The Los Angeles Business Journal presents

HEALTHCARE LEADERSHIP AWARDS 2013

This special advertising supplement did not involve the reporting or editing staff of the Los Angeles Business Journal.
Los Angeles’ leading healthcare executives – whose work is regularly chronicled in our pages – are so much more than the managers of the institutions and organizations that help our society live healthier. While that certainly is a part of what they do, they also happen to be tremendous businesspeople with great business stories.

Hospital CEOs, healthcare company executives, unique programs benefiting the community, entrepreneurial clinicians, and education leaders providing the next generation of healthcare practitioners with the information they need to service our region – all are a part of an industry that will always be in need. It makes sense that we’d pause at least once per year to celebrate their achievements.

And so here you have it – the Los Angeles Business Journal’s 2013 Healthcare Leadership Awards. We have set aside this very special section to honor individuals, organizations and programs that have made strides in helping Angelenos receive better healthcare. In order for patients to receive superior care, all parts of the organization must be operating efficiently and effectively. We have chosen to recognize leaders that make an impact to both lines: those leading the frontlines of healthcare and those protecting the bottom lines.

This special section you are reading now spotlights those outstanding honorees we celebrated at our Awards luncheon on Thursday, April 18th at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel downtown. Thirteen honorees are announced and described in this section in thirteen categories. We applaud each of these esteemed honorees, as well as the wonderful collection of finalists, also detailed in these pages.

We hope you enjoy this special section, which contains some insights on the creative ways in which some of LA’s leading healthcare individuals and organizations stand out in their efforts to keep us well or make us better.

Special thanks go out this year to our presenting sponsor in this endeavor, the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. And again, congratulations to all the great healthcare leaders in Los Angeles who play such an integral role in our lives and the lives of our families, friends and coworkers.

Best regards,
Matthew A. Toledo
Publisher & CEO
Whenever we talk about cancer, we always use the same word. Someday. Someday there’ll be a cure. Someday we won’t lose the people we love. But when is someday? Someday is today.

Simply put, we are closer than ever to the cures for many kinds of blood cancers. We are saving more lives and saving them faster than at any time in our 60+ years.

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society has invested nearly one billion dollars to accelerate cancer treatments once thought impossible. Cures today, not someday. That’s the goal. And soon, with your help, blood cancer will be yesterday’s news.

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HEALTHCARE LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Catherine Fickes, RN, MHA
St. Vincent Medical Center

A
RMED with a nursing degree, BS in Business Administration and a Masters in Health Care Administration, Cathy Fickes, RN, MHA, has met with success in areas of daily responsibility that include revenue enhancement, expense reduction, strategic planning, organizational development, patient satisfaction and physician relations. While many of these responsibilities are finite and recordable, it is with the unspoken responsibilities that Fickes has excelled. The Medical Center’s namesake, St. Vincent de Paul, is the patron saint of charity to all people, especially those living in poverty. This is a legacy not taken lightly by Fickes. To improve access to highly specialized care, Fickes led the charge to establish the St. Vincent Spine Institute and the St. Vincent Cardiac Care Institute - clinics dedicated to providing world-class care to patients. Additionally, she has forged partnerships with the Korean community through avenues such as the Asian Pacific Liver Center, the primary hepatitis B research and outreach center in metropolitan Los Angeles. Providing integrated care effectively and efficiently is just one of Fickes’ skills. As part of her evidence-based leadership program, she "rounds" weekly on patients and their loved ones. She provides them with contact information and asks for feedback to improve the patient experience. She also holds her seven-member leadership staff accountable for weekly rounding as well. St. Vincent Medical Center, with 366 licensed beds, employs more than 1300 associates and 470 physicians — and Fickes consistently expects the highest level of quality, compassionate care from every one of them. Above all else, she promotes respect and dignity for every patient and their loved ones who entrust St. Vincent Medical Center with their care.

Michael A. Friedman, M.D.
City of Hope

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n February of this year, Michael Friedman, M.D., announced that he was retiring from his roles with City of Hope after a decade of dedicated leadership. Over the course of the past 10 years, he has grown the institution and helped to expand its medical and scientific reputation around the world. Among the many operational accomplishments he oversaw include: increasing the number of patients treated from 15,000 to 24,000 per year; growing the amount of grant support from $50 million to $79 million; increasing the institution’s endowment from $221 million to $1.26 billion; managing a growing staff that went from 2,700 to 4,250; adding more than 1 million square feet in research and patient care new construction and renovations; and establishing the new City of Hope Medical Foundation to more efficiently respond to the new healthcare environment. One of Dr. Friedman’s most important achievements has been the recruitment, growth and maturation of talented leaders - physicians, scientists, and administrators. Through this amazing family of employees, City of Hope has been able to continue its 100-year old mission of providing care for those in need. More patients were able to receive care, and scientists were able to expand the world’s collective knowledge about cancer. Most recently, Dr. Friedman helped steer City of Hope through the challenges of the health care reform debate. He helped establish the City of Hope Medical Foundation in order for physicians to have a greater voice. Despite his retirement, Dr. Friedman will not be resting on his laurels. He continues to lead the institution through organizational changes to ensure that City of Hope provides superb quality patient care and enables research that will change the face of cancer treatment.
POMONA VALLEY HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER congratulates you for this WELL DESERVED HONOR.

Your LEADERSHIP, DEDICATION and COMMITMENT inspire us.

