



Community Benefit Report  
FY 2012/2013

January 2014

## **Contact Information**

### **President and Chief Executive Officer**

Gustavo Valdespino

### **Chairman of the Board of Directors – FY 2012-2013**

Greg Kay

### **Staff Contact for Community Benefit Report**

Pegi Matsuda, Senior Vice President, Community and Market Development

(818) 902-2997

[Pegi.Matsuda@valleypres.org](mailto:Pegi.Matsuda@valleypres.org)

### **Facility Location**

15107 Vanowen Street

Van Nuys, CA 91405

[www.ValleyPres.org](http://www.ValleyPres.org)

## **Table of Contents**

<b>Sections</b>	<b>Page Number(s)</b>
Valley Presbyterian Hospital Contact Information	2
Vision, Mission and Values	4
About Valley Presbyterian Hospital	5
Valley Presbyterian Hospital Service Area	6-8
Community Development Planning	9
Community Health Needs Assessment	10-11
Medical Care Services	12-14
Community Education Programs	15-16
Community Partnerships and Support	17-18
Fiscal Year 2012/2013 Key Indicators	19-20

## **Vision, Mission and Values**

### **Our Mission**

To improve the quality of health in the San Fernando Valley

### **Our Vision**

Excellence in all we do

### **Core Values**

Demonstrate dignity and respect for all individuals

Deliver compassionate and patient-centric care that addresses diverse cultural needs

Create and maintain a quality environment that allows physicians and employees to succeed

Show pride in providing community-based health care

Promote trust and transparency

Encourage collaboration in the work place

## **About Valley Presbyterian Hospital**

Valley Presbyterian Hospital (VPH) opened its doors to the community in 1958 as a small, neighborhood provider of personalized medical care. Today, it is one of the largest and most prestigious full-service acute care facilities in the San Fernando Valley. Our 350-bed hospital serves thousands of families each year, with access to a wide range of medical expertise and leading-edge technology across multiple elements of care. Valley Presbyterian's nurses, therapists, technicians, and more than 500 physicians represent virtually every specialty and most sub-specialties in the medical field, including cardiac care, orthopedics, maternal and child health, and oncology.

Valley Presbyterian Hospital is one of the facilities best equipped to care for heart attack patients within the critical 90 minutes following the onset of chest pain. The hospital provides rapid response to heart attacks, as well as cardiac intervention and full surgery coverage, any time, day or night. Valley Presbyterian Hospital is a Certified Stroke Center providing immediate access to specialized neurologist via RP-Lite telemedicine technology. This system includes an on-camera interface that allows our physicians to perform real-time consultations with a neurologist located hours away. Valley Presbyterian Hospital is also an Emergency Department Approved for Pediatrics (EDAP), which features specialized pediatric teams, including pediatric surgeons and anesthesiologists, who assemble, triage, and fast-track children to the care they urgently need. While the hospital's range of acute-care services and expertise has continued to expand, Valley Presbyterian is one of the region's only independent, non-profit, and locally governed institutions that provides an exceptional level of care responding to the needs of the community. As a result, the hospital has been voted "Best Medical Center in the San Fernando Valley" by the readers of The Los Angeles Daily News for eight years in a row.

# **Valley Presbyterian Hospital Service Area**

## **Definition of Hospital Service Area**

Valley Presbyterian Hospital's total service area is comprised of almost 1.7 million persons, with a forecasted increase of 3.0 percent by 2016. Valley Presbyterian Hospital's primary service area has a population of approximately 1 million and is made up of 19 zip codes that have some of the lowest median household income levels—and highest population densities—in the San Fernando Valley region. The communities that Valley Presbyterian Hospital serves have diverse geography and topography, vary across levels of socio-economic status and educational attainment levels, and experience differences in physical environment and overall access to required health services. It includes the communities of Van Nuys, Pacoima, Reseda, Sun Valley, Canoga Park, Granada Hills, Panorama City, San Fernando, Sylmar, North Hills, North Hollywood, Sherman Oaks and Winnetka.

## **Description of Hospital Service Area**

The catchment area served by Valley Presbyterian Hospital is bordered to the north by the Santa Susana Mountains, the Santa Clarita Valley, and the city of Lancaster and rural communities in the Antelope Valley; to the east by the communities of Canyon Country, Sylmar, Sun Valley, and Studio City and the city of Palmdale and rural communities in the Antelope Valley; to the south by the communities of Van Nuys, Encino, Tarzana and Woodland Hills, and the Santa Monica mountains; and to the west by the communities of Calabasas, Canoga Park, and Chatsworth in Los Angeles County and Simi Valley of Ventura County.

