

# Engage

Spring 2015



## Inside:

Dignity Health Invests  
in Long Beach

State of the Healing  
Mission

ER Update:  
Triage Project





**Joel Yuhas** (center)  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
St. Mary Medical Center

**Mike Walter, Ph.D.** (right)  
Chairman  
St. Mary Medical Center Foundation

**Drew Gagner** (left)  
President  
St. Mary Medical Center Foundation

#### On the Cover

From left to right: Steve Shea, MD, Medical Director, St. Mary Emergency Department, Sister Gerard Earls, Vice President, Mission Integration and Paul Carter, Co-Chair of the 2015 Charity Golf Tournament and in-coming Chair of the Foundation Board of Trustees.

## Dear Friends

Together, we are beginning an exciting new chapter in the history of St. Mary Medical Center. We are embarking on the first phase of a campus transformation that is a key component of our strategic initiative, “Hello Humankindness,” which is Dignity Health’s effort to bring more humanity into health care.

Our building plans are the most positive and tangible declaration of our mission: *to deliver compassionate, high-quality, affordable healthcare, and provide direct service to the poor and underserved and advocate on their behalf.*

Beginning this year and for several years to come, a major investment across the campus will be dedicated to refreshing our hospital facilities and improving patient care. We’re also making important technological acquisitions including a new Cardiac Cath Lab, Magnetic Resonance Imaging, and an Electronic Patient Record system.

Most important, St. Mary is focused on people. All of our enhancements will provide our caregivers with improved tools to deliver an even more exceptional patient care experience.

Such excellence will only be possible thanks to a significant investment from Dignity Health and the generous charitable support from philanthropic leaders in the community.

We are truly thankful to all our generous donors – some profiled in these pages – who support the ongoing programs and services at St. Mary Medical Center. If you have not yet joined us as a partner in our healing mission, we hope the stories of other contributors and the impact of their giving will inspire you to get involved.

However you choose to support St. Mary, your charitable gift will make an important difference, helping to ensure that your Hospital remains here for you, your family and for our community – now and for generations to come.



## Credits

Engage is published by the St. Mary Medical Center Foundation. Please contact us at (562) 491-9225 for more information about services and program at St. Mary Medical Center or to make a tax-deductible contribution.

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**St. Mary Medical Center  
Foundation**

A Dignity Health Member

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# Humankindness: *Care from the Patient Perspective*

St. Mary Medical Center is undertaking a comprehensive “Hello Humankindness” initiative for one reason only: to help patients heal.

As one critical component of that initiative, people in every St. Mary department – from housekeeping to administration, from physicians to billing clerks to volunteers – are being trained and encouraged to continually evaluate their effectiveness with patients. And they are working to help each other see the world from their patients’ point of view.

Healthcare workers devote their lives to caring for patients because they know what scientists and researchers have long ago proven to be true: medicine has the ability to cure. But it is our shared humanity, expressed in our Dignity Health values, that holds the power to heal.

## Dignity Health to Invest \$9.6M in Patient-Centered Experience

As a key component of the St. Mary Medical Center Humankindness initiative, beginning in 2015, and continuing into the future, Dignity Health has allocated a total of \$9.6 million for a wide range of campus improvements.

Those improvements will be dedicated to ensuring a warm, patient-centered experience and a full range of campus renovations focused on the touch points where people access services at St. Mary. Dignity Health plans to refresh the appearance and performance of many of the hospital’s patient service areas, including patient rooms, bathrooms, nursing stations, waiting areas and physician lounges. These coordinated renovation and remodeling projects will enhance the patient/visitor experience from the parking lot to the bedside.

## The Image of Health

Imaging technology is as basic to the modern medical toolkit as the stethoscope. Rapid computer processing, coupled with detection methods utilizing X-rays or powerful electromagnets, allows physicians to make timely and accurate diagnoses, often without the need for invasive surgery.