The Honorable Curtis W. Morris
Mayor of the City of San Dimas & PVHMC Board Member
Healthcare Advocate Award Finalist

Dr. Jereeddi A. Prasad
Endocrinologist at PVHMC
Healthcare Executive Award Finalist

Expert care with a personal touch
Paul King was named president and CEO of Children's Hospital Los Angeles Medical Group in 2005. Children's Medical Group is a 400-physician pediatric multi-specialty group which is affiliated with the University of Southern California Medical School and serves as the faculty practice plan. In addition, King manages a physician management services organization. Before becoming CEO of the medical group, he was responsible for outpatient services, centers of excellence, radiology, pathology, anesthesia, quality systems, regulatory affairs, and facilities operations for the Children's Hospital, which has 12,000 annual admissions and 300,000 outpatient visits. Under King's stewardship, nearly 25% of the group's physicians are routinely recognized in “Best Doctors in America” and “America’s Top Doctors.” The group also provides leadership, education and training to other pediatric specialists throughout the country through its participation on a variety of national medical boards and professional associations. No stranger to the workings of Children's Hospital Los Angeles, King, prior to his appointment at the Medical Group, was responsible for the overall management of the specialty centers of excellence at the hospital, including: the Children's Center for Cancer and Blood Diseases; the Center for Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism; the Children's Orthopaedic Center; and The Heart Institute. King also provided oversight for the hospital's 29 outpatient clinics and laboratories; the departments of pathology and radiology; quality systems management; the medical staff office; regulatory affairs; facilities; security; guest services; and the Emergency Transport System. Despite his heavy workload, King makes time to serve on the boards of Ronald McDonald House, Los Angeles Free Clinic, and the California Partnership for Children. He has also served as President of the California Medical Group Management Association.

Robert Adler, MD, began his medical career at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, and with the exception of three short years, has spent his entire illustrious career there. He is the unofficial “Medical Educator in Chief” for Children's Hospital Los Angeles, and really for Southern California—he's responsible for the education of more pediatricians in the Southland than anyone else. By his estimate, he's trained more than 400 of the practicing pediatricians in the region. Adler is also known as a “pediatrician's pediatrician,” fielding referrals from pediatricians all over Southern California when they come across patients who need an expert second opinion. This is a role few physicians can fill; he is uniquely qualified for the task. Always kind, compassionate and courteous, Adler is also a consummate professional. Managing the educational, clinical and financial affairs of a complex academic health care program such as the Department of Pediatrics at Children's Hospital Los Angeles takes a special combination of a skilful and caring physician, a compelling teacher and role model and a savvy systems engineer. Adler has ably directed the educational programs and the operations of the hospital’s Department of Pediatrics for more than a decade. In what may be his most influential role yet, Adler is now chief medical director for the Children's Hospital Los Angeles Health System, a bold new venture aiming to harness the new opportunities presented by the Affordable Care Act and shape the future of pediatric health care in Southern California. Through this initiative, he is working closely with medical groups and organizations throughout the Southland to provide the best health care possible for all the children of Los Angeles and surrounding counties.
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D R. Paul Dempsey currently serves as the Chief Scientific Officer and Vice President of Bioengineering Development at Cynvenio Biosystems, Inc. in Westlake Village. Dr. Dempsey has led a team of 20 people for nearly four years to develop the LiquidBiopsy, a new technique to retrieve and genetically analyze circulating tumor cells from whole blood. Dr. Dempsey's team developed this game-changing technology and tested its effectiveness in hundreds of cancer patient blood samples obtained from collaborating cancer research centers in Los Angeles, and around the country. CTCs are increasingly being used in the development of companion diagnostics to better match patients with targeted therapies, and to develop improved cancer drugs that can target an individual patient's cancer cells. Along the way, Dr. Dempsey has developed out of necessity, many new technologies and integrate them into a streamlined, clinically useful test that can be widely adopted by any lab. Dr. Dempsey rose to the occasion and when faced with adversity, including technical challenges and financial constraints, he overcame them with enthusiasm. In addition to his innovation and leadership in bioengineering, Dr. Dempsey has been a tireless advocate for better cancer patient care. He has trained doctors and advised dozens of clinicians and oncology researchers on the implementation of new diagnostic and patient monitoring techniques using whole blood. He has included oncology researchers at UCLA and USC in his work, which has ensured their labs have received federal funding. The results of these ongoing collaborations will be extremely beneficial for Los Angeles as they will be reporting breakthrough results as early as 2014, in large part thanks to Dr. Dempsey's indefatigable efforts to bring about innovation in cancer research.

**Insurance Executive**

James L. Weidner  
Cooperative of American Physicians, Inc.

James L. Weidner is chief executive officer of the Cooperative of American Physicians, Inc. (CAP), headquartered in Los Angeles. CAP is a physician owned and governed organization driven by a mission of providing superior physicians with superior protection—and through this, superior health care for patients. When Weidner joined CAP as its CEO in 1995, the company’s key offering was medical professional liability protection through its Mutual Protection Trust (MPT). Under his direction, its number of physicians has more than tripled — with membership nearing 12,000, and stringent acceptance guidelines that preclude all but the top physicians. His efforts have ensured that CAP operates efficiently and effectively, while doing the same for its physician members and their patients. From CAP’s Los Angeles headquarters, Weidner has led local, statewide, and national efforts that positively impact patient care, physician success, and health care advancements at large. When Weidner assumed the CEO post at CAP nearly two decades ago, he spoke of his commitment to exceed CAP’s already impressive mission of providing superior physicians with superior protection. And he has done just that, constantly pushing the company to find solutions to make the practice of medicine safe, rewarding, and financially feasible for physicians in Los Angeles, and throughout the country. Through his efforts in support of nearly 12,000 member physicians, Weidner has developed one of the most robust risk-management programs in the United States. This ongoing program, a preventative medicine for physicians and patients, has paralleled the expansion of CAP’s services to physicians through its own insurance agencies and other programs. In particular, CAP is now known as a national leader in bringing risk management and patient safety programs to its physician members.
LENN D. Pascual is Department Administrator and Director of Service for Kaiser Permanente Woodland Hills. Though relatively young, Pascual came to Kaiser as an already accomplished healthcare professional, with an illustrious past with eminent hospital institutions. He promised Kaiser that as a manager, he would strive to only hire the best – those with compassion for the patient and the knowledge and skill level to care for them. A regular Pascual quote, in fact, is “you can teach anything from a book, but you cannot teach kindness.” Dedicated to his job, Pascual arrives at work every morning at 6:30 a.m., and leaves late. He oversees a staff of 29 registered nurses, nine nursing attendants, and four unit secretaries. At 5:00 am every morning he contacts the hospital staffing department to ensure that every post is covered for the day. He personally visits every patient on the unit each day, and intervenes whenever a problem of any kind arises to help assuage any difficulties a patient, family member or staff member might be having. As a manager, Pascual does not punish, but he does not tolerate counterproductive behavior either. He acknowledges that a happy employee will carry over that positive energy into care for a happy patient. To this end, he supports his staff educationally, psychologically and emotionally. Recognizing that each staff member has individual talents to support different areas of need, he places specific staffers on relevant committees conducive to their talents. These efforts promote an efficient workflow and a great place to work in healthcare. If service and patient satisfaction are strong indicators of hospital management success, then Pascual is succeeding with flying colors.

