McPherson, RN, Fine Wine & Spirits and PVHMC Foundation Board Member, Elise Magistro, Chair, Wine Tasting, 2011 & 2012, Alejandra Dominguez, Medical Assistant, Snezana Begovic, MD.

Literacy level is a key socioeconomic indicator that can determine health status in later years, she added.

"Some parents are a little surprised, however it's part of our exam routine. We talk about exercise, limiting the child's time with television and video games, and the importance of reading. Most people wouldn't associate that with health status, but all of these have a huge impact on children."

With support from PVHMC Foundation, the Family Health Center is able to give families an age-appropriate book for children aged 6 months through 5 years. Most books are purchased with funding from the "Reach Out and Read" organization while others have been donated by Scholastic, Inc. So far, more than 20 families have received books, most of which appeal to the center's predominantly Latino population. Darlene said that offering books in both English and Spanish further equips parents who speak limited English to read aloud to their children.

"Research shows that when clinicians encourage parents to read aloud as part of their efforts to rear healthy children, moms and dads are more likely to listen," Darlene said. "It has a different spin coming from a doctor or a nurseparents take it a little more seriously."

The center also received financial support from the Foundation through proceeds raised at its annual wine tasting, to create a reading space in the Family Health Center's waiting room, decorated with new tables, chairs, bookcases and a colorful story mural. Parents and children have access to a library of more than 220 books while they wait to see their clinician.

"The Foundation has been instrumental in creating this," Darlene added. "As long as we're seeing patients, we want to keep the program going."

### **5TH ANNUAL POWER OF RED**

The Power of Red program was held on February 9, 2012 at the DoubleTree Hotel – Claremont.

Over 100 guests enjoyed an inspirational talk by Lynn-Holly Johnson, silver medalist in the 1974 U.S. Figure Skating Championships and Stroke Survivor. Each Power of Red member was greeted with a red feather boa, which led to a fun and glamorous evening!

The Power of Red event benefits the Stead Heart of a Woman program at PVHMC and educates women on the importance of understanding their risks associated with heart disease.



Debra Blackenship, RN, Millie Riccard and Pat Kusunis



Patricia Amato & Jane Goodfellow



Dr. M. Hellen Rodriguez, Chairman of the Foundation Board of Directors, and Glenda Ferguson, Director of Development

#### POWER OF RED MEMBERS 2012

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## 18TH ANNUAL HEARTBEAT GALA

On Saturday, March 24, 2012, 400 guests enjoyed an evening at the DoubleTree Hotel in Ontario to support the 18th Annual Heartbeat Gala's – **A Song From the Heart** to benefit the Stead Heart and Vascular Center Endowment Fund.

Sue Nuss, a PVHMC Foundation board member, was this year's chairman. Her committee consisted of: Barbara Brown; Anne Doyle; Cathy Ford; Tammy Freehling, R.N., Deborah Keasler, R.N., Peggy Mata; April Mellem; Tia Nguyen; Jan Paulson, R.N., Binu Sadana; Cecilia Silva; Carole and Bill Stead; Mike Vestino.

The evening began with a cocktail reception, strolling magician, photo booth and silent auction offering over 160 different items for our guests to bid on; and 38 theme baskets were raffled off. More than half of the baskets were donated by PVHMC Departments who participated in the 8th annual Associate Theme Basket Contest.

Following a fabulous dinner, a live auction was held where five items were sold totaling \$7,500. A paddle auction was the highlight of the night when Auctioneer, Larry Flynn, asked the audience to help the Heartbeat Gala Committee reach a goal of \$30,000 to give to the Hospital to purchase state-of-the-art defibrillators for the Cardiac Cath Lab. The auctioneer started the first level of giving at \$15,000 and a



The Rat Pack.

paddle was raised by Bill Stead. After levels of \$5,000; \$2,500; \$1,000; \$500; \$250 and \$100....a total amount of \$41,800 was raised in just minutes!

The evening ended with a performance by THE RAT PACK IS BACK. Guests truly enjoyed listening to the familiar sounds of Dean Martin; Sammy Davis, Jr., and Frank Sinatra.