The hospital service area includes higher income and middle-class households adjacent to pockets of extreme poverty and ethnic mobility. The economy includes leading educational institutions (California State University, Northridge and a workforce-oriented community college and occupational training system) and Van Nuys airport, one of the busiest general aviation airports in the country. The entertainment, technology, professional business services, and biomedical sectors have thrived, while manufacturing and aerospace have declined since the 1970s. In that timeframe, the economic base has shifted from durable goods to the services and retail sectors. Regarding service sector employment, higher wage occupations are found in motion picture production, software development, and health sciences, while lower wage industries include tourism, childcare, car washing, taxi driving, and retail. While this region is home to several large, widely -known companies, small-to-medium sized firms comprise 90% of all businesses.

Racial and ethnic diversity has increased substantially due to immigration from countries including Mexico, El Salvador, Iran, Israel, Armenia, Vietnam, Korea, India, and China. A nearly equal percentage of the region's residents are Latino and non-Hispanic white at close to 40% each, with a significant yet smaller percentage of Asian/Pacific Islanders and Blacks. Although the county and the state have begun to experience a slight increase in employment, the recovery has been slow following the global recession of 2009. While area residents are more educated, and higher proportions hold graduate and professional degrees compared to the rest of the county, poverty remains a significant barrier for families in several communities.

Service Area Population by Age and Gender\*

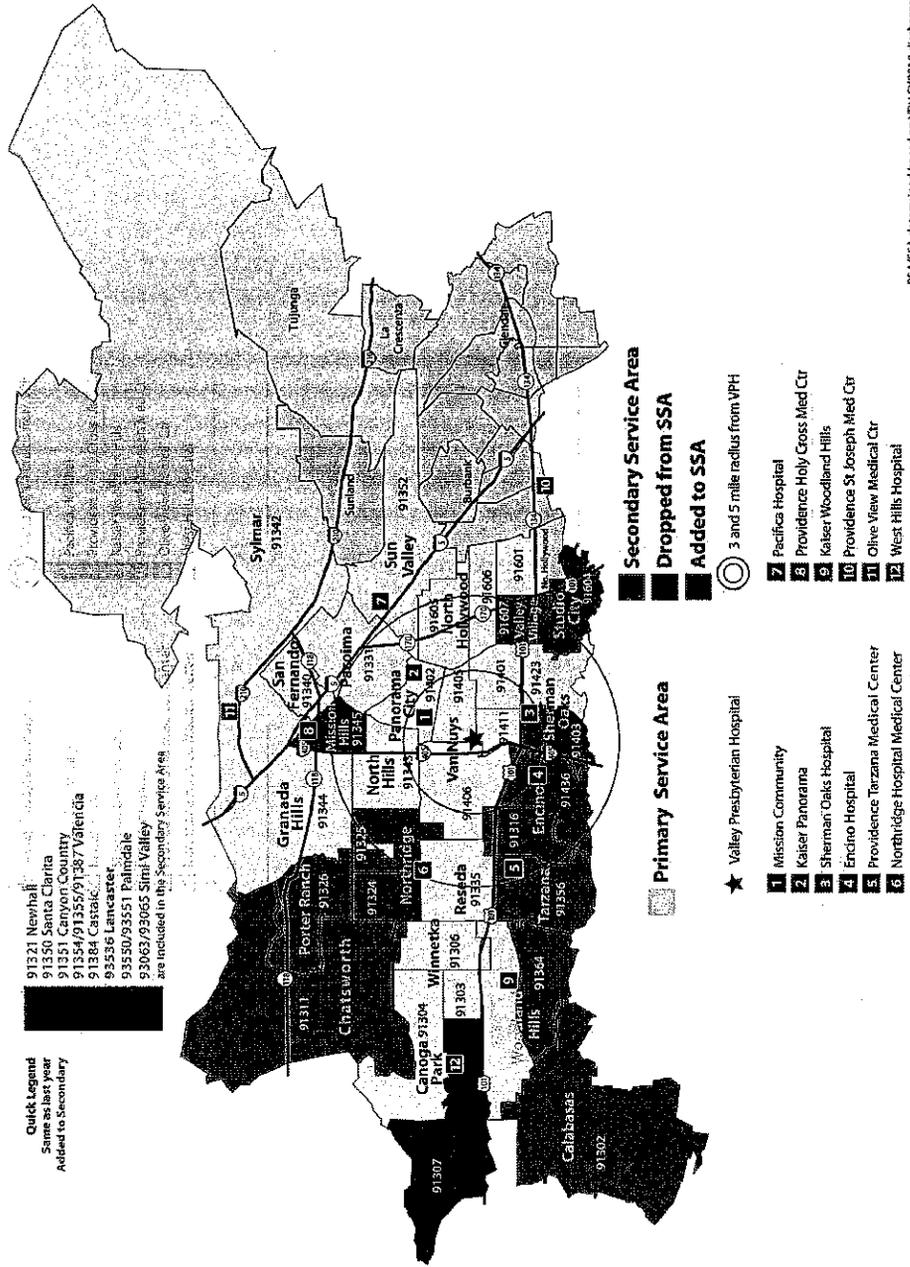
Age	2012 Population	2016 Population Estimate
Under 20	456,799	452,364
20 to 59 years	1,024,348	932,872
60 to 74 years	86,702	345,438
Over 74	209,003	106,737
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,776,852</b>	<b>1,837,411</b>