Glenn D. Pascual, DHSc, MSN, OCN
Kaiser Permanente, Woodland Hills

Arent Fox LLP congratulates this year’s healthcare leadership awards honorees: Kenneth Strople and Jim Mangia.

Your ongoing innovation in the healthcare field continues to inspire us.
AN active attorney and partner at Lamb, Morris & Lobello, Curtis W. Morris’ day-to-day responsibilities within the healthcare industry include his role on the Board for Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center as well as Inter Valley Health Plan. He sits on various sub-committees within those boards, lending his voice and advocacy for policy change and efficient and effective healthcare delivery. He also happens to serve as Mayor of San Dimas. Morris does not have direct daily interactions with patients, but for 40+ years he has served as an advocate and voice for patients throughout Los Angeles county. He believes that everyone should have access to high quality, affordable healthcare. His vision has been most recently realized through the approval of the hospital having the most state-of-the-art equipment for mammography services. Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center is the only hospital within the region to offer Tomosynthesis, a 3D mammography that will help to detect cancers earlier than more conventional methods. And the hospital has already seen a difference. About 40% of women who would have normally been called back for further tests based on inconclusive results of their first mammogram are no longer having to face that reality. Tomosynthesis has allowed the medical professionals to eliminate this unnecessary stress as the technology allows them to decipher what is more serious from something benign. This is just one example of the positive affect Morris’s advocacy has done for the hospital and the community. Morris provides unwavering leadership and vision in healthcare and is a strong example of advocacy for all that healthcare is today and the hope for its delivery model in the future.
When the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors opened the doors of Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center 125 years ago, they brought to light the story of Los Angeles County’s destitute population and the need for a county “poor” farm, where able-bodied indigents could work to help offset the cost of food and care. From meager beginnings to a modern-day status as one of the best-known rehabilitation facilities in the United States, if not the world, Rancho’s successes, challenges, leadership, staff members, and patients are a mirror of the medical-social changes which have taken place in this country and are continuing today. Rancho is a 219 bed medical center in the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, providing a full-range of acute, medical surgical, and rehabilitation services. In tribute to past leaders dedicated to addressing the medical and rehabilitation needs of those citizens who could afford healthcare, as well as those who could not, every patient at Rancho receives the highest-quality care regardless of socioeconomic condition. This gives patients and their family members the confidence they need to successfully achieve their goals of living independent and satisfying lives within their own communities. Rancho often finds itself serving patients that fellow providers are unable to help. Because of this, the patient population is more medically complex than is typical in other hospitals. Despite this, Rancho’s outcome data shows that the facility is able to provide medical rehabilitation services to its patients that are consistently effective. Rancho is, in fact, internationally recognized for its leadership in medical rehabilitation and its clinicians provide education to the rehabilitation community on best practices for treating the most challenging conditions.
Since its inception in 1970, Valley Community Clinic (VCC) has grown from a tiny grassroots storefront into a major four-site organization headquartered in its wholly owned 45,000 square foot medical facility. A private, non-profit 501(3)(c) agency, VCC provides high-quality free and low-cost medical care and health services to over 20,000 low-income uninsured men, women and children each year, while reaching over 35,000 additional people through its community outreach programs. VCC’s array of services includes: primary care, chronic disease management including the new “population management” model for patient education, women’s health, prenatal, pediatrics, comprehensive adolescent care, dental, optometry, full HIV/AIDS services, integrated behavioral health, and long term mental health counseling. A one-stop shop for all its services, it is the premier provider of teen focused health care in the county, and is a nationally recognized leader in adolescent health. For over 20 years, VCC, through its innovative and award-winning Valley Teen Clinic program, has been providing peer-based free and confidential teen reproduction health care and education. Only VCC hires teens from the community and trains them to provide front desk, back office, and health education to anxious fellow teens who seek help and reassurance — effectively “growing its own” first line staff and managers, while creating a comfortable environment for the patients. This methodology — unique to LA County — has been evaluated as effective in reducing teen pregnancy and increasing teen condom use by the USF Institute of Health Policy. Building on Valley Teen Clinic, VCC started its C.A.M.P. (Comprehensive Adolescent Medicine Program) program in 2009, which combines teen-focused primary care with its teen reproductive health services, and adds an integrated behavioral health component.
MICHAEL A. FRIEDMAN, M.D.

You encouraged us to be the best and cancer patients around the world benefit from City of Hope’s research and treatment advances.

Thank you for guiding us into our next century of hope.
Imagine what it’s like if your child has cancer. Then imagine learning there’s a specific, rare treatment that could save his or her life. Now imagine the help you need is 400 miles away, your car is in no condition to make the drive, and you can’t afford a plane ticket. That was the situation when Maria R.’s four-year-old son Gustavo was diagnosed with neuroblastoma, a cancer of the nervous system that strikes children under 10. Fortunately a social worker called Angel Flight West, and a volunteer pilot made sure that Gustavo was able to make his appointment. For 29 years, Angel Flight West (AFW) has been helping people like Maria and Gustavo. AFW’s volunteers donate the costs of all flights. There is never a charge for an Angel Flight West flight. Since its inception, Angel Flight West has successfully completed over 55,000 missions that comprise more than 326,000 hours and 16.1 million miles flown – the equivalent of $39.5 million in donated flight costs. The organization started at Santa Monica Airport, when a dozen or so pilots decided they wanted to combine their passion for flying with compassion for others. In 1984, they flew 15 missions. The organization has grown steadily and now has more than 1,200 volunteer pilots throughout the Western states, including more than 300 in Southern California. AFW is also an important resource for the Los Angeles health care community. For example, the organization was crucial to emergency response situations in 2010, with tickets generously donated by Alaska Airlines, AFW arranged 650 commercial flights for disaster response personnel to fly to Haiti and assist after the earthquake. Angel Flight West continues to provide a particularly special safety net and makes a hugely positive difference in many lives - near and far.