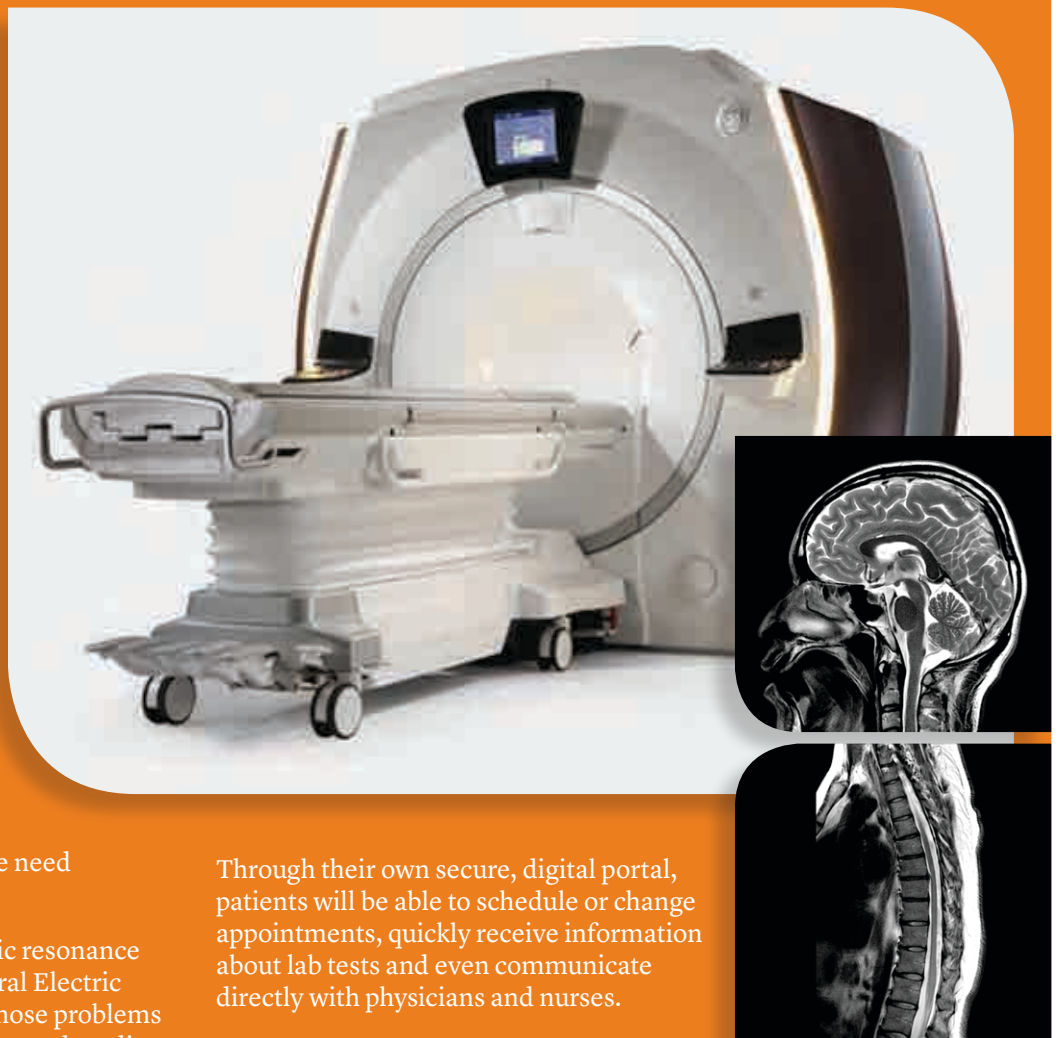
St. Mary will soon be installing powerful, new magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technology. This state-of-the-art General Electric Optima 450w Gem Suite platform can be used to diagnose problems anywhere in the body, and is particularly adept at breast and cardiac imaging.

The entire platform has been designed with patient comfort and image quality in mind. The surface where the patient lies is broader than in many conventional scanners. The unit can be entered feet first for most procedures and the latest noise-reduction technologies have been incorporated. The flexible “Geometry Embracing Method (GEM)” coils follow the contours of the patient’s body, allowing radiographers to position even uneasy patients to more quickly and comfortably obtain the highest possible quality images.

## Logging In to a New Era

Simply clicking the keyboard of their computers, smart phones or tablets will soon connect St. Mary Medical Center patients to new levels of convenience...and quality of care.

Thanks to an investment of nearly \$15 million in our electronic health record (EHR) system, St. Mary patients will soon be able to view or update information about doctor visits, medications, and other aspects of their care 24 hours-a-day, from anywhere they happen to be.