With the exception of the city of San Fernando, the PSA is part of the City of Los Angeles. The 2013 racial and ethnic distribution is as follows:

Race/Ethnicity	% Population
Hispanic	44.51%
Non-Hispanic White	38.14%
Asian/Pacific Islander	9.22%
African American	5.27%
Other	1.82%

\*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey

# Valley Presbyterian Hospital Primary and Secondary Service Area Map 2011



## Community Development Planning

Since 1997, Valley Presbyterian Hospital (VPH) has participated in the triennial San Fernando Valley/Santa Clarita Valley community health needs assessment. For the 2013 assessment, VPH undertook its own, customized needs survey for its service area. A consortium of health care and social service providers conducted extensive research over the course of nine months, and released the triennial report in the summer of 2013. For the purposes of this FY 2012/2013 Community Benefit Report, VPH relied on data from its 2010 Community Health Needs Assessment.

The 2010 Community Health Needs Assessment contains the names of the participating organizations, and a description of the collaboration process (found in Appendix A). The survey's findings, along with various internal and external analyses, are used to assist VPH in determining the types of service modifications and programs that it should consider to address the needs of its community. For a copy of the complete Community Needs Health Assessment, please contact [pegi.matsuda@valleypres.org](mailto:pegi.matsuda@valleypres.org).

There are four key steps in the planning process that direct VPH in its community development program planning.

These four steps include:

1. *Review of the community needs assessment:* Every year, VPH reviews current community programs for re-evaluation and measurement
2. *Creation of new programs:* Using the information from the community health needs assessment, and through interaction with community leaders, VPH identifies new programs for implementation
3. *Creation of community strategic plan:* An annual plan is created and distributed to the board of directors for discussion and approval
4. *Program design and implementation:* When the plan is approved, current community programs are created and implemented

## Community Health Needs Assessment

Through the 2010 Community Needs Assessment referenced on the previous page, numerous community priority needs were identified. These needs were identified through collaboration by more than 100 health care leaders in the greater San Fernando Valley region. This consortium was led by the Valley Community Care Consortium who ultimately compiled the findings from numerous health care leaders and published the 5th triennial community needs assessment. The 6<sup>th</sup> triennial report was released in mid-2013 and formed the platform for community programs implemented in FY 2013/2014. These programs will be included in the Community Benefit Report and will be reported to OSHPD at the end of the current fiscal year.

The current community needs assessment covered a geographic area known as Service Planning Area 2 (SPA 2) in which the hospital is located. SPA 2 includes 36 communities, ten of which are incorporated cities. In the San Fernando Valley region, SPA 2 includes Sylmar/Tujunga in the north, Agoura Hills/Calabasas to the west, Glendale/Burbank to the east and Studio City/Sherman Oaks/Encino/Tarzana to the south. SPA 2 is the largest of the eight planning areas in the County of Los Angeles. The population of SPA 2 is 2.2 million and encompasses almost 100 square miles. Within SPA 2, there are four health districts including East Valley, Glendale, San Fernando and West Valley.

In the 2010 report, SPA 2 reported the following key community needs:

The most important factors for creating a healthy community:

- Good schools (53%)
- Access to health care (46%)
- Good area to raise children (36%)
- Strong family structure (32%)
- Good jobs and a strong economy (32%)

The following issues were the most important health issues facing the community:

- Diabetes (80%)
- Cancer (53%)
- High blood pressure (27%)

Important Health Issues facing the community:

- Heart disease and stroke (26%)
- Dental problems (17%)
- Health issues facing those who are aging (16%)

The survey also identified important risk behaviors of concern in the community:

- Drug abuse (54%)
- Obesity/overweight (51 %)
- Alcohol abuse (48%)
- Poor eating habits (28%)
- Dropping out of school/lack of education (23%)
- Tobacco use (21 %)

After a thorough review of the Community Needs Assessment, VPH identified needs that were identified as high priority for community benefit. Although VPH participates in most of the community needs mentioned previously in this report, VPH identified the following priority focus areas:

- Access to health care
- Health care issues such as:
  - Diabetes
  - Childhood obesity
  - Heart disease and stroke
  - Women's services
  - Aging

The following pages in this report document VPH's current community benefit programs and program successes.