When change moves you in a new direction, choose the right navigator.

In health care, success requires diligence and foresight—two qualities that will prove even more important in the days to come. As reforms take effect over the next decade, will your organization be ready?

Find out what hundreds of smart health care CFOs already know: that the right assurance, tax, and consulting provider is one that understands your industry. We’ve helped health care entities nationwide strengthen their financial operations. Discover how we can make a difference to yours.

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Glendale Healthy Kids

Glendale Healthy Kids (GHK), in collaboration with volunteer healthcare professionals, community members and organizations, provides the children of low-income, underinsured children with access to healthcare and provides health education to the community. GHK is able to go beyond its core competencies due to the dedication and longevity of its staff of four, but in collaboration with a very active and committed board of directors. The impact in 2012 was significant — over 500 units of medical service and over 3000 units of educational service were provided. GHK was created in 1993 after a community needs assessment ascertained that local children were being treated for primary care in hospital emergency rooms and by school nurses. At GHK, to this day, all services are free of charge to children, and are provided by a unique partnership of doctors, hospitals, pharmacies, radiology labs, and others who donate their time and services to help those that are underserved. The types of services provided by GHK are unique in that it treats the whole person through preventative health education classes beginning in pre-school, to community-wide health fairs servicing the entire family. GHK’s 19-year partnership with the school district allows the group to immediately service children in all areas of medical need — from mental health, to broken bones, dental and orthodontic needs, surgery, nutrition education, asthma education, dyslexia testing and intervention, diabetes and obesity education programs and more. The overall goal of Glendale Healthy Kids is to ensure that no child’s medical, dental or mental health need goes untreated due to financial constraints. To this end, GHK administers a volunteer network of over 200 highly qualified, multi-lingual health care providers located throughout the area.
Linda Bradley, RN, JD, Centinela Hospital Medical Center

Linda Bradley, CEO of Centinela Hospital Medical Center, oversees the operation of the 369 bed medical center, which is located in Inglewood. She has overall responsibility for 1,500 employees and a medical staff of over 500 physicians and allied health professionals. In her current position, she provides day-to-day operational leadership for the hospital; interacts with community stakeholders and is an integral part of Prime Medical Services senior management team. During her tenure, Linda Bradley has been instrumental in assisting Centinela to achieve numerous quality distinctions including the Distinction/Finalist Hospital Award, Clinical Excellence in 2009, 2010, and 2012, top ranking in the nation and the state for stroke care, and Tuohy HealthCare Analytics Best of the West award for 2012 and 2013. In addition, she is spearheading the hospital’s compliance with SB1953 seismic retrofit project, which will also include the expansion of the emergency department to 60 beds and the renovation of patient care and public areas.

Margaret Crane, Barlow Hospitlary Hospital

Margaret Crane has been President and Chief Executive Officer of Barlow Group and its subsidiaries, Barlow Respiratory Hospital, Barlow Respiratory Research Center, and Barlow Foundation in Los Angeles. Since that time, she has held the positions of Administrative Director of Clinical Services, Director of Rehabilitation Services, Pulmonary Rehabilitation Coordinator and Asthma Center Coordinator at Barlow Respiratory Hospital in South Central California. Crane is also active at the local level for access to LTCH services as President of NALTH, impacting public policy for patients, as well as an advocate at the local level for access of patients. She also expanded LTCH services to a larger geographic community through the development of satellite and expanded services beyond respiratory to the chronically and critically ill. Crane also opened up the medical center’s staff to have a BRH affiliate with more MDs and concentrated the organizational focus on quality of care and service.

Edward Mirabagian, MHA, Antelope Valley District Hospital

As Chief Executive Officer of Antelope Valley District Hospital in Lancaster, Mirabagian is responsible for operational effectiveness, strategic planning, business development, medical staff relations, financial management, and facility expansion plans. He currently oversees 2,600 employees, 450 physicians, and 400 volunteers, while successfully managing a $350 million annual operating budget. He was instrumental in the recent financial turnaround of Antelope Valley Hospital and reduced the $18 million loss that had accumulated before he took over, to a $16 million loss at the end of fiscal year 2006. In fiscal year 2009, the hospital finished with almost $9 million profit. The positive trend continued with $24.6 million profit at the end of fiscal year 2010. Mirabagian continues to ensure that the hospital remains focused on providing quality healthcare, as well as being an economic engine for the community. Antelope Valley Hospital is currently the sixth largest employer in the Antelope Valley, paying more than $320 million in employee salaries.

Jim Mangia, MPH, St. John’s Well Child & Family Center

Jim Mangia is the visionary President and CEO of St. John’s Well Child & Family Center, a network of federally qualified health centers and school based clinics, which provide medical, dental and mental health services to more than 140,000 patient visits each year. Mangia built the Well Child and Family Centers from a small dental clinic into a major health care provider in Los Angeles. The Well Child and Family Centers have grown substantially over the last few years under Mangia’s leadership, to meet the growing need for services in the downtown and south Los Angeles communities they serve. This past year they have opened two new clinics (one at Dominguez High School and one in central Compton) and are engaged in a major capital and construction project to renovate and expand their Compton Community Health Center. Mangia maintains an office at 58th Street and Hoover in South Central.

Kenneth Stroppe, Downey Regional Medical Center

When opportunity knocked for Ken Stroppe and he became Downey Regional’s President and Chief Executive Officer, he showed what a strategic and visionary health care leader he is. With a chance to apply his more than 30 years of experience in acute care hospitals, during the last 5½ years Stroppe has helped Downey Regional launch the financial and operational recovery of Downey Regional Medical Center out of Chapter 11 bankruptcy (quite an achievement - it’s only the third time in California history that a hospital has emerged from Chapter 11 bankruptcy without changing ownership). He has been the leader in transforming the hospital’s operations and causing the emergence as a stronger, healthier, and more competitive community health care provider. Under his stewardship, the hospital issued $32 million in taxable bonds and secured a $20 million credit facility. With new healthcare contracts in place and the hospital’s financial house in order, Downey Regional Medical Center can be optimistic about the future again.