Through their own secure, digital portal, patients will be able to schedule or change appointments, quickly receive information about lab tests and even communicate directly with physicians and nurses.

Our new EHR also provides physicians and other authorized members of the care team up-to-the-minute access to their patients’ complete health histories. That helps them assess and diagnose medical conditions, share critical information and focus multiple professional perspectives on the situation of each patient, improving continuity of care.

The electronic health record will also automatically alert clinicians to potential allergic reactions or drug interaction problems and conserve precious time during emergency situations.





## Focus on the Healing Mission

### *Sister Gerard Earls' true passion*

For more than 90 years, St. Mary Medical Center has met the pressing needs of underserved communities in greater Long Beach.



“Since I returned to St. Mary in 1999, the healthcare industry and our organization have been necessarily evolving,” explains Sr. Gerard Earls, St. Mary Medical Center’s Vice President of Mission Integration, “but the diverse and wonderful community we serve remains very similar and very exciting. Vulnerable people of many cultures, languages and economic levels turn to us for care every single day.”

Originally from Ireland, Sister Gerard worked for the American Diabetes Association and the American Cancer Society earlier in her career and served as a clinical nurse for 20 years. “Oncology nursing was my particular love,” Sr. Gerard says, “but I find hospital administration with a focus on community service to be particularly rewarding and important these days.”

Sr. Gerard’s Mission Integration responsibilities at St. Mary include the administration of a wide variety of non-clinical, healing departments, including Spiritual Care, Palliative Care, Ethics and Community Outreach. “We are asked to meet many widely varied administrative and personal needs of our patients, our employees and our community. That means our days are never dull,” she points out.



Sr. Gerard is steadfast in her commitment to service. “My first and foremost daily goal is always to keep an eye on the mission,” Sister explains. “Surveys and other quality assessments are very important. We always keep a close watch and do very well on those, and we must be financially responsible, of course. But I always integrate those important factors – like the spokes of a wheel – with the community service mission of Jesus as the hub.”

“Dignity, Collaboration, Justice, Stewardship and Excellence – the values of Dignity Health that we express as Humankindness – clearly communicate to our patients, our physicians and each other our focus on healing the whole person.” Sr. Gerard takes this focus very much to heart. “In our St. Mary administration we are asked, or I should say ‘privileged,’ to be the voice of the voiceless, to reflect the ministry of Jesus in our daily work. I deeply thank everyone who helps and supports us in continuing to bring health and well-being to our unique and wonderful Long Beach community.”

In recognition of her dedicated service to St. Mary and the greater Long Beach area, Sister was recently recognized with two awards. She was honored at the Press-Telegram’s Amazing Women Gala and Awards Dinner in November, 2014, and was bestowed with the Martin Luther King Jr. Peace Maker Award by the Long Beach City Council for volunteering in the community and promoting messages of community engagement and unity.

## Outreach Programs Serve a Diverse Community

In response to unmet health-related needs identified in the community needs assessment - a survey we conduct every three years to determine specific needs and underserved areas - St. Mary Medical Center provides a wide range of inpatient and community outreach and benefit programs to greater Long Beach. For the most recent calendar year, these programs and services were valued at more than \$52 million.

*Here are some of them:*

- **Sister Gerard Earls’ Helping Hands Program** provides special support during the holiday season to local families and employees in need.
- **The Low Vision Center** provides free vision screenings to more than 34 public and parochial schools in greater Long Beach, in addition to visionary aids at low cost to those with visual impairment.
- **Welcome Baby** provides education and support for new mothers from before their babies are born to after they go home from the hospital. Visiting nurses will also go to homes to provide education on how to take care of newborns.
- **Our Mary Hilton Maternal and Child Health Center** provides the following services to 4,600 expectant mothers’ baby showers, tours of the Labor & Delivery suites and the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), breastfeeding classes, child birth education, perinatology services for high-risk pregnant mothers and car seats for low-income patients.
- **The Bazzeni Wellness Center** provides social/recreation activities, educational programs, and numerous human services to 2,000 seniors.
- **The Mobile Care Clinic** provides screenings in underserved communities, bringing a team consisting of a health educator, respiratory assistant and nurse practitioner to care for people with asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).
- **The C.A.R.E Program** provides education about HIV prevention and services to people with HIV and AIDS.
- **Families in Good Health** provides comprehensive social services and access to care.