## Medical Care Services

Valley Presbyterian Hospital is a full service, general acute care medical facility, and provides a wide range of medical care services. Major services include:

**Emergency Services-** VPH's emergency services team provided emergency care to 64,004 patients in FY 2013. The emergency services team is designated as a STEMI receiving center and is able to provide critical care within the first 90 minutes of contact from experiencing the onset of heart attack symptoms. VPH also provides "fast track" services for patients with urgent, but not life threatening needs, such as cuts and sports injuries, colds, fever and earaches.

**Women's Services-** VPH's women's services program is one of the busiest in the region with 3,711 babies born in FY 2013.

Last year, VPH opened a newly renovated Perinatal Center on campus. The medical office combines perinatology, non-stress test genetic counseling and high-risk infant follow-up services under one roof. It features spacious, family-centered waiting rooms, state-of-the-art medical technology, and comfortable, patient treatment rooms. The new location and combination of specialty services is designed to improve overall patient satisfaction and improve operational efficiency.

The hospital features a newly remodeled and expanded labor, delivery, and recovery unit. This \$4.5 million renovation, completed in June 2012, includes seven new suites designed to provide comfort to new mothers during and after the birthing process. In addition to the renovation, VPH also created an OB laborist program to provide in-hospital obstetrical care 24/7. Among the benefits of implementing a laborist program are decreased length of patient stay and associated cost, improved patient safety and increased patient satisfaction.

In addition to opening up the new unit, a variety of education and community workshops were introduced to support women and their families throughout their pregnancy. These community programs were branded under a new program called "Little Treasures," or "Pequenos Tesoros," and are culturally tailored for Spanish speaking patients and their families.

Valley Presbyterian Hospital was awarded a \$472,996 grant in May 2011 from First 5 LA to implement the Baby Friendly breastfeeding program. The Baby Friendly program is a First 5 LA initiative designed to increase the rate of exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 to 12 months after childbirth. Hospitals who have earned the recognition as a Baby Friendly Hospital provide new mothers with the information, confidence and skills they need to successfully initiate and continue nursing their babies.

In late 2013, the hospital was awarded with a second community program grant from First 5 LA to implement its Welcome Baby program. This program will be implemented in January 2014 and will be featured in the FY 2013/2014 Community Benefit Report.

Other women's services include a non-stress test unit for pregnant women who require routine monitoring of their unborn baby's health and ultra sounds, OB triage for emergent high-risk care during pregnancy and an OB high-risk antepartum unit for women with high risk pregnancies.

**Amputation Prevention Center**—preserving a limb at risk of amputation is the singular focus of the Amputation Prevention Center (APC). The APC offers an innovative, integrated approach and is one of only a handful of facilities nationwide, and one of two facilities in southern California performing these treatments.

At the APC, patients receive care in a state of the art, nearly 12,000 square-foot facility. Most patients who visit the APC are facing limb amputation due to diabetes. Diabetes is a chronic disease impacting millions of Americans and results in a number of complications, including impaired blood circulation, loss of nerve function, a weakened immune system, foot ulcers, and infections.

**Valley Hip and Knee Institute-** This facility is home to an outstanding team of nationally recognized orthopedic experts. Continually innovating and advancing joint replacement and repair procedures, the Valley Hip and Knee Institute surgeons have performed thousands of successful procedures. In addition to providing high quality medical services, Valley Presbyterian Hospital also offers free community education workshops to help patients understand joint replacement options, recovery processes and how to select the right procedures. These two workshops attracted almost 100 attendees.

**Hepatobiliary and Pancreas Center (HPC)**—The HPC is a highly specialized, state-of-the-art center for the treatment of patients with liver, bile duct and pancreas disorders. The program offers treatments to address a wide range of diseases, as well as lesions, cysts, strictures and trauma. The program launched in late 2012, and has since developed into a collaborative network of dedicated partner physicians to care for patients through a multidisciplinary approach. The care team consists of general surgeons, gastroenterologists, hepatologists, diagnostic and interventional radiologists, radiation oncologists, oncologists, pathologists, palliative care specialists, nurses and coordinators.

