

December 2018



First TeleNeurology Patient Treated Successfully, But Larger Program is Only Partially Funded

TeleNeurology and Stroke Alerts went live on Monday, December 17th, at Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare. On Wednesday evening, a local resident walked into the Emergency Department (ED) with stroke-like symptoms. Our ED team activated a Stroke Alert, and everyone responded quickly. The process worked perfectly. The patient was evaluated by the neurologists in Palo Alto and received tPA (the clot-busting medication) shortly after arriving in the ED. On Friday morning, Shaké Sulikyan, Executive Director of VCCF, watched him “walk out of the Hospital (unaided) to go home. It was absolutely incredible!”

Our new Stroke Program Manager, Denise Ferrer, shares this message: “I just wanted to personally thank the donors for their continued contribution and support of this Hospital and our community. One success story is already complete!”



Even though we’ve made great strides toward reaching the fundraising goal for the [Campaign for Stroke Care](#), the program is only partially funded. To better serve the needs of your community, including rehabilitation and support services for stroke survivors, please consider **investing in this life-changing program by December 31**. [Your generous donation](#) will help close the Campaign’s current funding gap of \$360,447.

[Your special year-end gift](#) of \$1,000, \$2,500, \$10,000, or any amount can help provide quality rehabilitation and support services for local stroke patients in the years to come.

- Your gift of \$1,000 can help fund 5 rehabilitation visits for a stroke patient.
- Your gift of \$2,500 can help fund rehabilitation services for a month.
- Your gift of \$10,000 can help fund equipment like a state-of-the-art virtual reality system used in stroke rehabilitation, to help stroke patients return to their work and life faster.

[Donate Now to Help Stroke Patients in Your Community](#)



Compassionate Care in Action

A patient presented at the Urgent Care in Livermore in distress, accompanied by two strangers that the patient had flagged down off the street. One Admitting Registrar, Nathalie Peden, began speaking with the patient to assess his condition. Another Admitting Registrar, Joan Norton, ran to get the clinical team so the patient could begin receiving proper care as soon as possible. During that short minute and prior to getting registered, the patient collapsed in the lobby. The clinical team, Pinky Ramos, RN, Dr. Sanwong, Heather Frolines, Sia Stompro, and Frances Fenn, quickly rushed to the waiting room while Nathalie called 911. The clinical team collected vitals, began compressions, and provided care in the waiting room until the EMTs arrived and took the patient to the ED in Pleasanton.

Another patient observed the situation and complimented the Livermore team on their amazing response. The SHC – VC team came together quickly and efficiently to deliver the very best care to a patient in his emergent situation, delivering on our vision of healing humanity through science and compassion, one patient at a time.

(Pictured above: Some of the team members recently recognized for their quick response to the emergency.)



FilmArray® Blood Culture Identification (BCID) Panel Comes to Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare

According to the CDC, at least 1.7 million adults in America develop sepsis and nearly 270,000 Americans die because of sepsis each year. For each hour that severe sepsis goes untreated, the average mortality rate increases by 7.6%, making timely diagnosis and administration of appropriate therapy imperative for positive patient outcomes.

Starting this month, our Hospital will be using the cutting-edge FilmArray® Blood Culture Identification (BCID) Panel from BioFire Diagnostics. This technology can help identify more than 100 blood pathogens known to cause sepsis in about one hour, more rapidly than conventional identification methods which take days.

“Rapid identification has been shown to reduce mortality rates, shorten hospital stays, and lower overall costs due to sepsis,” says Virginia Davis, Director of Laboratory Services at Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare. “The infectious disease, pharmacy, and laboratory teams are excited to bring this leading-edge technology to our community. It will have positive effects on our antibiotic stewardship and quality of patient care.”

(Pictured above: Project team members)

[Support State-of-the-Art Equipment](#)



Scott Gregerson Stepping Down

Scott Gregerson will step down as President of Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare effective January 4. He will be spending more time with his family, including his two young children. Scott was working as Vice President of Strategic Partnerships for ValleyCare Health Systems when he was promoted to Interim President/CEO in February 2014. Following ValleyCare’s affiliation with Stanford Health Care the next May, he was named to his current position as President of Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare.

On behalf of all the employees at Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare, the ValleyCare Charitable Foundation Board and donors, and members of the Tri-Valley community, we would like to thank Scott for his leadership and services to the Tri-Valley communities and the patients we serve each day. We wish him the very best as he embarks on new personal and professional adventures and challenges. To learn more, read the articles in the [Pleasanton Weekly](#) or in [The Independent](#) published earlier this month.

ValleyCare
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Supporting
Stanford Health Care - ValleyCare

Your ValleyCare Charitable Foundation (VCCF) team has one mission: To help provide Stanford Health Care -- ValleyCare with the resources it needs to offer the Tri-Valley exceptional, patient-centered community medicine, coupled with specialized Stanford Medicine programs to deliver a full continuum of care. This eNewsletter is a monthly email newsletter distributed to friends of ValleyCare Charitable Foundation. If you have questions about the content in the newsletter, please contact the [VCCF Team](#).

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