Gustavo Valdespino, Valley Presbyterian Hospital

Appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of Valley Presbyterian Hospital September 2009, Gustavo Valdespino who has focused his efforts on targeting services toward community needs, overseeing the opening of the hospital’s new Aquapulmonary Prevention Center – one of the few of its kind in the nation – and helping work toward liberation of a major electronic medical records system project. Since taking over leadership of the hospital, Valdespino has restructured management staff and helped restructure plans for a new medical office building near the hospital campus that is opened in 2012. Valdespino is also active in both community and professional organizations and has served on numerous boards, such as the March of Dimes, the American Heart Association, and the Latino Healthcare Business Association. He has also been a board member of the Blue-Cross/Blue-Shield of California for the community. Valley Presbyterian Hospital is currently the sixth largest employer in the Antelope Valley, paying more than $320 million in employee salaries.

Healthcare Group CoO

Shawn Adhami, MD, Vistaspool Medical Group

Dr. Shawn Adhami is a practicing Internal Medicine physician and founding Medical Director and CEO of two multi specialty clinics in Montebello and El Monte consisting of 16 full time and part time staff. In August of 2003, a medical clinic in Montebello closed its doors because of financial difficulties, leaving hundreds of patients scrambling to find care elsewhere. Knowing the need for quality care in the area, Dr. Adhami decided to take over the space and opened the clinic (now called Vistaspool Medical Group). Despite the skepticism of many naysayers about the prospects of reopening a closed clinic, Adhami pushed forward with the newly renovated clinic in 2004. During the first week the clinic saw about ten patients but those patients started to recommend the clinic to their friends and families and word spread. Now the clinic provides more than 13,000 patient visits per year.

James Edwards, Emergent Medical Associates

James Edwards is CEO of Emergent Medical Associates (EMA), Southern California’s leading emergency room physician group. He manages the day to day operations of the Emergency Management Organization. James currently manages 25 hospital contracts in Southern California and continues to prospect new hospitals to add to EMA’s business. The company currently has 30 full time employees and 329 emergency room physicians. The internal staff manages the corporate office and the emergency departments while James acts as the key liaison between the medical doctors and hospital staff. While James does not interact with patients directly, he has consistently improved relationships in the corporate offices at the hospitals that ultimately benefit the patients he serves. Edwards is currently in his 7th year as CEO of EMA. When he joined the organization, he saw a small company with great potential and was determined to make a difference in the healthcare industry.

Healthcare Executives

Molly Forrest, Los Angeles Jewish Home for the Aging

Upon joining the Jewish Home in 1996, Molly began instilling the philosophy that “getting old should be an opportunity for personal growth, personal connection and family.” Combining a potent blend of vision and pragmatism, energy and determination, Forrest works to ensure that the Home confronts the aging of our society and helps change the face of senior living in America. A veteran of senior housing and healthcare issues, she is well prepared for the Home to take a leadership role. Forrest led the nationally- acclaimed Los Angeles Jewish Home Foundation’s successful expansion in its history. Under her leadership, the Jewish Home has seen remarkable growth and revitalization. It has expanded independent living Neighborhood Home accommodations from 17 residents to 50. Most recently, ground was broken on Fountainview at Eisenberg Village, the first new urban Continuing Care Community Retirement facility to be developed in California in over a decade and the fastest-selling CCRC in the history of the state.

Joeried Prasad, MD, PACF, PA-C, PRF

Prasad Dr. Joeried Prasad has been practicing Endocrinologist for more than 31 years. He is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and American College of Endocrinologists and is the founder and President of Chaparral Medical Group (CMG) a large multiple specialty group in Pomona. To date Chaparral Medical Group has over 40 offices and has been President of ProMed Health Care Administrators and ProMed Health Network, which is a large IPA in the Inland Empire since 1994. In addition to Dr. Prasad’s extensive involvement with medical and healthcare leadership he is an active practicing physician, who is well respected and admired by the patients he serves daily. His day doesn’t end when the last patient is seen — it extends further as he attends various committee meetings and board meetings in order to lend his voice and expertise on the operations of healthcare in the community.

Dale Surwitz, Providence Health & Services, So Cal

Dale Surwitz oversees operations at the five Providence medical centers in the Greater Los Angeles Area (Providence TrinityCare Hospice and Trinity KidsCare Hospice and the organization’s philanthropic fund). He currently serves as President and COO, Dale served as the CEO of Tarzana Providence for over 15 years. He maintained his position with new ownership and then was appointed President of former Tarzana Regional Medical Center in 2009 and has been praised for his successful efforts to keep his employees engaged during the five years the 249-bed hospital was for sale. Under his leadership, the Providence-Tarzana family embraced the Providence mission of compassionate care to the poor and vulnerable. Now he’s committed to bringing that same quality of excellence to all five Providence medical centers.

Dr. J. Thomas Rosenthal, UCLA Health

As Chief Medical Officer for UCLA Health, Dr. Rosenthal is responsible for the daily management of care provided by the healthcare system’s four hospitals – Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, UCLA Santa Monica Medical Center, UCLA, and the California Pacific Medical Center – and he is the liaison between the medical staff...
Rite Aid Congratulates
Dr. Michael A. Friedman
Recipient of the
2013 Lifetime Achievement Award

We applaud your lifelong dedication and commitment to improving the health and well-being of our communities.
and healthcare system administration. His responsibilities include coordination of care and safety for the more than 80,000 patients who are treated annually at UCLA’s hospitals. In this capacity, Dr. Rosenthal oversees quality assessment and improvement throughout the healthcare system. Working with teams made up of healthcare staff (physicians, nurses, support personnel), Dr. Rosenthal works to identify issues to be addressed, collects data to provide baseline measures and establishes procedures to address problem areas. Among his key priorities have been infection control, medication safety and communication.

