



La ClínicaSM

NewsRelease

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La Clínica Monument to Nearly Triple Patient Capacity in 2010

New building highlights community clinics' role in providing affordable health care to Contra Costa's growing number of uninsured

CONCORD, CA (April 9, 2009) – Today, La Clínica de La Raza announced the purchase and planned renovation of a building that enables La Clínica Monument to grow the number of patients it serves from approximately 4,000 in 2008 to an estimated 11,000 in 2010 - 2011. The new facility at 1040 Oak Grove Road in Concord is a response to rapid growth in the number of residents in Contra Costa without health insurance during these tough economic times; it also highlights the evolving and significant role community clinics play in providing affordable health care to those most in need.

"This is a crucial addition to our health care safety net that can help reduce the costly use of emergency rooms for primary health care, while providing training and jobs for local residents," said Contra Costa County Supervisor Susan Bonilla.

"We are excited that with the help of our partners, we will be able to increase vital health care services to diverse communities throughout the county, especially during these financially challenging times," said Jane García, La Clínica's CEO.

Since its beginnings as a single storefront operation in Oakland in 1971, La Clínica has grown into a sophisticated provider of primary health care and other services, with 26 sites spread across three northern California counties. It entered Contra Costa in 1999, with a medical clinic and a dental clinic in Pittsburg; the Monument clinic opened in 2003. Today, La Clínica is a significant primary care option alongside Contra Costa Health Services for uninsured and underserved residents, delivering an array of medical, dental, health education, case management, optical, pharmacy, and behavioral health services, while also providing a vital link between low-income residents and the county's hospitals and specialty service providers.

While the economic downturn has not spared La Clínica, the organization is committed to finding new, sustainable funding sources to extend its services as widely and as quickly as possible to meet the growing need. The new building extends this thoughtful approach to sustainable growth in Contra Costa. The new Monument facility will increase

the number of medical exam rooms from five to 12, increase dental procedure rooms from six to 12, and allow for expanded health education and conference areas.

A Partnership with John Muir/Mt. Diablo Community Health Fund

Beginning with its 1999 entrance in Contra Costa, La Clínica has received over \$3.3 million in support from the John Muir/Mt. Diablo Community Health Fund, the community benefit grantmaking arm of John Muir Health. For the Monument renovation the Community Health Fund supplied \$750,000, a dramatic increase over past grants. That increase reflects both the growing role for community clinics and the way that La Clínica has earned the Community Health Fund's trust by delivering on and sustaining every service and innovation the grantmaker has supported.

"La Clínica has proven to be an outstanding partner that has helped us achieve our mission of improving the health and well-being of people in central and east Contra Costa County communities who are un- or under-insured, who have limited access to health care, who are most at-risk for poor health, and are most likely to experience disparities in healthcare," said Grace Caliendo, President and CEO of the Community Health Fund. "Community clinics have become absolutely essential to that mission, and La Clínica is a true leader in delivering high quality, culturally sensitive care to these populations."

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About La Clínica de la Raza

The mission of La Clínica is to improve the quality of life of the diverse communities we serve by providing culturally appropriate, high quality and accessible health care for all. La Clínica serves as the medical home to the East Bay's uninsured and underserved. Our 26 clinical sites are located in Alameda County, Solano County and Contra Costa County. For more information about La Clínica, please call 510-535-4000 or visit us at www.laclinica.org.

About John Muir/Mt. Diablo Community Health Fund

The John Muir/Mt. Diablo Community Health Fund is the community benefit grantmaking arm of John Muir Health. We foster systemic change that improves the health of people in central and east Contra Costa County who are un- or under-insured, have limited access to health care, are most at-risk for poor health, and are most likely to experience health care disparities. For more information, please call 925-941-3100 or visit us at www.jmmdcommunityhealthfund.com.