The contributions from Heartbeat Gala sponsors, underwriters and guests gave us a combined total of \$105,000 in net proceeds. Because of our Hospital and Foundation



Carole & Bill Stead



Sue & Judge Tom Nuss



Jane Goodfellow & Bob Weatherton



Margery & Dr. Gerald Goldman and Marian & Dr. Kenneth Brown



Gail & Roger Ginsburg

friends who continue to support this annual event, together we have added over \$2 million to the Stead Heart and Vascular Center Endowment Fund. **See our Gala video online at pvhmc.org.** 

Thank You l



Robin & Rich Yochum

## A LIVING LEGACY...

An intimate but growing group of people have committed to their legacy of supporting Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center well into the future. **The Circle of Friends** is a new donor recognition program that honors those who have pledged donations to PVHMC through their personal estates after death, usually through living trusts, bequest notifications, property or life insurance gifts.

Since its launch in February 2012, the **Circle of Friends** has enlisted 30 donors, including 16 irrevocable charitable trusts, and more are expected to come on board. These donors will assemble during an annual luncheon to honor their contributions to PVHMC's future. The intent is to express appreciation for donors during their lifetime and to get a head start on honoring their legacy.

"In America, we sometimes use the word 'friend' a little too lightly," said Jim Dale, Vice President of Development for PVHMC Foundation. "But for us, it's a deep relationship we have with our donors. The **Circle of Friends** is a group of people grateful patients, long time donors, retired nurses, physicians and Associates—who are passionate about our mission. As one of the Foundation board members, Don Kendrick, says,"friendships and relationships mean a lot to us."

In recent years donors have established charitable remainder trusts, notified the Foundation of bequests and even donated their own home after they have passed away. Such generous donations from PVHMC supporters have helped the Hospital provide advanced treatment, expand the Hospital's cancer and heart centers, and fund community education programs.

"Philanthropy is so crucial to the Hospital's ability to provide the latest technology, and that's why people want to give," said Jim Dale. "It's a pay-it-forward gesture. They know the Hospital will be here for another 100 years, and they share our vision of the future. They've been able to count on the Hospital to meet their needs, and they want to make sure it's here for others as well."

Bill McMorran, Planned Giving Consultant at PVHMC Foundation, states, "**Circle of Friends**' members sit down with their financial advisors and family and say 'This is important to

me, the Hospital is important to me. Planned giving is all about having a plan, and the Foundation and Hospital are part of that plan."



For more information about joining the **Circle of Friends**, please contact Jim Dale (james.dale@pvhmc.org) or Glenda Ferguson (glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org) or call the

PVHMC Foundation at 909.865.9139 or go to our website (pvhmc.org).

#### DISTINGUISHED ORGANIZATIONS HONOR RICHARD YOCHUM FOR LEADERSHIP

Each year, the National Health Foundation (NHF) in association with the Hospital Association of Southern California (HASC) honor one individual for exemplary leadership, vision and commitment. This year that honoree is our very own Richard E. Yochum, FACHE,



Richard E. Yochum receiving NHF Award

President/CEO of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center.

As part of its mission to improve chronic disease prevention and management within underserved communities, the NHF hosts an annual fundraising dinner, where the recipient is honored. During the March dinner, Rich proudly and humbly addressed those in attendance.

"Healthcare is a field of such collaboration, cooperation and teamwork," said Rich. "I would not have been chosen for this honor were it not for the dedication of more than 4,500 Associates, Physicians and Volunteers at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center."

Rich has an outstanding track record at the Hospital dating back to 1978. Before assuming the position of President/CEO in 1993 he served as Assistant Administrator, Vice President of Administration, and Executive Vice President/COO.

Rich's other leadership roles include his current service as a board member for the California Hospital Association (CHA), VHA West Coast and Inter Valley Health Plan. Additionally, as board chairman for HASC in 2011, Rich initiated the expansion of patient safety collaboratives, established a statewide structure coordinating the quality improvement activities of HASC and CHA, and provided leadership in structuring financial relief to hundreds of participating MediCal hospitals. He has also held board positions with Mt. Baldy United Way, the Boy Scouts of America, McKinley Children's Center, and the Pomona Economic Development Corporation.

"What an honor it is to be recognized by NHF and HASC with this award," said Rich. "There are many others in healthcare who are deserving of this tribute and I am humbled to have been selected for this distinction."

## PVHMC FOUNDATION 2011

Dr. and Mrs. Sudhakar R. Kong

onor recognition

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heartfelt "thank you" goes out to our generous donors. Dollars raised by our Foundation goes directly to supporting the Hospital, investing in the latest technologies, and cultivating excellence in healthcare. Together, we make a difference.

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