

Promoting the Health of Monterey Bay Communities

In the Monterey Bay area, hospitals are strong drivers in the local economy, deliver high quality patient care, provide safety net services to residents in need, improve community health outcomes, and serve as a vital element in the region's emergency services plans.



Here is a sampling of partnerships, programs and services designed to deliver quality patient care, increase access to primary care services, and improve health outcomes in **Monterey County**, **San Benito County** and **Santa Cruz County**.

Caring for the Most Vulnerable

Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula, **Natividad** and **Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System** fund a six-bed respite center for homeless individuals in need of short-term recuperative care following inpatient hospitalization. The center, operated by Community Homeless Solutions, provides case management services to help participants acquire stable housing and access eligible benefits and services, and transportation to medical appointments.

Dominican Hospital and **Sutter Health/Palo Alto Medical Foundation** provide financial support for the Recuperative Care Center. Homeless individuals discharged from inpatient stays at local hospitals are able to continue to recover while receiving integrated social services, including housing, behavioral health services and benefits enrollment.

Montage Health, parent company of **Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula**, operates a mobile clinic serving the homeless in Monterey County. The 40-foot-long retrofitted bus serves targeted areas on a scheduled basis.

Addressing Community Wellness

In its continuing commitment to meet the #1 health need in the community, **Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System** opened its Pediatric Diabetes Center, operated in conjunction with UC San Francisco Medical Center. The partnership provides families with local access to UCSF pediatric endocrinologists, diabetes experts and nurse practitioners.

Hazel Hawkins Memorial Hospital has opened the Barragan Family Diabetes Center to address the need for diabetic specialty care in San Benito County.

The Blue Zones Project is a geographically based, community-by-community comprehensive approach to well-being, driving measurable improvement in key metrics. The Blue Zones Project is brought to Monterey County by **Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System**, Taylor Farms, and Montage Health, parent company of **Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula**.

Expanding Access To Primary Care and Health Screenings

To meet the needs of the growing community, **Hazel Hawkins Memorial Hospital** has four community health centers strategically located throughout the county, a multi-specialty center, an orthopedic specialty center, Primary Care Associates group with three locations, and three satellite laboratories.

Serving the Southern Monterey County community, **George L. Mee Memorial Hospital** operates rural health clinics in King City and Greenfield. The hospital recently received a \$2.5 million grant from the Central California Alliance for Health for the expansion of the Greenfield Clinic, one of the busiest in the region.

Sutter Maternity & Surgery Center of Santa Cruz in partnership with Palo Alto Medical Foundation has awarded grants to Santa Cruz Community Health Centers and Salud Para La Gente, both Federally Qualified Health Centers, to expand primary care capacity through facility expansion and physician recruitment.

Watsonville Community Hospital has served the community for over 120 years. Currently about one-half of the hospital's patients are covered by Medi-Cal or Medi-Cal Managed Care. The hospital works closely with Salud Para La Gente to ensure continuity of care for its Medi-Cal patients. The hospital also has an affiliated physician practice, Coastal Health Partners, which provides primary care and specialty services in the community.

Trauma Care

Natividad, celebrating the third anniversary of its Level II Trauma Center designation, provides immediate availability of specialized personnel, equipment and services to treat the most severe and critical injuries. This vital service saves lives and eliminates the need to transport critically ill patients out of county.

Access to Specialty Care

Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula has introduced a structural heart program, adding transcatheter aortic valve replacement to the procedures available through the hospital's Tyler Heart Institute. This procedure is an important option for people who cannot undergo open heart surgery because they are too frail or have other health issues.

Watsonville Community Hospital's Wound Treatment Center specializes in treating chronic, non-healing wounds in need of extra help to heal. The hospital also offers orthopedic services and a pediatric hospitalist program in partnership with Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford.

Dominican Hospital offers a comprehensive, nationally recognized cardiac program. Services include extracorporeal life support, transcatheter aortic valve replacement, cardiac rehabilitation, and a free heart and vascular disease education and screening program. The cardiac team (medical staff and specialists) continually collaborate to improve cardiac care, shorten treatment times, and increase overall education so that patients can reach their health goals.

Sutter Maternity & Surgery Center of Santa Cruz and Palo Alto Medical Foundation (PAMF), part of Sutter Health, work together to provide access to specialty care across the inpatient and outpatient spectrum including orthopedics, general surgery, GI, urology, and gynecology. PAMF is proud to partner with local hospitals to provide quality care to patients.

Medical Education

Natividad is the only teaching hospital on the Central Coast through its affiliation with the UC San Francisco Medical Center. The Family Medicine Residency Program, postgraduate training for physicians specializing in family medicine, is recognized nationally and internationally as a model program. Approximately one-third of graduates remain on the Central Coast to practice medicine.

Hospitals provide an extensive array of community benefits to underserved populations and the broader community through partnerships with local organizations, caring for those without coverage (charity care), and by covering the unreimbursed cost of caring for those on government insurance programs, such as Medi-Cal and Medicare.