



San Francisco General Hospital Foundation News

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Division of Cardiology: Healing, Teaching, Discovering

Many of us have heard it before: Coronary heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States for men and women. It follows, then, that diagnosing heart disease early, treating it with the highest quality of care and working to prevent its onset saves lives. At San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center (SFGH), the Division of Cardiology is charged with doing just that.

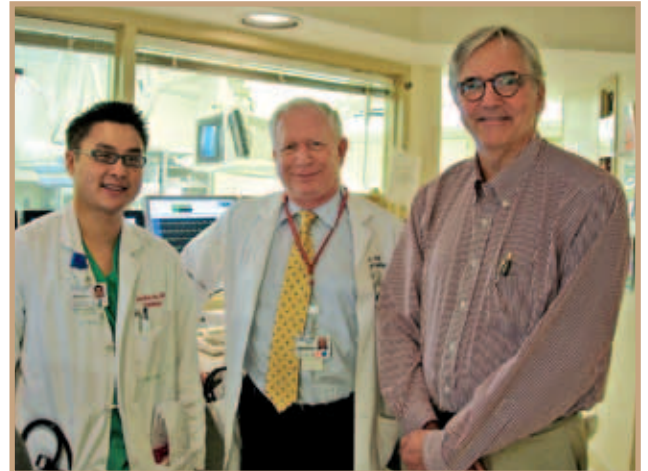
Headed by renowned cardiologist Dr. Peter Ganz, the division features three distinct but related functions: treatment, education and research.

“San Francisco General has one of the best cardiology divisions in the country for clinical care, for teaching and discovery,” says Ganz. “We provide healthcare at the highest level. We train the future leaders in cardiovascular medicine. And we’re doing cutting edge research.”

Cardiovascular disease refers to diseases of the heart or blood vessels (arteries and veins). The most common cause is atherosclerosis, commonly known as “hardening of the arteries,” which occurs when fatty material and plaque build up within the walls of the arteries.

Patients served at SFGH often present a higher risk for heart disease than those in the general population.

“We have a greater percentage of patients with HIV or diabetes than most private hospitals. And our patients



Jonathan Hsu, MD, Peter Ganz, MD and John S. MacGregor, MD.

are more likely to be cigarette smokers or abuse other substances,” explains Ganz. “We provide them with the highest quality compassionate care.”

SFGH sees patients with an extraordinary breadth of heart diseases, including diseases of the heart valves that become either too narrow (valves do not open) or too leaky (valves

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Welcome to ...



It is our great pleasure to announce the arrival of the SFGH Foundation’s new Executive Director, Stephanie Bray. Stephanie will assume the Executive Director post on January 11, 2010. Stephanie is an experienced development professional who has built her capabilities through a range of experiences in health, hospital and educational organizations and

institutions throughout her 20+ year career. She is currently the Assistant Dean for Health Sciences Advancement at the University of California, Davis. In that role, she was responsible for raising all philanthropic support for the School of Medicine, School of Nursing, Medical Center and for basic research. She has capital campaign experience and has served as campaign director for two comprehensive campaigns.

Passionate about social justice issues, Stephanie is very attracted to San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center and the mission of the Foundation. She knows the hospital well as her sister is a charge nurse in the Women’s Option Center.

Welcome Stephanie!

Farewell to ...

After providing strong and dedicated executive leadership for nearly five years, Katherine Ripley-Williams departed her position as Executive Director of the SFGH Foundation in October 2009 to return “home” to the Rocky Mountain West to become the executive director of the San Isabel Land Trust. She and her husband have been building a straw bale house in Westcliffe, Colorado that is now complete and is their home.

With Katherine at the helm, the Foundation grew from a \$1.5 million to a \$10.5 million organization and from a staff of three full-time employees to a staff of eight full-time and part-time employees. Beyond raising funds, Katherine strengthened the SFGH Foundation’s relationship with donors, local and national foundations, hospital staff and executive leadership and the Foundation’s Board of Directors. Most notably, Katherine feels very proud that because of the success of Heroes & Hearts and the recognition it brought to San Francisco General Hospital Foundation and the Hospital, Proposition A successfully passed in the November of 2008.

Division of Cardiology

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do not close) or diseases of the heart muscle that manifest as congestive heart failure. Often, SFGH doctors treat patients who present with advanced symptoms.

