



San Francisco General Hospital Foundation News

WINTER 2010/JAN. 2011 VOL. 11 NO. 3



Dear Friends,

I continue to be inspired every day by the dedication of the staff at San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center. They work tirelessly on behalf of patients who are among the most vulnerable in our community. They also work on behalf of all of us who rely on the trauma expertise that The General provides. I am also inspired by the generosity of our donors and advocates. Your support and partnership helps the Hospital fulfill its mission to provide high-quality healthcare and trauma services with compassion and respect.

I am grateful to the San Francisco General Hospital Foundation Board members who continue to give so generously of their time and treasure. In 2010, we said goodbye to retiring Board members Lyman Casey, Gretchen Lieff, Barbara Vermut, and Brandt Hooker, who remain advocates and supporters of our work. We welcomed Amy Busch, Priscilla Geeslin, Lisa Hauswirth, Walter Newman, Roland Pickens, Alex Rosenblatt, Connie Shanahan and Dr. Michael West, who challenge all of us to think bigger and reach higher.

In addition to my coming on board, we welcomed two new members to the Foundation's staff. Kelley Long joined us as our grant writer and Alice He as our bookkeeper. They join a team of professionals who believe deeply in the mission of San Francisco General Hospital and I am fortunate to work with such a dedicated group. We will miss the contributions of Mary Casey, Ruta Abraham and Constance Burnikel to our staff.

In 2010, we saw our Heroes & Hearts luncheon grow in both revenue and attendance, with over 860 guests contributing a total of \$1.3 million in support. We launched Hearts After Dark, which attracted over 700 guests to what *San Francisco magazine* voted Best Nonprofit Event in 2010. Our dedicated committee and generous sponsors made this success possible. This year's Hearts events on February 10th are sure to sell out, so I encourage you to purchase your tickets today!

The Foundation is especially grateful to Priscilla and Keith Geeslin, whose matching gift brought us many new friends and inspired long-time friends to increase their support. As a result, we exceeded our goal of \$200,000 in new and increased gifts to the Foundation. The Geeslin's match doubled that amount and I thank them for inspiring all of us.

This support, and more, enables us to fund programs at The General like the Medical-Legal Partnership, which is featured in this issue of Foundation News. This program provides a voice to those who experience adverse health effects due to social injustices like poor housing conditions or denial of public benefits.

Finally, I congratulate the 2010 Hearts Grants recipients. Whether funding education for brain injury patients, or for teaching expectant parents how to care for their newborns, the San Francisco General Hospital Foundation is proud to be able to make such a difference. Thank you again.

Stephanie R.M. Bray
Executive Director



REBUILD REPORT

New hospital project finishes the year on time and under budget. Major milestones achieved.

The SFGH Rebuild is underway!

The site utilities have been relocated and work begins to lay the hospital's foundation. The base-isolated design will make our hospital the most seismically safe in the city.

We are also delighted to report that so far, the budget is running 13 percent (\$17.6 million) under estimates, as major trade packages have come in low. These include structural steel, elevators and concrete. Construction is also on schedule, with completion slated for 2015.

DID YOU KNOW?

DESIGN: The hospital will have nine stories (floors). Two stories will be below ground. The new building will be curved to allow for the best patient care inside and a graceful design on the outside.

ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS: The new hospital will use design principles to protect the environment. The goal is to reach the Gold level of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification.

PATIENT CARE: The new hospital will have 32 more beds than the current hospital, for a total of 284 beds.



For More Information:

Information line: (415) 206-5784
Email: sfgh_rebuild@sfdph.org
Web Site: <http://www.sfdph.org/dph/rebuildSFGH/>

Watch the Construction as It Happens. To view a live webcam: http://www.onsiteview.com/cams/view_remote.php?license=OSV-6ArUOW

San Francisco Medical-Legal Partnership: Collaborating for Healthy Outcomes

For nine-year-old Miguel, living with severe asthma had been hard enough. Without the help of the San Francisco Medical-Legal Partnership (SFMLP), it could have been so much harder. Miguel was being treated for his asthma at San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center (SFGH) with regular steroid infusions and other medicines. But coming home to a mold- and pest-infested apartment would inevitably trigger repeat visits to the hospital. The frequent doctor visits left Miguel’s mother unable to work, and lack of income and access to resources prevented the family from being able to find a new apartment.