# When the Emergency Department Needed Help

*St. Mary Donors Were There  
to Support Phase One  
Enhancements*



When Long Beach area residents have needed medical assistance quickly, St. Mary's Emergency Department has always been there. As a Level II Trauma Center, St. Mary provides one of the region's most complete range of emergency services.

Because it is also a Paramedic Base Station, our Emergency Department coordinates the paramedic calls for all of the city's hospitals. Additionally, we are the lead Disaster Resource Center for Long Beach and southern L.A. County, responsible for coordinating the activities of eight other area hospitals in the event of a regional emergency or disaster.

But our Emergency Department was constructed to accommodate 45,000 patient visits annually, and we are now caring for more than 55,000. Annual growth rates are projected at between 2 and 5 percent.

When patients come to an Emergency Department, their medical conditions must be assessed as soon as possible. Their lives often depend on it.

Thanks to \$800,000, provided by you, our generous local donors – including the proceeds of our Charity Golf Tournaments, annual auctions and dinner fundraisers – the remodel of the Dignity Health St. Mary Medical Center Emergency Department Triage Area is currently underway. The benefits to patients include:

- Existing Emergency Department space will be reconfigured, adding two new patient screening areas. A total of four screening areas will be available to meet our patients' needs. That will mean:
  - ✓ Meticulous medical assessments can take place more efficiently
  - ✓ Waiting times can be reduced
  - ✓ Patient privacy will be even better protected
  - ✓ Stress on patients and their families will be reduced

- Our ER waiting room space will be refreshed to provide a better welcome.
- Access to emergency medical services will be further streamlined by providing a special waiting area for patients who have been admitted to the ER but don't require immediate care.
- An electronic patient tracking system will smooth the path from ER admission to treatment – and on to any follow-up treatment, further testing or inpatient care, if needed.
- As an added bonus, improved Emergency Department efficiency will reduce health care costs.

"We are grateful to the donor community for making the Phase One improvement possible," says Stephen Shea, MD, Medical Director, St. Mary Emergency Department. "Our ER team is reviewing additional expansion options to improve patient flow throughout the busy department, including a specialized treatment area for our growing population of seniors."

**For more information about making a gift to support Emergency Care at St. Mary Medical Center, please contact the Development Department at (562) 491-9225.**

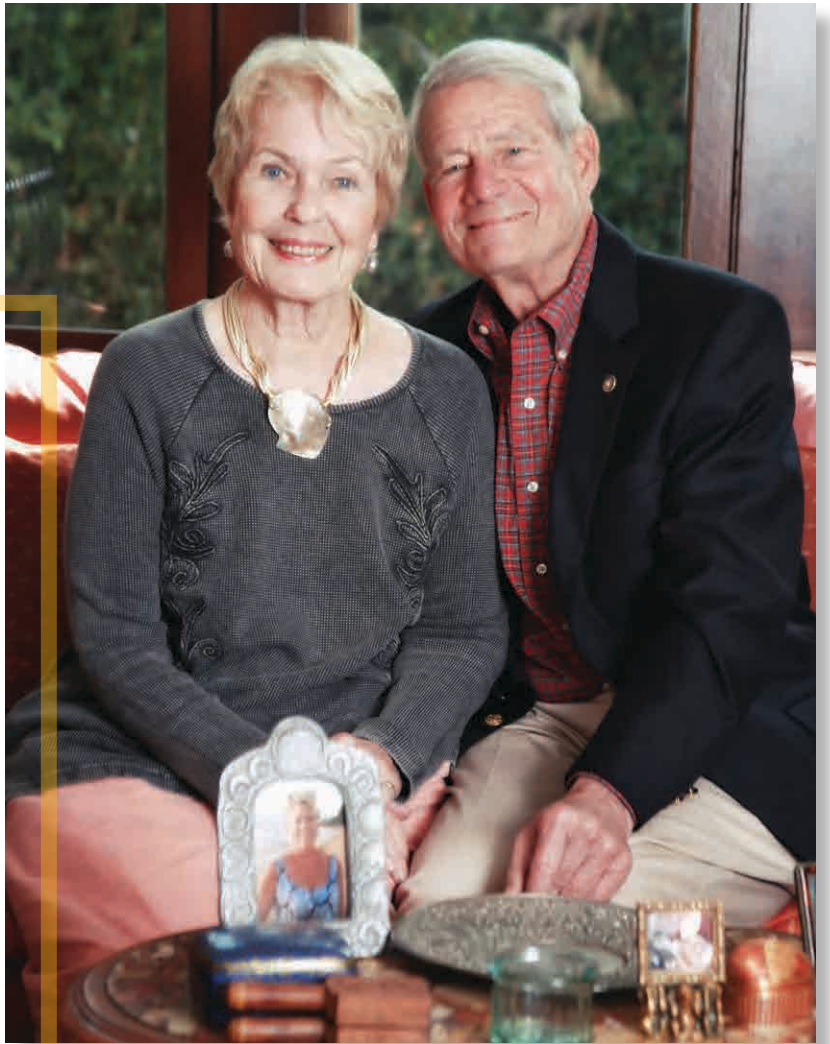
*"On behalf of our ER team and most of all – all the patients who will benefit from your caring and generosity, THANK YOU. Your giving will have a lasting impact on patient care for years to come."* - Dr. Stephen Shea Medical Director, St. Mary Emergency Department