Heart attacks are all too common in the United States, occurring at the rate of about 1.1 million each year. Many such patients are seen in the emergency department at SFGH. When a heart attack occurs, every minute counts. In recent years, the SFGH Division of Cardiology has improved its ability to treat heart attacks quickly and effectively. Previously, patients had to be transferred to another hospital, necessitating undue delays. Now, when someone is having a heart attack, a specialized team of cardiologists and nurses is promptly mobilized.

“Typically within 90 minutes after the patient is brought to the emergency department, our specialists can use angioplasty and stents to re-open the occluded coronary artery that caused the heart attack,” says Ganz. “This rapid response saves heart muscle and lives. Eighty patients with heart attacks will be treated in this manner at SFGH this year alone, and we expect a high success rate.”



Dr. Ganz discusses a case with Maeve Reid, RN.

An affiliate of the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), SFGH is also renowned for cutting-edge research. Building on its national leadership role in the field, the SFGH Cardiology Division launched the Center for Excellence in Vascular Research in November of 2008. The center’s goal is to advance discovery in the prevention and treatment of human vascular disease. One of several targeted areas focuses on HIV and cardiovascular disease.

“HIV is now recognized as a risk factor for several cardiovascular diseases. As patients with HIV are surviving into old age due to improved treatments, they are prone to developing illness that come with aging, including atherosclerosis, at a rapid pace,” explains Ganz. “How do we keep these patients healthy and alive?”

“Likewise, SFGH sees many patients with rheumatoid arthritis, which is an inflammatory condition affecting the joints. We know that inflammation anywhere within the body can hasten atherosclerosis and leave patients prone to heart attacks. The more we understand the interplay between the body’s various organ systems, the more effectively we can prevent heart disease.”

Other areas SFGH researchers are studying are the effects of second-hand smoke on heart disease, and the effects of obesity and bariatric surgery on cardiovascular risk.

“Many morbidly obese patients have diabetes,” Ganz explains. “Often, that resolves after bariatric surgery (popularly known as gastric bypass). But will bariatric surgery reduce their risk for adverse

cardiovascular outcomes? That’s what we are investigating now.”

He adds that SFGH researchers are also engaged in identifying biomarkers for cardiovascular disease.

“Molecules that are associated with a disease may appear in the blood even before the disease presents. These are known as biomarkers,” Ganz explains. “When we understand these biomarkers, we can identify and forestall diseases before they occur.”

To that end, SFGH researchers partner with leading biotech companies throughout the Bay Area and elsewhere. Their work is enabling them to develop new platforms for testing biomarkers.

“This may be a county hospital, but it doesn't mean we can't muster the resources and know-how for cutting-edge research.”

“Now we can do some of our testing of biomarkers in patients’ homes,” says Ganz. “It’s perfect for those with chronic heart conditions.”

The treatments in conditions like congestive heart failure might be tailored according to biomarker levels that precisely indicate the severity of this illness. Treatment based on biomarkers may improve outcomes and reduce the need for hospitalizations.

Ganz is quick to emphasize the collaborative efforts and extraordinary relationships between researchers both within SFGH and between SFGH and UCSF.

“They make for natural collaborations,” he says. “The Center for Excellence is not just doing research within cardiology, but collaborates with the Positive Health Program, endocrinology, rheumatology, internal medicine, pharmacology, obstetrics and gynecology and more,” Ganz adds. “This may be a county hospital, but it doesn’t mean we can’t muster the resources and know-how for cutting-edge research.”

As an example, he cites studies linking the risk of cardiovascular disease with rheumatoid arthritis. Dr. John Imboden, Chief of the Division of Rheumatology, has already established a group of 500 patients at UCSF with rheumatoid arthritis who are followed meticulously; but the investigations of these subjects have not specifically focused on cardiovascular diseases.

“It certainly makes sense for us to establish collaborations and draw on existing population than to start over each time. SFGH is a perfect environment for such collaborative work,” says Ganz.

“San Francisco General has one of the best cardiology divisions in the country for clinical care, for teaching and discovery... We provide healthcare at the highest level. We train the future leaders in cardiovascular medicine. And we're doing cutting edge research.”

In addition to SFGH being a leader in cardiac clinical care and research, the hospital is also known as one of the best in teaching facilities in the country and a favorite place for trainees, from medical students to residents and cardiology fellows.