SFMLP attorney Sabrina Adler helped the family successfully apply for disability benefits for Miguel, based on his severe asthma; and income provided by those benefits enabled them to move to a mold- and pest-free environment.

Medical-legal partnerships bring attorneys into medical clinics to provide legal assistance to low-income families. Located in the Pediatric Asthma Clinic at the SFGH Children’s Health Center, the San Francisco MLP partners San Francisco General Hospital with Bay Area Legal Aid (BayLegal), an organization that provides free legal assistance to low-income residents throughout the Bay Area.

“Medical-legal partnerships link two professions that are already serving the same population,” says SFMLP attorney Adler.

She explains that children living in poverty frequently experience destabilizing factors that can adversely impact health. “Often, families don’t know that they have a legal right to remedy these issues. Many of the families referred from the Asthma Clinic aren’t aware that some of the problems they have are legal in nature.

“Even if they are aware of that fact, they usually have not sought legal advice because they don’t know how to do so,” Adler continues. “Nonetheless, these legal problems, when left unaddressed, affect their health.”

By placing a lawyer in the medical clinic, the SFMLP is able to help patient families with issues related to housing, public benefits, education, and family law. The most common issue that arises, perhaps because of its direct connection with asthma, is housing. Factors such as leaky roofs, mold, and rodent infestations produce poor indoor air quality that can cause or exacerbate asthma and allergies. These and other problems can undermine the efficacy of even the best medical treatment. While medical providers can prescribe medications and counsel patients about environmental triggers, they don’t always have the tools to address the underlying housing conditions that contribute to illness.



Asthma clinic patients with Sabrina Adler JD, Bay Area Legal Aid.

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“If we can help a two-year-old live in an apartment with fewer asthma triggers, we save the child from worsening disease and we save the medical care system from costly acute care visits and hospital stays.”

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“Our attorney partner is a critical resource for these at-risk families,” says Dr. Amy Whittle, Medical Director of the SFMLP. “In the midst of a busy clinic day, medical providers may not have the time or expertise to help families navigate legal remedies for substandard housing conditions or public benefit applications that have been denied. It’s a relief to have someone physically in the medical clinic whom we can turn to for help and hope.”

In addition to providing direct legal services to families, the SFMLP also works to educate healthcare providers about the social issues affecting families’ health. Adler and experts in areas such as domestic violence, immigration, education and housing conduct training programs for SFGH physicians, residents and medical students.

“The hope is that medical providers can better spot the social and legal issues affecting their patients and then make good referrals to the MLP,” she says.

“Most doctors don’t know how the housing or benefits systems work,” adds Whittle. “These trainings give our providers greater comfort in being able to refer patients or help them access resources. That enables us to be more holistic in how we work with families. It helps us prioritize.”

As an example, Whittle cites cases in which she needs to write letters to landlords on behalf of patients whose health is being adversely affected by their housing conditions. Adler and Whittle worked together to create a form letter, available to all medical providers in the pediatric clinic, that outlines the connection between housing problems and poor health and cites housing law that requires the landlord to remedy the problem. Providers can simply fill in a few blanks and print the letter to hand to patients by the end of the clinic visit.

“Before this work, writing a letter might have been low down on my priority list. But I now see why this small act can be more important than writing a prescription for an inhaled corticosteroid. The partnership helps us see our patients as whole people in particular environments, rather than as a collection of symptoms,” says Whittle.

She adds that the earlier those interventions are made, the more likely they are to prevent bigger problems from occurring.

“Asthma is the number one reason that children get hospitalized at SFGH. If we can help a two-year-old live in an apartment with fewer asthma triggers, we save the child from worsening disease and we save the medical care system from costly acute care visits and hospital stays.”

The SFMLP is part of a dynamic network of more than 200 such partnerships nationwide (www.medical-legalpartnership.org). The first medical-legal partnership was established in 1993 at Boston Medical Center by Dr. Barry Zuckerman, a physician who was frustrated by the myriad non-medical factors affecting his patients’ health. Like many physicians, Zuckerman lacked the tools to force landlords to clean up substandard apartments or to help families apply for public benefits. Realizing that an attorney could help patients navigate complex legal systems that held solutions to their health problems, Zuckerman established the first Medical-Legal



Amy Whittle, MD examines a young patient.