**Children's Services-** Every child admitted to the hospital receives the full attention of a multi-disciplinary team comprised of pediatric specialists. Our family-centered approach to care ensures that parents and children have the opportunity to stay together and be well-informed throughout the course of treatment. Specialty services include neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) and a pediatric intensive care unit (PICU) for the most vulnerable patients.

**Cardiovascular Services-** VPH offers one of the most advanced cardiology programs staffed by cardiologists, nurses and technicians. We also offer a cardiac rehabilitation and fitness center for medically supervised exercise, dietary and lifestyle counseling.

**Outpatient services-** The hospital offers many outpatient services including the services of a GI laboratory, occupational therapy, radiology/imaging, general laboratory services, physical therapy, respiratory therapy, nuclear medicine and radiation therapy.

**Surgical Services-** VPH offers a wide portfolio of surgical services for the community. Some examples of surgical procedures include cardiothoracic and vascular, hip and knee replacements, sports-related injuries, otologic surgery, esophageal and gastric, open heart, nasal and sinus surgery, spine, facial plastic and reconstructive surgery, and many other types of general surgery.

## **Community Education Programs**

### **Women's Services**

A number of free community education programs are offered to women and their families to help them through a safe and happy pregnancy and childbirth. In FY 2012/2013, 2,000 individuals attended women and maternity services community education programs. All women's services program were held at the hospital. Education programs offered in FY 2012/2013 included:

#### ***Baby Showers (English and Spanish)***

This is a fun way to learn more about the hospital's labor, delivery and recovery programs. Participants can take a tour of the facility, meet the hospital staff and can also enroll for MediCal coverage. This program was offered once each month (12 workshops) and will continue into the next fiscal year. Total attendance at the 12 workshops last year was 1,315.

#### ***Childbirth Preparation Series (English and Spanish)***

Both parents learn the latest in labor and delivery comfort measures and how to promote healthy birthing. This program was offered 15 times in FY 2012/2013 and was attended by 141 individuals.

#### ***Baby Beginnings and Infant Care (English)***

This is a "parents to be" workshop to help navigate the first weeks at home with a new baby. Participants learn what to expect from a newborn, how to care for a newborn including diapering, swaddling techniques, bathing tips, feeding options, infant safety, newborn sleeping patterns and much more. This year's program nearly tripled the available sessions since the last fiscal year, and attracted nearly 60 attendees.

#### ***Breastfeeding Preparation (English and Spanish)***

Participants learn basic breastfeeding techniques and where to get additional support. A total of seven workshops were held, and attracted nearly 40 attendees. This year, VPH offered the class in both English and Spanish.

### **Diabetes Education and Awareness**

VPH understands the importance of diabetes education and awareness. According to the 2010 Community Health Needs Assessment, the estimated cases of diabetes is approximately 6.21% or approximately 11,000 of the total population. The community needs assessment indicates that diabetes has increased by 17.8% over the past five years, specifically in Van Nuys, where the hospital is located.

In FY 2012/2013, 22 workshops on diabetes education and management were held in both English and Spanish. Nurse/educators helped workshop attendees manage diabetes related complications through healthy lifestyle, eating and exercise techniques. In FY 2012/2013, diabetes education participation doubled to more than 166 individuals who attended one on one diabetes education meetings and several diabetes awareness and management workshops.

Additionally, the community development department hosted three healthy cooking classes, which attracted nearly 40 individuals, and highlighted the importance of maintaining a well-balanced diet in order to prevent diabetes. Additionally, more than 200 free blood glucose screenings were provided to members of the community

### **Joint Replacement**

In FY 2012/2013, Valley Presbyterian Hospital hosted a free community workshop to help community residents understand joint replacement options, treatment processes and how to select a qualified physician. The seminar, held in April, was well attended and attracted nearly 100 participants.

## **Community Partnerships and Support**

VPH acknowledges the importance of supporting community programs and organizations that further the wellness and economic interests of the communities we serve. In FY 2012/2013, VPH supported the following organizations through leadership and through collaborative community engagement to improve the health of the community.

- Alzheimer's Association
- American Cancer Society
- American Diabetes Association
- Armand Arabian Foundation
- Arthritis Foundation
- Association of Fundraising Professionals
- Boys and Girls Club of San Fernando Valley
- Children's Community School
- California State University, Northridge (CSUN)
- East Valley PALS
- El Nido Family Centers
- Encino Chamber of Commerce
- Fernando Awards Foundation
- Greater San Fernando Chamber of Commerce
- Haven Hills
- Los Angeles City Fire Department
- Los Angeles County Business Federation
- Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation
- Los Angeles Mission College
- MEND
- Mid Valley YMCA Healthy Kids Day
- National Health Foundation
- North East Valley Health Corporation
- ONEgeneration
- Partners In Care Foundation
- Pregnancy Counseling Center
- The Valley Schools
- Tierra Del Sol
- United Chambers of Commerce
- University Synagogue
- Valley Breast Cancer Foundation
- Valley Care Community Consortium
- Valley College Foundation
- Valley Community Clinic
- Valley Economic Alliance
- Valley Economic Development Center