“San Francisco General Hospital is a great place for people to learn. Our fellows and residents are drawn to caring for the underserved, the indigent and various ethnic groups” says Ganz. “They’re more closely involved in the care of patients here than

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participating in the annual
AVON WALK for Breast Cancer



July 10-11, 2010

www.avonwalk.org

Donor Spotlight



Earnestine Wilson has several reasons to be thankful to the San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center. Though she had insurance as a teacher in the San Francisco Unified School District for over 25 years, Earnestine was struck by a car in the 1970's and was rushed to SFGH for medical treatment. A number of years later, she fell in the classroom and again received excellent care at SFGH.

In 2007 her husband, Jimmie, suffered a heart attack and was also brought to SFGH. "Everyone was so concerned and down to earth. Though he did not recover from his heart condition, he received the best of care." Earnestine was recently in a position to make a generous gift to the San Francisco General Hospital Foundation making her one of the first members of the newly created Silver Heart Circle. "San Francisco General is the best in the United States. They treat everybody the same. I made this gift in Jimmie's honor as he would have wanted me to give back to our community hospital."

Earnestine L. Wilson

2009 Community Humanitarian Award

Bayview Hunter's Point Multipurpose Senior Services, Inc.

they would be in a private setting. Even though our cardiology faculty is relatively modest in size, it's a very distinguished group of national leaders in their fields."

Ganz cites Drs. Elliot Rapaport, Melvin Cheitlin, Nora Goldschlager, Neal Benowitz and David Waters as pioneers and leaders in their fields of interest who have made key contributions to cardiology for many years. He adds that Drs. Ann Bolger, Mary Gray, Priscilla Hsue, John MacGregor and Ramin Farzaneh-Far have also earned national reputations as first-class clinicians, investigators and teachers.

"Furthermore," Ganz says, "the entire cardiology division owes a debt of gratitude to its devoted support staff that shares in the vision, to the dedicated volunteer faculty and to the Department of Medicine under the leadership of Drs. Talmadge King and Neil Powe for its steadfast support."

Ganz joined San Francisco General Hospital in January 2008, after nearly 25 years at Brigham and Women's Hospital, a teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School.

"If there are two places nationally I'd single out for quality of patient care, devotion to education and innovation in cardiovascular medicine, they would be San Francisco General and the Brigham," Ganz says.

While his tenure at SFGH has been relatively short, it is "incredibly gratifying," he adds.

"Here in San Francisco, we have an extraordinary population being served by some of the brightest and most dedicated professionals in the world. Our work is helping people live longer, healthier lives." 🌟

A special Thank You to **Gallery 444**. The Union Square art gallery held a holiday art party on December 5th and donated a portion of the proceeds to support the Division of Cardiology at San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center.

HONORING HEROES IN THE COMMUNITY
& UNVEILING THE 2010 HEARTS IN SAN FRANCISCO

HEROES & HEARTS

HEROES



LUNCHEON

FEB. 11, 2010

Thursday,
February 11, 2010
11:30 a.m.
San Francisco's
Union Square

Benefiting San Francisco General Hospital Foundation

For tickets, sponsorship information, or questions about
purchasing a heart, please call 415.206.5928 or visit sfghf.net

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LARGE
HEARTS

5' TALL,
APPROX. 400 LBS.



ADRIAN CARD
"VOGEL MUZIEK"



MICHAL GAVISH
"IN THE HEART OF THE CITY"



JOHN KRAFT
"NIGHT & DAY"



KEIKO NELSON
"HEART & HEART, SAN FRANCISCO"



MANISHA PATEL
"MICROCLIMATES"



NANCY TORRES
"HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS"



LAUREL TRUE
"PARADISE"



ALFRED J. WHITE
"THE WARM RICH HEART DIVIDED"



TABLE TOP
HEARTS

17" TALL,
APPROX. 25 LBS.



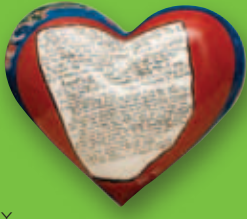
JOHN HAINES
"ECHO"



SOFIE HARRISON
"VENUS"



SAUL LEVY
"THE HEART SURGEON"



JANE LIDZ
"VIVALDI'S HEART"



TOMAS NAKADA
& ANNE VERALDI
"PSYCHEDELIC LOVE HEART"



REED SLATER
"SMALL JOYS"



HEARTS After Dark

Benefiting San Francisco General Hospital Foundation

Join San Francisco General Hospital Foundation for an evening of cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and live entertainment featuring popular 80s cover band Tainted Love and DJ Solomon at San Francisco's Union Square. The evening will introduce a new generation of San Franciscans to the programs and services offered by San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center and give people of all ages a way to not only support one of the city's most giving foundations, but a chance to rock out in one of San Francisco's most famous locations. So come out and share your love for a wonderful cause while celebrating under the stars in the heart of San Francisco.