Partnership for Children. His groundbreaking effort proved to be successful and other medical institutions around the country soon began to replicate it.

In the Bay Area, medical-legal partnerships are located at Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital in Palo Alto, Ravenswood Family Health Center in East Palo Alto, San Mateo Medical Center, Children’s Hospital Oakland, Marin Community Clinics, various clinics in the Napa Valley, and Santa Clara Valley Medical Center in San Jose, in addition to SFGH. Together, they form the Medical-Legal Bay Area Coalition, which collaborates to share expertise and experience.

“By partnering with others in the Bay Area, we share resources like educational talks and screening forms. We can also collaborate on local or state programs and policies that we’d like to advocate for on behalf of our patients,” says Whittle. “Our goal is to aggregate our data and make it relevant for funders who want to support us as a group.”

The efforts of MLPs—in the Bay Area and nationwide—have made federal legislators stand up and take notice. In August, a bipartisan coalition of lawmakers introduced legislation in the House and Senate that would set aside \$10 million for a demonstration and evaluation program to bring attorneys into healthcare settings to integrate preventive law and medicine. According to the bill’s sponsors, an ongoing pilot study in Boston has shown a 50 percent reduction in emergency room visits after medical-legal partnership interventions.

“The power of medical-legal partnerships is in leveraging resources that are already out there. We’re not re-inventing the wheel,” says Whittle. “Patients may just not know about free legal aid, their eligibility for food and cash assistance, or their rights to adequate housing or individualized educational plans. Our program costs are minimal—essentially the attorney’s time—but with this small investment, we help patients and their families open the door to better living conditions and better health.”

Medical Legal Partnership Needs Your Support. To learn how you can help, please contact Kelley Long, 415.206.5803 or klong@sghf.net.



L to R: Lee Anna Botkin MD, Santa Clara Valley Medical Center; Brooke Heymach JD, Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County; Dana Weintraub MD, Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital; Amy Whittle MD, UCSF/SFGH; Jessa Barnard JD, formerly of the Law Foundation of Silicon Valley (now at the Maine Medical Association); Sabrina Adler JD, Bay Area Legal Aid in Washington, DC.

LARGE HEARTS 5' TALL, APPROX. 400 LBS.



JULIA DI BIASI
"MY ATLANTIS, MY SAN FRANCISCO"



LAWRENCE NOBLE
"THERE IS NO TRY"



HILARY PECIS
UNTITLED



JEREMY SUTTON
"CLASSIC SAN FRANCISCO"



HEROES & HEARTS

LUNCHEON

11:30am - 1:30pm

An afternoon honoring local heroes and unveiling
the 2011 series of *Hearts in San Francisco*.

Tickets: \$300

JOIN

HEARTS

Thursday, Feb

UNION S

TENTED

For Tickets & Sponsorship Infor

TABLE TOP HEARTS 17" TALL, APPROX. 25 LBS.



LINDA ADREVENO
"LOVE LACE"



JOAN ÉLAN DAVIS
"BEAUTIFUL SURPRISE"



MAY M. DRIS
"PUZZLED HEART"



These one-of-a-kind Table Top Hearts and select Large Hearts a



SPECIAL PREVIEW – TA

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January 27 -

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"CHOSEN ONES"



DANIEL TOUSIGNANT
"TREE OF LIFE"



Us!

EVENTS

February 10, 2011

SQUARE,
EVENTS

HEARTS After Dark

EVENING EVENT

7:00pm - 10:00pm

An evening of music by Chris Clouse and DJ Solomon, hors d'oeuvres
& cocktails under the stars in the heart of San Francisco.

General Admission: \$75 & VIP \$125

Information 415.206.5928 or sfghf.net



MARK PARON
"CANDY CRINKLE"



MELANIE PIECH
"ADVICE FROM THE HEART"



JULIAN TOMCHIN
"CALIFORNIA CALICO"



Available for purchase during the Silent Auction at the luncheon.

DOUBLE TOP HEARTS WINDOW DISPLAY

Stockton & Geary Streets
- February 9



TABLE

MCKESSON

THE STANLEY S.
LANGENDORF FOUNDATION

VISA

WELLS
FARGO

HEROES & HEARTS 2010

Thank you for making our 5th annual HEROES & HEARTS a success with a sold out crowd of over 860 guests and more than \$1.3 million raised. The luncheon event honors community heroes, showcases the newest series of *Hearts in San Francisco* ‘heartworks,’ and celebrates the amazing work that takes place at SFGH 24/7.