- Valley Industry & Commerce Association
- West Valley Family YMCA
- Woodbury University

### **Supporting the Economic Vitality of the Community**

In addition to supporting a number of social and community causes, VPH also supports programs that help the local economy. The programs VPH implemented and/or supported in FY 2012/2013 includes the following:

#### **Workforce Development Program for Nurses**

The hospital is taking a proactive approach to develop a sustainable pipeline of skilled health care professionals. This six-month program connects new nurse graduates with preceptors, or experienced nursing professionals. This early start to a successful nursing career, provides these new graduates an opportunity to learn the nursing profession from those already skilled in the profession. New graduates receive training in a specialty area such as emergency care, general surgery, obstetrics/maternity, children's services and telemetry. In FY 2012/2013, VPH recruited 21 new graduates for the program.

#### **Valley Simulation Laboratory**

The Valley simulation laboratory is one of the region's most technologically advanced. In FY 2012/2013, approximately 500 college students visited the lab to practice skills in a "real world" environment.

The lab uses a full line of high fidelity mannequins that are designed to simulate realistic patient situations and responses by allowing instructors to build limitless medical scenarios. The laboratory is designed to model a patient care unit with labor and delivery and the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). The simulation laboratory includes three fully equipped medical/surgical bays and a nursing station. VPH partners with California State University Northridge (North San Fernando Valley region), College of the Canyons (Santa Clarita), Mount St. Mary's College (Los Angeles), Los Angeles Pierce College (West San Fernando Valley) and Los Angeles Valley College to provide nursing students a link from didactic learning to hands-on medical application in a no-risk environment.

## Fiscal year 2012/2013 Key Indicators

Average daily census	186
Total number of admissions	15,612
Total Inpatient Discharges (excluding normal newborns)	15,672
Total Medi-Cal Inpatients (discharges)	9,220
Total number of emergency room visits	64,004
Percent of Emergency Room Patients covered by Medi-Cal	66%
Percent of Emergency Room Patients without Insurance	16%
Total Births	3,711
Total Antepartum/Perinatal Patient Stays (discharges)	4,266
Total Number of Pediatric Patient Stays (discharges)	1,472
Percent of perinatal patients covered by Medi-Cal	92%
Percent of Pediatric patients covered by Medi-Cal	87%
Total number of surgeries	7,455

## FY 2012/2013 Community Benefit Value

Community Program -Women's Services	\$545,202
Community Program -Diabetes Education and Awareness	\$16,255
Community Program - Healthy Maturity	\$15,491
Community Program -Joint Replacement	\$38,000
Community Program - Sponsorships with Community Organizations	\$106,950
Community Program - Health Fairs & Screenings	\$37,266
Donated Facility Space for Community Organizations	\$27,723
<b>Total Community Benefit Programs</b>	<b>\$786,888</b>

**Unreimbursed Medical Services - Excludes Provider Fee \***

Type	Charges	Cost Value	Reimbursement	Net Benefit
Medi-Cal	\$431,400,214	\$124,686,041	\$86,119,031	\$38,567,010
Self Pay	\$31,391,830	\$9,073,067	\$342,846	\$8,730,221
TOTAL	\$462,792,044	\$133,759,108	\$86,461,877	\$47,297,231

**Unreimbursed Medical Services - Includes Provider Fee \*\***

Type	Charges	Cost Value	Reimbursement	Net Benefit
Medi-Cal	\$431,400,214	\$140,008,351	\$142,977,138	\$(2,968,787)
Self Pay	\$31,391,830	\$10,188,030	\$342,846	\$9,845,185
TOTAL	\$462,792,044	\$150,196,381	\$143,319,984	\$6,876,398