Purchase tickets online at sfghf.net

General Admission: \$75

VIP: \$125

Thursday, February 11, 2010

7-10pm ♥ Union Square, San Francisco

♥ FEATURING TAINTED LOVE & DJ SOLOMON ♥

For more information, please contact Katie Moe at [415.206.5928](tel:415.206.5928) or kmoe@sfghf.net

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Ground Broken for New Hospital Building at the San Francisco General Hospital & Trauma Center

San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center (SFGH) celebrated the rebuilding of its inpatient care facility October 22, 2009 with a groundbreaking ceremony less than one year after 84% of San Francisco voters passed Proposition A, which authorized city financing of the project.

“The people of San Francisco appreciate the value of San Francisco General and they sent that message loud and clear last year,” said Mayor Gavin Newsom. “Now we are moving forward to strengthen the General by building a new hospital that the entire city can be proud of for generations to come.”

The new 448,000 square-foot building, scheduled to open in 2015, will be nine stories (seven stories above ground and two below) and house 284 inpatient beds, 32 more beds than the current hospital. The new building will feature a state-of-the-art environment including patient care areas that have been designed to reduce errors and infections and improve quality and nursing care. The \$887.4 million hospital will be LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified and will feature a seismically compliant design allowing the hospital building to move 30 inches in any direction.

“We are grateful for the support that the city and its residents have shown San Francisco General,” said Sue Currin, Chief Executive Officer. “As the city’s only trauma center, we have the opportunity to serve everyone who lives in, works in or visits San Francisco. On top of that, we care for 100,000 people each year and provide 20% of the city’s inpatient care. The new hospital will allow us to do an even better job fulfilling our mission to provide high quality health care to all.”

Additional speakers at the event included Sue Carlisle, Associate Dean, University of California, San Francisco, Sue Currin, SFGH CEO, Judy Guggenhime, President of the San Francisco General Hospital Foundation, Mitch Katz, Director of the San Francisco Department of Public Health and Ed Reiskin, Director of the San Francisco Department of Public Works. The Department of Public Works will provide overall program management of the construction of the General Hospital Rebuild project.

For information on the San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center rebuild, please visit www.sfdph.org/dph/rebuildSFGH/. 🌱



Left to Right: Susan A. Currin; Sue Carlisle, MD, PhD; Judy Guggenhime, SFGH Foundation; Mayor Gavin Newsom, and Pam and Larry Baer break ground for the new hospital.

Extraordinary Giving

For over 20 years the patients at San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center have benefited from the generous support of local Bay Area philanthropists, **Doris and Don Fisher**. As the 2008-2009 economic downturn made its impact known for many local nonprofits, the Fishers responded by not only renewing their support of the SFGH Foundation, but by doubling their previous gift!

Sadly, we were notified of their generous gift just weeks prior to Mr. Fisher’s passing in September. While the SFGH Foundation along with other San Francisco nonprofits mourn his loss, we generously thank Mrs. Fisher for her continued commitment to helping SFGH provide the highest level of medical care to those in need. 🌱



San Francisco General Hospital Foundation

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Of Note



SFGH Foundation is proud to welcome **Elaine Lan** as our Development Coordinator for Special Events.

Hal F. Yee, Jr., M.D., Ph.D., is the new Chief Medical Officer at San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center. Dr. Yee is the William and Mary Ann Rice Memorial Distinguished Professor of Medicine at UCSF, and will continue in his roles as Chief of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at SFGH and Director of the Center for Specialty Access & Quality. He served as interim Chief of Medical Services at SFGH from October 2007 to April 2009. In his nearly five years at SFGH, Dr. Yee has contributed to patient care, quality and safety in numerous ways, most notably by conceiving eReferral. He was recently recognized with a Hero award from the SFGH Foundation. His current research focuses on improving access to and the quality of specialty care by enhancing the primary care provider and specialist interaction.

The innovative, patient-centered work of our **Adult Medicine Clinic** and its diabetes care was highlighted recently by the California Association of Public Hospitals in an effort to spread the word about the cutting edge chronic care management that takes place at SFGH.

San Francisco General Hospital Foundation

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