Andre Campbell, MD greets Lieutenant Governor (then Mayor) Gavin Newsom.



Charlotte and George Shultz admire the Table Top Hearts.

Stephanie Bray, Executive Director, SFGH Foundation awards a grant to SF Behavioral Health Center.



Connie Shanahan, Board of Directors, SFGH Foundation and HEROES & HEARTS 2011 co-chair presents a check for Neonatal Simulation Equipment Program to Shilu Ramchand, Fe Hortinela, and Dr. Elena Fuentes-Afflick.

HEARTS GRANTS AWARDS

San Francisco General Hospital Foundation awarded over \$1.2 million in Hearts Grant funding to nearly 60 programs at SFGH during a reception on October 28, 2010. Grants were awarded to improve patient care throughout the hospital for educational materials, equipment and supplies. Hearts Grants are made possible by funds raised from the annual HEROES & HEARTS luncheon and HEARTS AFTER DARK evening event.



MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL VISITS PEDIATRICS

Young patients received a surprise visit from Lou Seal, San Francisco Giants mascot, who was on hand to present a mobile entertainment unit to the Pediatric Department on behalf of Major League Baseball and Starlight Children’s Foundation.

Lou Seal stopped by to say hello to all the in-patient children.



Vera Clemente, Wife of the late Hall of Famer Roberto Clemente unveils the Fun Center.



Sue Currin, CEO, SFGH with Pam Baer, Board Member, SFGH Foundation, and Lou Seal and patients.



Roberto Clemente, Jr. plays on the Fun Center with pediatric patients.

HEARTS AFTER DARK 2010

The inaugural HEARTS AFTER DARK attracted 700 guests and helps bring awareness to a new generation of San Franciscans about the vital work that takes place at San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center.



Stephan Jenkins, lead singer in the band Third Eye Blind greets Larry Baer, President, SF Giants and Pam Baer.



Guests enjoying sweet treats from the complimentary candy cart.



Over 700 guests attended the inaugural HEARTS AFTER DARK.



Aerial view of HEARTS AFTER DARK



SFGH REBUILD MURAL PAINT-IN

The community came together on October 2nd to beautify the SFGH Rebuild construction wall by painting a mural spanning two blocks along Potrero Avenue from 22nd to 23rd Streets. The original artwork was created by Beuna Vista Elementary School students, hospital patients and staff, and other community members. A special thank you to Precita Eyes Muralists who not only helped ensure the mural came to life, they also used some of the mural graphics to create a Heart for the 2011 series of *Hearts in San Francisco*. The mural will remain on display through 2015, the length of the Rebuild.



DOROTHY WASHINGTON NURSES SCHOLARSHIP GALA

The 4th annual Dorothy Washington Nurses Scholarship Gala was a celebratory evening highlighted by the announcement of the four awardees who will receive scholarships to continue their nursing education. The event helped raise more than \$30,000 in support of future scholarships.



Sharon McCole-Wicher, Chief Nursing Officer congratulates scholarship recipients Sharee Bayear, Stacey Murphy, Erica Simonich and Venus Peralta.



Cheers to the nursing staff at SFGH!

Dorothy Washington's family helps celebrate her legacy of mentoring and supporting novice nurses.



San Francisco General Hospital Foundation

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Of Note



Check out the new Stop Smoking iPhone application created by an SFGH and UCSF team, led by **Dr. Ricardo Muñoz, SFGH Chief Psychologist**. The new bilingual mobile application aims to help smokers quit by including mood among the triggers for smoking. The methods used in the app were developed at SFGH and have shown quit rates equal to the nicotine patch. The app works by prompting the user to set a specific quit date, tracks smoking behavior, teaches how to understand the factors that complicate quitting, provides reminders and encouragement as the quit date approaches and charts progress during the quitting process. The application is available in English and Spanish on iTunes for \$4.99. All proceeds help fund further research for the development of additional online and mobile applications for smoking, depression and other health problems.



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San Francisco General Hospital Foundation is dedicated to improving the care and comfort of patients at San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center.