**Valley Presbyterian Hospital Salutes all Health Care Leadership Awards Nominees**

Including special recognition to Gustavo Valdespino, President and CEO as Finalist in the Healthcare CEO award category

Together, we deliver excellence to our community
an owner and decision-maker, he is responsible for the accounting and financial side of the business and directly manages and supervises three employees on the accounting team. He manages the Director of Finance and two other accounting professionals. Allenby oversees all of 24HR HomeCare’s operations to ensure efficiency, quality of caregivers, and world-class customer service. Allenby has taught and trained all of the employees in the company to treat clients as they would want their own parents to be treated — serving clients with unmatched service while treating caregivers with respect.

Agnes Chen, DO,
Kaiser Permanente South Bay Medical Center Gardena Hypertension Team
As Physician in Charge at the Gardena Medical Offices, Agnes Chen leads Kaiser Permanente South Bay Medical Center—Gardena’s Hypertension Team. The Gardena Medical Offices provide a variety of outpatient primary care services (Adult Primary Care, Obstetrics/Gynecology, and Pediatrics) and support services (Pharmacy, Laboratory, Diagnostic Imaging). The Gardena Medical Offices serve approximately 35,000 Kaiser Permanente patients, and 45.4% of these patients are Black/African-American. In June 2011, the disparity of hypertension control rates between Black/African-Americans and Caucasians was 6.3% within the guidelines for blood pressure control, and a total of 76.6% of Black/African-American patients within the guidelines for blood pressure in control (control is defined as a blood pressure of less than 140/90). Through a concentrated program of educating physicians and staff, reaching out to patients and ongoing monitoring, Dr. Chen and her team have been able to reduce this disparity to 2.2% through October 2012 (latest data available) even though the Caucasian control rate has also improved during this time period.

Maria Townsend,
Providence Health & Services
Maria Townsend’s day-to-day involvement with the healthcare industry and Providence Health & Services is to build multiple bridges between the larger hospitals, doctors and members of the community. She has to work directly with doctors to help them acclimate themselves with the hospitals and also make the hospital more accessible to the members of the community. She handles everything from directing doctors on how to become more involved in the community, organizing and promoting events for hospitals and representing the hospitals in multiple outreach organizations. Townsend goes above and beyond to help build a connection and enhance the community. One example is when she organized an event at Providence Holy Cross for the unveiling of Lalo García’s painting of the Lady of Guadalupe. Thanks to her efforts, many business leaders, healthcare professionals and the general members of the community attended — and of all faiths.

HEALTHCARE ADVOCATES

Stacy Brooks,
Heart Light – A Referral Service
Stacy Brooks is the founder of Heart Light – A Referral Service. Brooks and Hearty Heart Light routinely tours and inspects, homes and memory communities which with the finest licensed independent retirement, assisted living, board and care homes and memory communities which Heart Light routinely tours and inspects, making sure that standards are maintained at the highest level. Brooks and Hearty Heart Light know who accepts pets, offers gardening areas, has the best bridge games, accepts insulin dependent diabetics, etc.

Dr. Samuel Fink,
Los Angeles County Medical Association
Dr. Samuel Fink is the current President of the Los Angeles County Medical Association (LACMA), a professional association representing 6,500 physicians from every medical specialty and practice setting as well as medical students, interns and residents in Los Angeles County. Dr. Fink started his term in June 2012. As President of LACMA, Dr. Fink is charged with providing strong leadership, a strategic vision and clear direction on how the 141-year old organization continues its commitment of protecting the rights and safety of patients and upholding the professional standards of physicians. He directs and works with 50 LACMA staff and a board of fellow physicians. He also acts as a primary liaison with other medical boards, health care advocates and trade associations. Dr. Fink has been instrumental in reinvigorating LACMA as an aggressive advocacy organization, taking tough public stands on behalf of patient rights, the role of doctors in determining medical necessity and in protecting the doctor/patient relationship.

Robert Hess,
Prostate Cancer Awareness Project
Robert Hess is the founder and president of the Prostate Cancer Awareness Project (PCAP). With the exception of his board, Hess has been a one-man show since he created PCAP in 2006, three years after his own diagnosis and treatment for prostate cancer. He bootstrapped PCAP with his personal funds until he was able to get a fundraising revenue stream going. Hess had been a Lieutenant Colonel in the US Army and he brought the Army ethic of taking care of his men to PCAP. He has managed all aspects of the organization since its inception, including fundraising, program development and creation, and strategic partnership development. In 2010, he drove his motorcycle over 8,000 miles across the US and back, visiting multiple governors’ offices to raise awareness of prostate cancer. In addition to managing PCAP, Robert also writes the PCAP blog and engages with prostate cancer survivors on PCAP’s social message pages on Facebook.

COMMUNITY CLINICS

Arroyo Vista Family Health Center
Made for the community, by the community, Arroyo Vista is a non-profit community center.

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Community health center governed by a consumer Board of Directors with a trusted team of healthcare professionals serving the Greater Northeast Los Angeles since 1981. Arroyo Vista’s mission is “To respond to the current and future health needs of the greater Northwest Los Angeles area by providing access to a range of high quality, affordable health services in a financially responsible manner.” With five locations and a mobile clinic serving every member of the community, Arroyo Vista Family Health Center provides a comprehensive range of medical, dental, optometry, imaging, and pharmaceutical services. Their services are designed for all ages, from infants and children, to teens, adults including Women’s Health, and the elderly. Many services are provided at no cost, including daily screenings, health education, annual flu vaccine clinics, immunizations for children, and our annual health fairs.

