

The CAO Weekly Report

The week of March 9, 2015



Monterey County Administrative Office

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- Donations make a difference at NMC
- Employee Giving Campaign honors its 'best'
- Upcoming events at the Health Department



Natividad Medical Center Puts Generous Donations to Work

Earlier this month, you may have seen news reports about significant donations made to Natividad Medical Center. Here is more information about who made those donations and how the monies will be used.



During the Natividad Medical Foundation's Annual Donor Celebration event, a series of tremendous donations made for an amazing evening. In total, \$880,000 was donated to the Foundation. These funds are being directed to support the violence and injury prevention program (called CHOICE) within the Natividad

Trauma Center, as well as being used to purchase medical equipment and other important hospital needs.

During the event, the Foundation highlighted the CHOICE program, which was launched in January and has already enrolled 14 young victims of violence.

“CHOICE is unique in the nation, because it provides peer intervention specialists 24/7,” explains Dr. Gary Gray, Interim CEO at Natividad. “Specialists can get to a bedside within 15 minutes, which is important, because they can reach a lot more young people during the very brief ‘teachable moment’ after a violent injury.”

Here is more about the organizations that are doing so much to help NMC.

The Agricultural Leadership Council (TALC), which has already raised more than a million dollars for the hospital, added to its impressive tally. During the March 5th event, TALC presented its largest gift to date, \$500,500, to help Natividad purchase medical equipment, provide spiritual care and support the hospital’s indigenous interpreting services.

On the heels of that donation, the Hayes Charitable Foundation announced a gift of \$300,000 which will support the hospital’s child sexual abuse clinic, “Trauma Man” simulation training equipment, Child Passenger Seat certification by Safe Kids and the Patient Greatest Needs Fund.

The Foundation not only received, but gave awards during this event. It honored five local organizations as 2015 Hero Award recipients for continually improving the health status of the residents of Monterey County. Among those honored, the Monterey County Administrative Office, Office of Community Engagement and Advocacy.

Manny González, Assistant County Administrative Officer, was on hand at the event to receive his office’s award.

“I am humbled to be recognized along with a group of people and community organizations throughout the County who are working diligently to reduce violence in our communities,” he says.



Departments Honored for Extraordinary Efforts in 2014 Employee Giving Campaign

The Monterey County Employee Giving Campaign will launch in August, but it’s never too early to hear about the success of this fantastic program. Did you know that our county giving program is one of the most successful programs of its type in the Monterey Bay area?

The goal of the giving campaign is to give county employees the change to positively contribute to agencies and services within Monterey County through payroll deductions.

And they do! After all the numbers were tallied, two departments in particular stood out for special acknowledgement.



The staff at the Elections Department had the highest employee participation rate of any department in the county during the 2014 giving campaign.

The Monterey County Elections Department was honored for Highest Employee Participation Rate.

“What made a difference is having a leader within our team who is enthusiastic and encourages us a little to participate,” explains Elections Department Director Claudio Valenzuela. “In our case, this person was Greta Arevalo. A big thank you to her and to our entire staff for their participation!”

Office, which was singled out for Greatest Increase in Employee Participation. Both departments were awarded plaques.

The other department honored was the Clerk of the Board’s

“Hats off these two departments in leading the County’s efforts to make a difference in the lives of so many in our community,” says 2014 Employee Giving Campaign Coordinator James May.

The Employee Giving Campaign is done in conjunction with the United Way and with six local federations, offering employees a way to give to their favorite causes. This year, Information Technology Department Director Dianah Neff will be the County Coordinator for the 2015 campaign.

“I feel confident that we will have an exciting County Giving Campaign that will serve to unite employees as we come together to help improve the quality of life for the neediest in Monterey County,” says Neff. “We can all look forward to camaraderie and fun as we come together in the spirit of giving.”



Few but effective! Clerk to the Board staff hold their award for Greatest Increase in Employee Participation.

Neff says this year's campaign will kick off with a 'Big Event' the week of August 10th with the official Giving Campaign running from August 17th through September 4th.

Look for exciting announcements to come!



Health Department Events have Deadlines Quickly Approaching

Two Health Department programs that touch on safety and awareness have deadlines for participation that are nearly upon us.



Next Tuesday, March 17th, the Health Promotion Partnership will present a workshop for county employees about preventing gang violence and keeping children safe. This program is unique because it's being presented both live, in person, at the Health Department's Whitney Room and being webcast so you can participate at your desk or in a meeting room with others.

The focus of the program is understanding the factors that attract youth to gangs and what families can do to prevent that from happening. Space is still available. To take part in this program, log into the [LDN webpage](#) for enrollment information. You can also contact Health Promotion at x4574.

The deadline is also next week for nominations for the 11th Annual Fiesta of Hope. The event, sponsored by the Mental Health Commission, recognizes and honors those who have made a significant contribution promoting mental health services in our community or who have used services in a significant or life-changing way.

Nomination forms are on the [Health Department's website](#) and are due March 18th. The event will be held May 7th.



(L-r) Public Defender Jim Egar, Supervisor Jane Parker and Assistant CAO Manny González at last year's Fiesta of Hope event.