# 21 Society:

## *Supporting the Annual Fund*

Terry and Nancy Geiling are honored to serve as the Chairs of the St. Mary Medical Center Foundation 21 Society because they strongly believe in St. Mary's mission of providing the best possible care for all the patients we serve.



For 92 years, St. Mary Medical Center has played an important role in the history and growth of Long Beach and will continue to provide the very finest medical services, care and technology – while sustaining our tradition of compassion and empathy.

The members of Foundation 21 Society help make possible the continuing caring and compassion that was first brought to Long Beach by our beloved Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word. It is the Sisters' inspiration in faith that the St. Mary Foundation supporters have always treasured and whose guiding hand will forever rest gently on the shoulders of us all.



The Foundation 21 Society is an exclusive group of compassionate St. Mary supporters who see healthcare as much more than simply a business or profession. It is a critical community service – always to improve upon and be the best in. Their goal is to help ensure that St. Mary maintains its place as a leading provider of comprehensive healthcare in the Long Beach region.

“The financial support we receive from caring friends in the Foundation 21 Society helps our hospital remain a beacon of excellence to those we serve in the hospital, in our clinics, and throughout the community through many diverse outreach programs,” says Terry Geiling.

“Members receive healthcare updates and invitations to special events including an annual Grand Reception held in their honor every September.”

Donors who support the St. Mary Medical Center Foundation Annual Fund with gifts of \$500 or more are recognized as members of the Foundation 21 Society and receive special benefits. With a gift of \$1,000 or more, members are recognized at the prestigious President's Circle level with additional premium benefits.

The Foundation 21 Society includes the Annual Fund support group along with members of the C.A.R.E. 21 Society who are dedicated to supporting the hospital's HIV/AIDS program, Women's Health 21 Society and Senior Health 21 Society. **Call the Foundation office at (562) 491-9225 for information.**





## Our Hearts *are with yours*

When Arthur Grant, 71, of Lakewood, took one of his brisk, four-mile walks in November 2013, he thought the sudden, sharp pain in his throat was just from the cold air. The pain subsided after he rested, so he didn't worry too much. "It was at the base of my neck, so I thought it might be something with my throat," he says.

When the same thing happened on another cold morning, Arthur simply slowed and completed his morning routine. But he was somewhat more concerned.



After distinguished and active careers as a U.S. Marine, a steel industry press operator and a Los Angeles County Metro Transit police officer, physical exertion had never bothered Arthur. He had stayed physically active during his retirement and was a longstanding, active member of the International Brotherhood of Motorcycle Campers. “No lollygagging around the house,” had always been his motto.

Ever since his retirement in 2009, Arthur had seen his wife off to work every morning at 5 a.m. “I’ll have breakfast, come out to my work station and listen to some Rush Limbaugh,” he says.

Then he would take an invigorating walk.

