





# **IMPACT**Report

FALL 2022



VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER

Helping Silicon Valley Care



### Coming Soon: A New Name

For over 30 years, we've been proud to call ourselves the Valley Medical Center Foundation. Serving as the fundraising arm for Santa

Clara County's oldest and most essential hospital is a tremendous honor.

So it may surprise you to learn that 2022 is our final year. No, we aren't closing our doors. We're changing our name!

Last year, we became the Foundation for O'Connor Hospital in San Jose and St. Louise Regional Hospital in Gilroy – both part of a new entity called "Santa Clara Valley Healthcare" that also includes Santa Clara Valley Medical Center. Our name needs to reflect all three hospital communities and their supporters.

But the truth is, even before we joined forces with O'Connor and St. Louise, our Foundation had already outgrown "Valley Medical Center." That's partly because "Valley Medical Center" outgrew itself, becoming much more than a hospital. Unlike when we were founded in 1988, Santa Clara Valley Medical Center now operates community health centers from Gilroy to Mountain View, all with the same commitment to providing care for all. Just as SCVMC went from being a hospital to a health system, the VMC Foundation is on a similar journey from hospital foundation to health foundation.

So what's the new name?

I can't share that just yet. But it's coming soon. And when it does, I hope you'll agree it honors our heritage, welcomes our supporters from O'Connor and St. Louise, and readies us for the next 30 years of our work.

Yours in community service,

Michael Elliott, President and Executive Director



## Farmer's Market is Back!

VMC Foundation is excited to welcome back the SCVMC Farmer's Market! First launched by the VMC Foundation in 2013 with funding from The Health Trust, the Farmer's Market has operated from May through November every year until it closed in 2020 due to the pandemic.

Along with promoting healthy eating through access to fruits and vegetables for SCVMC patients and staff, the Farmer's Market includes vendors providing a variety of lunch options, eco-friendly home goods, house plants, and education on other SCVMC services.

In the middle of their busy days, the Farmer's Market is a welcome break for many SCVMC staff and a popular place to buy produce, eat lunch, and socialize. "I come for the fruits, but also it's fun!" Yuhee Oh, who works for the Renal Care Clinic, said. "I come with my coworkers every week and it feels like I'm going to the market with my friends."

"I've always eaten lunch here, but now I get to see even more friends," Respiratory Rehabilitation Unit Chief Dr. Stephen McKenna added.

The Farmer's Market will be on campus every Wednesday from 10 AM to 2 PM.

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# Connecting Patients to Care

While working at the Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics Clinic, Stephanie Tran and Tina Nguyen noticed that there were few clinics available for their patients who had feeding issues (conditions where a child limits what or how much they eat due to oral aversions). These patients and their families often waited over a year to receive specialized care.

With your support, the Foundation helped Tina, Stephanie, Dr. Ruiz, and Dr. Whitgob get supplies to start their own clinic at SCVMC in February. The new clinic is one of the only feeding clinics in Northern California that accepts MediCal and the only multidisciplinary clinic that includes a Pediatric Gastroenterologist, Developmental Behavioral Pediatrician, Occupational Therapist, and Speech Therapist.

"Far too often do I see children who are labeled "extremely picky" and placed on specialty formulas, which doesn't address the why," Dr. Rachel Ruiz, the clinic's gastroenterologist said. "In our clinic, we are able to address feeding from many layers, tailoring each approach to the child and their family unit."



## Helping Pregnant Women Manage Their Diabetes

Pregnancy can be stressful, especially with health complications. With an interdisciplinary team that includes nurses, dieticians, and

social workers, SCVMC's Maternal Fetal Medicine Clinic are an important source of support for pregnant women who develop diabetes and other health issues during their pregnancy.

The clinic has seen more cases of diabetes during pregnancy due to delayed care and poorer eating habits during the pandemic. Thanks to your support, the clinic is not only able to offer more nutrition classes to help patients manage their diabetes, but also supply their low-income pregnant mothers with the things their babies will need. "The Foundation has been a great part of this clinic, helping to provide supplies, baby clothes, and car seats for our patients," Evangelina Moran, a Nurse Manager at the clinic, shared. "We are so grateful for the support."

### Keeping Patients Warm

In partnership with the Subaru of America, Inc. Loves to Help campaign, Capitol Subaru donated blankets and



socks to the SCVMC Sobrato Cancer Center and O'Connor Hospital. "These simple acts of kindness bring such joy to our patients," Barbara French, SCVMC Sobrato Cancer Center Manager, said. Thank you for offering our patients comfort!

#### Your monthly gift matters!

Monthly gifts help our public healthcare system be prepared for emerging needs and ensures healthcare for all!



Make an ongoing commitment to healthcare by becoming a monthly donor today!

Learn more and give at: https://vmcfoundation.org/monthly-giving

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The VMC Foundation is a 501c3 nonprofit organization (EIN 77-0187890) that raises funds in support of Santa Clara Valley Medical Center Hospitals & Clinics. If you would prefer not to receive mail for fundraising from us, email **vmcfoundation@hhs.sccgov.org**.