



# **IMPACT**Report

FALL 2020



VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER

Helping Silicon Valley Care

# **Greetings from Chris**



You've no doubt read about the shift we made in March, becoming the central point for PPE donations/ distribution, securing testing equipment, ventilators and other vital devices ... all part of the emergency response to COVID-19 that Silicon Valley met so powerfully.

But here's what you may not

know: We kept doing all the other things that make you proud of us. We wrote grants for our Women & Children's Center, provided bikes to children, supported newborn care and the SCVMC Burn Center and so much more — all while fighting the pandemic.

We even created a safe, fun Tribute to Heroes event to replace our gala. It was so unique that we needed to create a webinar to teach other agencies how we did it the inquiries just kept coming!

Our partnerships have grown too. We're working with the County of course, but also the City of San Jose, Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits, and the Silicon Valley Leadership Group to continue the coronavirus battle a fight we will win.

In case you're wondering *how* we are doing all this, let me be clear: YOU are the reason. YOUR support is what makes our work possible. It's never been more evident and never more important. You have my deepest gratitude, because though we WILL win, the fight is far from over. Thank you for fighting with us.

Yours in community service,

Chris Wilder, President and Executive Director



## Healing Our Healthcare Heroes

Our nation's healthcare workers are heroic — but they are hurting. Here at our County Health System, staff are treating COVID-19 patients every day, putting their safety and that of their families at risk. Feelings of fear, exhaustion, isolation and stress are a terrible outcome of this crisis.

That's why the VMC Foundation has worked this year to heal our healthcare heroes. We've provided tens of thousands of meals, hotel rooms to protect workers' families, and offered professional curricula to counteract the 'moral injury' that the pandemic has caused.

Working with the county hospitals' leadership, we're co-producing "Wellness Wednesdays" to bring the staff together. Each week, we share stories, information and structured programming designed to strip away isolation and restore our vital heroes. Your donations help us continue to help those who are doing the most.



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## East San Jose PEACE Partnership COVID-19 Response

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the VMC Foundation has continued to work with community partners to help vulnerable populations in our County. Through our partnership with the East San Jose PEACE Partnership (ESJ PEACE), we've been a part of efforts to help residents in East



San Jose with urgent economic needs because, on top of the immediate health concerns of COVID-19, this community has faced greater food insecurity and potential homelessness.

ESJ PEACE has worked to provide families and individuals, predominantly essential workers, with checks and gift cards to help pay for food, gas, and rent. Addressing critical needs requires a broad approach and so ESJ PEACE has worked collaboratively with local government agencies, non-profits and community-based organizations to meet the needs of prevention, testing, medical care, temporary housing, and financial support strategies. We are proud to be a part of work that is committed to improving outcomes for this high-risk community especially during the pandemic.



## **Giving Tuesday**

Get into the giving spirit and join us online for Giving Tuesday

A day to celebrate generosity when it matters so much.



Together we give

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## Tribute to Heroes Event

We had big plans for the 2020 VMC Foundation Annual Gala & Auction in May. COVID-19 forced us to cancel those plans — but it didn't force us to give up.

With a bit of ingenuity and just a couple of months to organize, on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, the VMC Foundation hosted our first-ever fully sociallydistanced drive-thru fundraiser: **A Tribute to Heroes** — **A Drive-Thru Celebration**. This event featured live entertainment, games, a silent-auction, and a gourmet, take-home meal all with a focus on celebrating our frontline healthcare workers, first responders and our supporters.

The event was a huge success, so much so that we hosted a free webinar weeks later to share what we learned with other organizations interested in hosting something similar. More than anything, *Tribute to Heroes* has proven to us that with donors and the community by our side, we can face and adapt to an ever-changing fundraising landscape with grace.

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