I woke up in the St. Mary Intensive Care Unit (ICU). On Friday my nurse asked me if I felt like going for a walk and I said, ‘Sure.’ So, she got the gown and squeezed it real tight in back of me and had me walk just down the hall and back into ICU. On Saturday morning, I went to the 7th floor and they had me walking up there, too. And by Sunday morning...I went home.”

According to St. Mary Medical Center Exercise Physiologist Tracy Scales, who assisted Arthur in the SMMC Cardiac Rehab Center, “Arthur enjoyed a textbook recovery and he has largely himself to thank for it. He followed the program, never overexerting, and always moving forward with his prescribed routine.” Arthur thinks his work

*“My surgery was on a Wednesday,” Arthur says. “On Thursday morning I woke up in the St. Mary Intensive Care Unit (ICU). On Friday my nurse asked me if I felt like going for a walk and I said, ‘Sure.’”*

“The third time I felt that pain, I decided maybe I’d start walking later in the morning,” Arthur recalls. “But I still thought it was just cold air that was affecting my throat.”

Arthur finally ruled out his cold air theory while putting lights on his Christmas tree. “I’d just carried the ladder over to the tree when I started getting the same throat pain, but with a lot of huffing and puffing, too,” he says.

Arthur made an appointment with his doctor as soon as he finished trimming the tree.

Arthur’s primary care physician referred him for an electrocardiogram (EKG) with cardiologist Stanley Kawanishi, MD. That test indicated a partial arterial blockage. Dr. Kawanishi scheduled Arthur for an angioplasty in the Cath Lab at St. Mary Medical Center, where a coronary arterial blockage or heart valve leakage can be more precisely diagnosed.

Often, an interventional cardiologist can unblock coronary arteries or replace a heart valve using a minimally invasive procedure. If the problem is particularly complex or extensive, however, it may require open-heart surgery.

Dr. Kawanishi assembled a team of cardiac specialists before performing Arthur’s diagnostic angioplasty. During the procedure, Dr. Kawanishi determined that Arthur’s case would require open-heart surgery and he immediately turned to cardiac surgeon Alexander Stein, MD, who was able to perform a quintuple bypass procedure.

“My surgery was on a Wednesday,” Arthur says. “On Thursday morning

history had something to do with his quick recovery, as well. “I used to sling sheets of steel, pick up a pallet and carry it – heavy, heavy objects,” he points out.

After six-weeks of rehabilitation – an hour each Monday, Wednesday and Friday that included stretches, hand weights, hand-bicycling and treadmill – Arthur graduated from Cardiac Rehabilitation. But more than a month earlier, he had already begun planning his trip with the International Brotherhood of Motorcycle Campers.

Arthur followed his doctor’s orders and drove a Jeep on that trip, instead of his 900-pound Yamaha Royal Star Venture. But by this summer, Arthur Grant should be ready to ride like the wind again.



Cardiothoracic surgeon Alexander G. Stein, MD, performed a quintuple bypass surgery that helped Arthur Grant return to full function.



Interventional cardiologist Stanley K. Kawanishi, MD, diagnosed and immediately referred Arthur Grant to Dr. Stein for surgery.



Pictured are nurse scholar students  
Nataliya Balashova and Keith Seaman.

# Munzer Nurse Scholar Program Goes to Work

Tiarra Barerra, a 27 year-old single parent with two children, graduated from the Long Beach Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program in June of 2014.

“I had never even been in a hospital before I had my first child,” Tiarra explains. “But when I was in that hospital room alone, the nurse took such good care of me. She was like a mother to me and just made me feel so comfortable and safe. That’s when I decided that was what I wanted to do, too.”

But she knew it wouldn’t be easy to finance her education. Fortunately, there was a scholarship opportunity ideally suited to Tiarra.

St. Mary Medical Center Foundation’s Munzer Nurse Scholar Program provides scholarships to students in the Long Beach Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program.

“I filled out an application as soon as I heard about the program,” Tiarra says. “There was no doubt that I was going to take advantage of that opportunity.”

Each year, a committee comprised of St. Mary physicians, employees and board members chooses five Munzer Scholarship recipients from among a large pool of applicants, based on both academic and mission-oriented criteria. A total of \$50,000 is distributed annually to assist qualifying Munzer scholars with tuition, books, uniforms and other program costs.