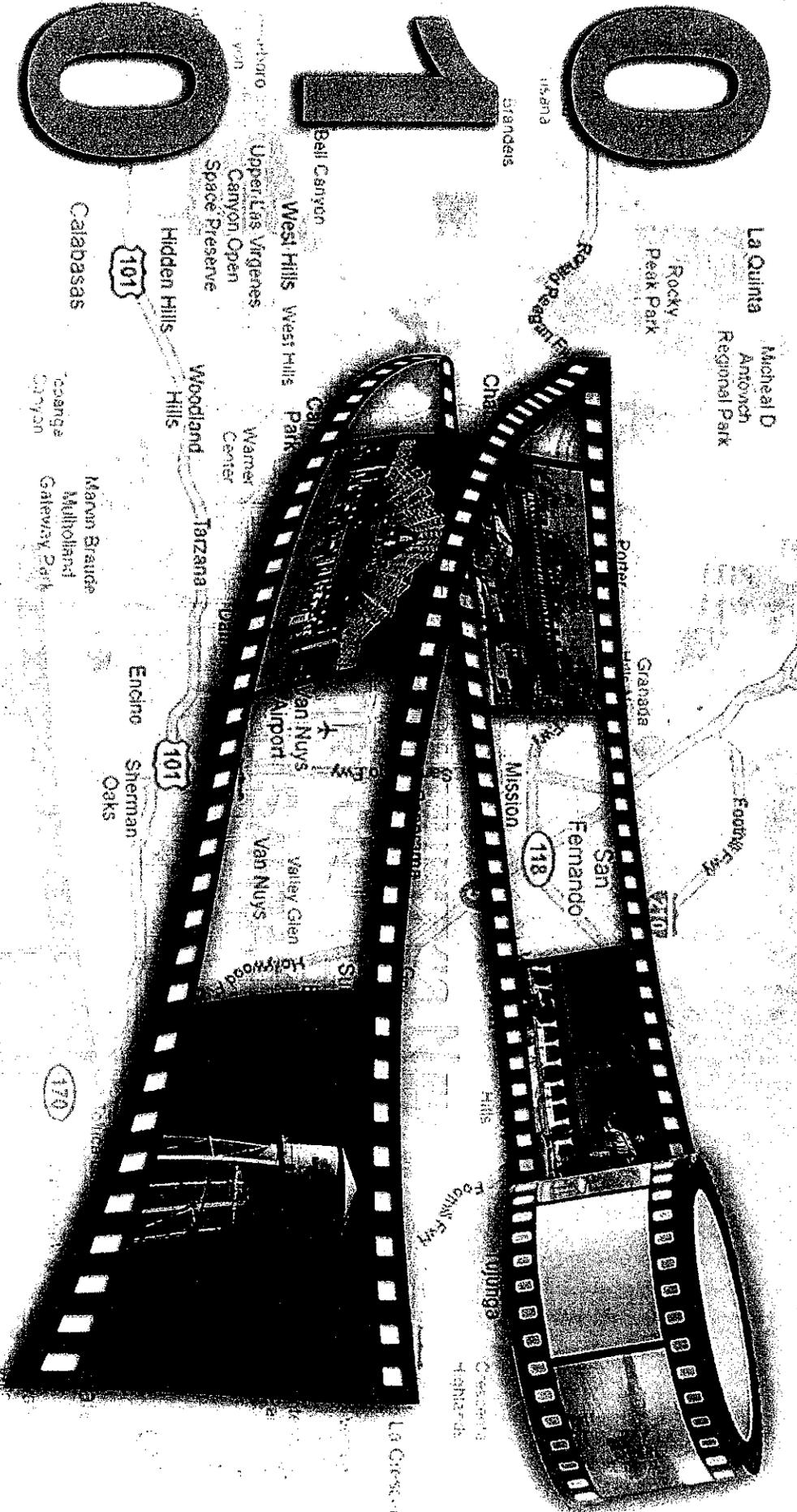
*\*Includes other discounts (flat rate) and 90% bad debt expenses*

*\*\*Includes 21 months of provider tax fee revenue*



VALLEY CARE  
Community Consortium

# 2 ASSESSING THE COMMUNITY'S NEEDS: Clarita A TRIENNIAL REPORT ON SAN FERNANDO AND SANTA CLARITA VALLEYS



126  
170  
101  
170

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This effort would not have been possible without the financial support of Kaiser Permanente (Woodland Hills and Panorama City), Northridge Hospital Medical Center and Providence Health & Services (Holy Cross, Saint Joseph, and Tarzana Medical Centers). In addition to the financial support from these facilities, our additional SPA 2 hospitals sent staff to participate actively in the discussion and completion of surveys required to prepare this document.