The Institute for Advanced Laser Dentistry

The Institute for Advanced Laser Dentistry is a non-profit educational and research center dedicated to providing evidence-based clinical training in advanced laser dentistry therapies. The IALD is nationally recognized for its continuing education (CE) programs and is accredited by the American Dental Association Continuing Education Recognition Program as well as the Academy of General Dentistry Program Approval for Continuing Education. With more than 25 certified instructors who train dental professionals in laser dentistry techniques, the IALD aims to reach more underserved patients with gum disease who have avoided therapy out of fear. The IALD’s ultimate goal is for the percentage of patients seeking treatment for periodontitis to reach the percentage of patients seeking general dental care. Since its establishment in 1999, the IALD has achieved recognition for its innovations in the treatment of gum disease. The IALD is the exclusive provider of education and training for Millennium Dental Technologies, and the company’s patented LANAP protocol laser gum disease treatment.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Cancer Legal Resource Center

A cancer diagnosis may carry with it a variety of legal issues, including insurance appeals, employment rights and leave time, access to health care and government benefits, and estate planning. These legal issues can cause people unnecessary worry, confusion, and stress, and can be overwhelming. When these legal issues are not addressed, people may find that although they have gotten through treatment, they have lost their homes, jobs, or insurance coverage. Cancer Legal Resource Center (CLRC) is a joint program of Disability Rights Legal Center and Loyola Law School. The CLRC provides information and education about cancer-related legal issues to the public through its national telephone assistance line. The CLRC also conducts national education and outreach programs for community groups, employer and healthcare professionals and is actively involved in community activities to raise public awareness of cancer-related legal and public policy issues.

Heal One World

Skye Kelly founded Heal One World - a 501c3 non-profit, and its fundraiser, the Awareness Film Festival. The greater goal of the organization is to ensure that no one will be denied the means to achieve a healthy and productive life because of their financial circumstances. Many alternative and non-invasive treatments tend to not reach low-income individuals because of a lack of insurance coverage or a general lack of awareness about such options. Heal One World offers classes on a sliding scale, free or donation basis to ensure that people of all walks of life are welcome, especially those who are financially incapable of affording traditional medical treatments. Kelly’s own struggle with disability and homelessness inspired the formation of the organization as she saw a real need in the community. Everyone at Heal One World is a volunteer and over 100 volunteer teachers and interns have played a role in its success.

Sheridan In-Home Care

Senior care advocate and visionary, Susan Dost established Sheridan In-Home Care in 2003 under the premise of providing the best care possible for the seniors in her community. The organization has an exclusive list of over one hundred senior care professionals that it works hand in hand with. Any one of them would testify today to Sheridan Care’s relentless pursuit of excellence in Client Care Management, caregiver excellence and overall client satisfaction. An example of this excellence would be Sheridan Care’s caregiver education program. Sheridan Care’s concierge community partners themselves come to Sheridan Care twice a month in a combined effort to provide education to Sheridan Care’s caregivers, which in turn keeps over 150 caregivers well trained and prepared to handle anything that comes their way on a daily basis. Sheridan Care specializes in helping clients remain independent in the safety of their own homes. Sheridan Care’s employees understand that every senior is unique. The company offers a wide range of care giving services designed to meet the diverse needs of...
CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

Born without legs, Katy Sullivan learned to run at Rancho. She set a new American record in the 100 meters at the 2012 Paralympic Games.

L.A. COUNTY’S “HOSPITAL OF MIRACLES”

Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center is proud to be nominated as Hospital of the Year.

After a devastating stroke immobilized his right side, Rancho taught Steve Clay how to draw with his left hand.

Rancho helped Eric Sorto overcome a life-threatening spinal cord injury to become a college graduate.

Annie Ruth didn’t let quadriplegia stop her from sky diving, getting a master’s degree or becoming a renowned artist.

RANCHO LOS AMIGOS
NATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTER

THE ART & SCIENCE OF REHABILITATION
Continued from page 58

Individual clients. The caregivers are professionally managed by a strong and experienced team of Client Care Managers who work hand-in-hand in coordinating the caregivers to provide assistance with medication monitoring, bathing, grooming and provide companionship and support throughout the day and evening. Sheridan abides by the system of a “perfect match” for each client based on their needs.

Skirball Hospice

While many organizations provide end-of-life care, Skirball Hospice and Palliative Medicine has brought together a highly skilled staff with a unique blend of clinical competency and collective compassion for the patients and families under its care. Each person faced with a terminal condition is recognized as an individual whose final months, weeks and days are made more comfortable and meaningful by a staff that honors, respects and celebrates a person’s lifetime achievements.

C. Consider hospice or palliative medicine as a personal choice. Skirball Hospice approaches this decision as an educational experience providing all of the options available for end-of-life care, Skirball Hospice and Palliative Medicine has brought together a highly skilled staff with a unique blend of clinical competency and collective compassion for the patients and families under its care. Each person faced with a terminal condition is recognized as an individual whose final months, weeks and days are made more comfortable and meaningful by a staff that honors, respects and celebrates a person’s lifetime achievements.

Hospitals or Medical Centers

Centinela Hospital Medical Center

Centinela Hospital Medical Center is the southern Los Angeles County region for over 90 years, and receives more than 71,000 patient visits a year. The leadership of its President and CEO, Ken Strople, the hospital went through a successful recent reorganization, and during the entire process, it was able to continue normal business operations, including operating the emergency room and providing excellent patient care to the Los Angeles community.

Kaiser Permanente Woodland Hills Medical Center

Established in 1986, Kaiser Permanente Woodland Hills Medical Center provides high-quality primary and specialty care to more than 205,000 members throughout the West San Fernando Valley and Ventura County. The Woodland Hills Medical Center offers several Centers of Excellence, including its Breast Center, Craniofacial Clinic, Children’s Center for Attention Problems, and in the areas of diabetes care and high-risk obstetrics. The Medical Center regularly ranks nationally in a number of adult specialties and scores high in patient safety, demonstrating commitment to reducing accidents and medical mistakes. Kaiser Permanente Woodland Hills Medical Center has 175 beds. The hospital had 12,000 admissions last year and performs 4,005 annual inpatient and 5,197 outpatient surgeries. Its emergency room had 38,131 visits. Woodland Hills Medical Center is also home to a robust Family Medicine Residency Program and Community Medicine Fellowship Program, whose talented young physicians use their skills to improve the health and quality of life of the most vulnerable citizens in our surrounding communities.

