



IMPACTReport



Helping Silicon Valley Care

Greetings Supporter,

When you think about the medical professionals who have made a difference in your life, what do you remember?

Do you recall their knowledge, expertise or credentials? Were you comforted by the fact that they had the latest technology at their disposal? Or were you happy that someone took the time to listen and to care?

During our recent **Honor a Caregiver** appeal, we provided an opportunity for former patients to share *their* feelings about the nurses, doctors, therapists and others who have made a difference in their lives. Here are a just a few of the tributes we received:

“Thank you **Dr. Tom Kelsey** for ‘being there.’ Thank you for listening.”

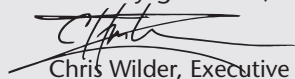
“Thanks **Dr. Travi** and staff for the excellent care I received in my time of need.”

“I was impressed with the fine care given in the **Physical Therapy Department**. It looked like a lot of people being helped by a lot of dedicated therapists!”

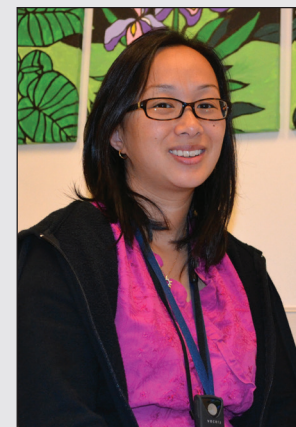
“**Dr. Dennis Low** has been mighty in kindness, knowledge and understanding. I will certainly miss him now that he is retiring, but I remain grateful for the years I enjoyed his care.”

Your financial support of Valley Medical Center through the VMC Foundation plays a role in helping the VMC medical staff provide the kind of care that inspires these tributes. Your gifts provide doctors, nurses, therapists and technicians with the equipment and training to offer lifesaving medical care to all, regardless of ability to pay.

With my gratitude,


Chris Wilder, Executive Director

Employee gives a big boost to VMC



For Nary Sun, supporting Valley Medical Center through the Give a Booster Shot employee campaign is personal. “I owe a lot to VMC. This is my way to give back.”

Nary’s journey to the U.S. began as an infant. Born in a refugee camp, she accompanied her family as they fled Cambodia and the brutal Khmer Rouge.

“We got our health care at the old Chaboya Clinic, now called Valley Health Center Tully. I was a pediatric patient there. VMC provided care regardless of ability to pay, which was really important for my family while we settled into our new life here.”

At 22, Nary was hired by the VMC Medical Records Department. Wanting to help others in a more personal way, she went on to train as a medical assistant, and then later as an RN. VMC’s tuition reimbursement benefit for employees helped as she juggled work and school. After graduating from nursing school, Nary worked in Valley Medical Center’s Intensive Care Unit. She later jumped at the chance to become the charge nurse for Internal Medicine clinic at Valley Health Center Sunnyvale.

Nary became a donor when the VMC Foundation launched the Give a Booster Shot campaign in 2008. She renewed her generous pledge this year, explaining, “Any one of us could need VMC, at any time. The trauma, emergency and burn units are all very important and the Valley Health Centers help keep the community healthy. I plan to keep giving back!”

Tracking down medical equipment gets easier, thanks to Cypress Semiconductor



For years, VMC staff have struggled with a basic yet vexing problem – in a hospital, “stuff” gets lost all the time.

In the quick pace of day-to-day patient care, and despite best intentions, things aren’t always put back where they are supposed to be. Monitors, pumps, ventilators, carts, beds – you name it – just about everything gets lost or misplaced at least once. With over 5,000 individual pieces of mobile equipment throughout VMC, it’s a lot to keep track of.

We want our staff taking care of people, not roaming the halls looking for equipment. And thanks to an extremely generous \$1,000,000 grant from Cypress Semiconductor at the behest of their CEO and longtime VMC champion Dr. T.J. Rodgers, we obtained a Real-Time Location Tracking System (RTLS) that enables staff to search for and find, via a detailed map of the hospital, what they need, when they need it!

Stuff might still get lost – but now, thanks to RTLS – it also gets found.

VMC Genetics Center assists new parents in Santa Clara County

The obstetrician at an area hospital knew that something was wrong. An infant boy had just been born with the chromosome abnormality 4p minus, commonly called Wolf-Hirschhorn syndrome. Babies born with this disorder have distinctive facial features and develop at a slower rate, with intellectual disabilities and seizures. The doctor transferred the baby to VMC’s Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and Bill Campbell, a genetic counselor at the VMC Genetics Center, was called in to help.

Bill worked through an interpreter to provide support to the parents who were understandably worried and confused; they had never heard of their baby’s condition and had many feelings about what it meant. Bill continued to meet with them and together they developed a plan to guide them through the testing and treatment options. Without this specialized support service, the family would have been completely unprepared to care for the unique needs of the baby.

The Genetics Center was established and funded by grants and individuals. Directed by Dr. Bob Wallerstein, the staff of the VMC Genetics Center counsel and provide support to parents of babies born with birth defects and women with known genetic abnormalities that result in high-risk pregnancies.



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