Many organizations and individuals contributed time, expertise, resources, and financial support to the completion of this project. Special thanks go to the students in the Health Education and Health Administration programs at California State University, Northridge (CSUN) who collected data for this project. Public Health class HSCI-439 participated during a service learning project under the leadership of Kathleen Young, PhD. This class was assigned the task of taking the 2009 Claritas data and creating the City Snapshot. In addition, the Health Administration Class HSCI-424 Marketing and Planning class under the leadership of Ronald Sorensen conducted the surveys for the asset mapping of SPA 2 service agencies. Appreciation is also extended to Northridge Hospital for hosting the 2010 Needs Assessment Kick-Off Meeting and Kaiser Permanente Woodland Hills for hosting the dissemination meeting. The following agencies have generously hosted the general planning meetings: Providence Center for Community Health, Volunteers of America Head Start and Early Head Start, MEND (Meet Each Need with Dignity), ValleyCare Mid-Valley Comprehensive Health Center, and Tarzana Treatment Center. In addition, Providence Health and Services provided Thomson-Reuters Market expert and 2009 Claritas data. Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Los Angeles County Department of Health Services and Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health provided data to VCCC, and Mid-Valley Comprehensive Health Center provided temporary office space for additional staff.

The participation and cooperation came in many different ways including organizations that assumed the responsibility of oversight of the development and completion of this project by participating actively at the Community Needs Assessment planning meetings. Acknowledgment and thanks go to the many collaborative partners for their support and assistance in the completion of the 2010 CNA project.

This year, special thanks go to Shailen Misty, President of Crystal Coding Concepts for working with VCCC staff to expand this report into the e-book format and to create the City Snapshot information located at [www.valleyvecc.org](http://www.valleyvecc.org).

This needs assessment was made possible by the dedicated work of VCCC staff and partners who worked diligently on data collection and analysis. The following people played a vital role in the development of the 2010 edition of Assessing the Community's Needs: A Triennial Report on the San Fernando and Santa Clarita Valleys:

Ronald Sorensen	Providence Health and Services Center for Community Health Improvement	Data Committee Chair
John Esplana	Providence Health and Services Center for Community Health Improvement	Data Committee
Amy Lightstone	Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Office of Health Assessment & Epidemiology	Data Committee
Jorge Lopez	Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, Office of Planning	Data Committee
Joe Martinez	United Way of Los Angeles	Data Committee
Michelle Renfrow	Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health	Data Committee
Susan Savage	Child Care Resource Center	Data Committee
Mark Silverbush	Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority	Data Committee

Robert Steward

Comprehensive Community Health Centers

Data Committee

Surekha Vasant  
Amy Lightstone

Valley Care Community Consortium  
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Office of Health Assessment  
& Epidemiology

Editing Committee Chair  
Editing Committee

Barbara Baldwin  
Bonnie Baier  
Ernest Espinoza  
Sheri Strahl  
Olga Vlgdorohik  
Pamela Villasenor  
Natalie Vogelsang

Broadus Ready for School  
Northridge Hospital Medical Center  
ValleyCare Mid-Valley Comprehensive Health Center  
The Help Group  
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, SPA 1 & 2  
Paku, Cultural Community Services  
Providence Senior Outreach Program

Editing Committee  
Editing Committee  
Editing Committee  
Editing Committee  
Editing Committee  
Editing Committee  
Editing Committee

Joni Novosel  
Brandon Bruno  
Rosalba Cain  
Sanaz Adhami  
Hsin-I Chen

Valley Care Community Consortium  
Valley Care Community Consortium  
Valley Care Community Consortium  
CSUN MPH Student Intern  
Tarzana Treatment Center

Needs Assessment Coordinator  
Project Staff  
Project Staff  
Project Staff

## **KEY FINDINGS: SPA 2 PRIORITY NEEDS AND ISSUES**

### *VCCC Community Needs Survey Results*

#### **Community Feedback on Health Needs and Issues**

In May 2010 a written survey was conducted with people who participated in the walking groups organized by the Valley Care Community Consortium. These walking groups are located throughout the San Fernando Valley with representation from communities including Canoga Park, North Hills, Northridge, Panorama City, Reseda, Van Nuys, and Winnetka. There were a total of 110 respondents to the survey. Some of the key findings from the survey include:

- The respondents felt that the most important factors for creating a healthy community included:
  - Good schools (53%)
  - Access to health care (46%)
  - Good area to raise children (36%)
  - Strong family structure (32%)
  - Good jobs and a strong economy (32%)
- Those responding to the survey felt that the following issues were the most important health problems facing our community:
  - Diabetes (80%)
  - Cancer (53%)
  - High blood pressure (27%)
  - Heart disease and stroke (26%)
  - Dental problems (17%)
  - Teenage pregnancy (17%)
  - Health issues facing those who are aging (16%)
- Persons completing the survey felt that the most important risk behaviors of concern in our community include:
  - Drug abuse (54%)
  - Obesity/Overweight (51%)
  - Alcohol abuse (48%)
  - Poor eating habits (28%)
  - Dropping out of school/lack of education (23%)
  - Tobacco use (21%)