St. Francis Medical Center

St. Francis Medical Center is a 349-bed acute care hospital accredited hospital offering general acute medical services and 24/7 emergency care. Formerly known as Centinela Freeman Regional Medical Center – Marina Campus, the hospital boasts a team of specialized professionals that believe caring, warmth and true compassion go hand-in-hand with medical excellence. As a surgical hospital focused on spine, orthopedics, weight loss and minimally invasive surgery, Marina del Rey Hospital’s mission is to enhance its patients’ lives by providing nationally recognized physicians dedicated to focused care and a healthier lifestyle. Robotic and minimally invasive surgery are two of the fields in which Marina del Rey Hospital is at the forefront of new developments. Its adoption of robot-assisted and minimally invasive techniques help 3,000 patients annually achieve excellent outcomes while driving down complication rates. Marina Del Rey Hospital provides an environment that combines advanced surgical technology and personalized patient care in an intimate setting.

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care hospital, six community-based health clinics, and the largest and busiest pediatric emergency trauma center in Los Angeles County — treating 69,000 children and adults each year. Last year, more than 650 babies were born at SMFC’s Family Life Center, with 775 babies cared for in its state-of-the-art Neonatal Intensive Care Center. SMFC’s Healthy Community Initiatives bring healthcare services to children and families in their schools and neighborhoods. In addition, it operates the Children’s Counseling Center for abused and neglected children.

INSTITUTIONAL OR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Glendale Memorial Hospital & Health Center
Glendale Memorial Hospital’s Emergency Department is one of the busiest in the area — with more than 34,000 patient visits annually. Its ED is a designated Los Angeles County STEMI Receiving Site and the region’s first accredited Chest Pain Center. In January 2011, a Through-Put team was established and composed of ED nurses, led by ED staff nurse Judy Ruffin. With the help of the hospital’s Transformational Care Department, the team used “Lean” tools to map out a new process, including identifying pain points, and selecting and validating root causes. Improvements were then put into place that saw a 12% volume increase from 2011 to 2012. Patient satisfaction also improved. Glendale Memorial’s ED is now 4.5 points above the Avatar patient satisfaction system average on questions related to patient waiting.

National Girls Health & Justice Institute
The National Girls Health and Justice Institute (NGHJI) is dedicated to making sure every girl entering the juvenile justice system has her healthcare needs identified, treated and followed. For the first time in United States history, young girls are entering the juvenile justice system at a faster rate than boys. Girls tend to enter at a younger age, and for less serious offenses than boys and also have unique unmet medical needs including pregnancy. Over 600,000 juvenile girls enter the juvenile justice system each year in the United States. The NGHJI believes that by providing Physical and Mental Health Care to girls early on, when they need it most, we have the potential to reduce recidivism among girls today, and to stop the pipeline of teen girls entering the Criminal Justice System as adults in the future.

Sage Wellness
Sage Wellness is a corporate wellness company offering health coaching and engaging programs that are customized, local and holistic. The organization supports companies in caring for the health and productivity of their employees. Sage believes it is important to care about the wellbeing of every individual at every client it serves. Sage’s business is to make sure employees get enough exercise, eat enough dark leafy greens and sleep well at night. Sage Wellness tailors its packages to suit the needs of any workplace environment — from non-profit organizations to large corporations. Regardless of industry size or structure, every company thrives when its employees feel their healthiest.

Edward Mirzabegian
on his nomination and well-deserved honor of being selected as a 2013 Healthcare Leadership Awards Hospital CEO Finalist.

Antelope Valley Hospital
A facility of Antelope Valley Healthcare Services
1600 West Avenue J • Lancaster, CA 93534 • (661) 949-5000 www.avhs.org

HEALTHCARE LEADERSHIP AWARDS 2013

St. Barnabas Senior Services
Founded in 1908, St. Barnabas Senior Services (SBSS) is Los Angeles’ oldest non-profit senior center that has been serving low income seniors in the MacArthur Park community for over 100 years and more recently the Hollywood community with the Hollywood Senior Multipurpose Center joining the SBSS family. Through the years its mantra has remained constant, in its service SBSS strives to empower seniors to live well, feel well, and age well. St. Barnabas began as a refuge for seniors in the community, providing hot meals, supportive services, and various activities that kept seniors active during the day. Programs such as SBSS Wellness and Longevity Programs led by Andres Gonzalez have brought the organization into the modern age. A newly implemented method of tracking which counts the number of seniors who encounter and participate in the classes has allowed greater insight into the rising popularity and increased participation in various programs and in turn, benefits the seniors who participate.

SAFETY NET PROVIDERS

AltaMed Health Services
AltaMed has delivered quality care to the underserved communities of Southern California for more than 40 years. The first AltaMed clinic was a modest storefront on Whittier Boulevard in the business district of East Los Angeles. It was a familiar sight to see individuals and families lined up around the block waiting to be seen at the clinic and no one was ever turned away. The clinic received its first federal grant in 1977. The grant enabled the clinic to increase its services and the organization changed its name to AltaMed Health Services Corporation. In the last five years, AltaMed has experienced tremendous growth — growing from 396,000 to 930,000 patient visits per year. Out of the organization’s 125,000 unique patients, more than 70,000 are uninsured. AltaMed is one of the top three community health centers to serve the greatest number of uninsured patients in Central, Eastern and Southern Los Angeles County.

Prototypes
Prototypes works to rebuild the lives of women, children and communities impacted by substance abuse, mental illness and domestic violence. Each year, Prototypes provides innovative behavioral healthcare services to 12,000 individuals across 14 locations. Through comprehensive and integrated residential, outpatient and community-based treatment and services, Prototypes clients are empowered to become strong, healthy, independent and productive members of their communities. For more than 25 years, Prototypes has pioneered the way we treat addiction and mental illness by allowing mothers to stay with their children through recovery. Women are often scared to report they have substance abuse problems because they worry their children might be taken from them; and, if they do report a problem, they have difficulty accessing treatment because they do not have a place for their children to go. Unlike traditional substance use treatment programs, women entering Prototypes are actually encouraged to bring their children with them.