The nursing program was challenging at times for Tiarra. But the Munzer scholarship fund helped her find the time to study hard and spend quality time with her children, while also doing excellent work in the classroom and on the hospital units.

Another Munzer scholarship recipient was inspired by her own experience as a patient at St. Mary. Shay Easley says, “The wonderful care and support I received from the nurses and the Sisters at the hospital helped me feel comfortable about taking care of my child when I got home. I was a single, expectant mother—so young and so alone. Their compassionate care motivated me to be able to give back and to do the same for someone else someday.”

After the birth of her son, Ms. Easley worked in various administrative health care positions, eventually becoming a manager. She raised her son, remarried and had a second son, who is now nine years old. But her dream of becoming a nurse never died. Thanks in part to the Munzer scholarship, it finally became possible for Shay to pursue the nursing dream she had never forgotten.

“I think the hardest part for me in the nursing program was shifting back into the role of a student, after have worked in managerial roles for years. Taking orders instead of giving them isn’t always that easy,” Easley says with a smile.

The only post-graduation requirement for Munzer Nurse Scholar Program recipients is that they remain on the St. Mary Medical Center nursing staff for at least two years.

Shay Easley earned her associate certification in September and is now working on her Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing while working as a nurse in the float pool at St. Mary. She covers a variety of hospital departments and on all shifts. “My ultimate goal is to work full-time in the Emergency Room,” she explains. “That isn’t an easy spot to get. But I can wait. In my experience, good things are always worth waiting for.”

Tiarra Barerra says, “I totally recommend the Munzer Nurse Scholar Program to anyone. Nursing school was tough, but I’m really proud. I’m kind of a ‘finished product’ now. I feel like I can break out of that mold of single parent where people think you can’t accomplish anything important in life just because you have kids to take care of. I’m a nurse, now. I’m really a nurse!”

Between 2009 and 2014, St. Mary Medical Center has been privileged to employ a total of 27 Munzer Nurse Scholars. We look forward to providing opportunities for many more dedicated and talented nurses like Tiarra and Shay in 2015 and for many years to come.



# Your Giving Saves Lives

If you made a gift to St. Mary Medical Center in recent years, that gift very likely saved someone's life. Charitable donations from our community and grateful patients play a vital role in providing our families, friends and neighbors access to expert life-saving care and comprehensive services.

Thanks to the generosity of thousands of individuals, businesses and private foundations, we have been able to make major improvements to equipment, facilities and healthcare programs. Your generous 2013/14 philanthropic support has provided funding for numerous other programs including:

## Equipment and Facility Improvement

- New anesthesia machines for the Surgery Department
- Patient Lifting Devices
- Remodel of Cardiac Rehabilitation Department

## Training the Next Generation of Caregivers

- Medical Doctors in Internal Medicine Residency Program
- UCLA Residents in the Emergency Room
- C.O.P.E. Nurse Scholarship Program Students

## Community Outreach

- C.A.R.E. HIV/AIDS program and Food Pantry
- Helping Hands Fund
- Mobile Unit Cardiac Screenings
- Diabetes Education
- Maternal New Baby Education
- Senior Falls Prevention Program
- Low Vision Optical Aid Program
- Long Beach Trauma Recovery Center
- Community Health Education for Families

Charitable donations to the Annual Fund at St. Mary Medical Center play a critical role in improving patient care and supporting our extensive outreach of care throughout the community.

**For more information about making a gift, please contact the Development Department at (562) 491-9225.**







## ‘When I Am an Old Woman’...

*Can be a busy, busy time...*

“Warning, When I Am An Old Woman,” the beloved poem by Jenny Joseph, appears on many of the lovely greeting cards and gift items Elizabeth “Liz” Lucas creates. It playfully describes the sense of freedom of our “golden years,” a period of life which Liz, herself, might not have lived long enough to enjoy.

“I’m a survivor of both breast and kidney cancer,” Liz shares. “My breast cancer has been in remission for 17 years, following treatment at St. Mary. And my metastasized kidney cancer has been controlled well enough for me to live an active, enjoyable life, thanks to surgery and an initially aggressive and then innovatively less disruptive, long-term chemotherapy regimen. I have been one of the very fortunate ones, thanks to the care I received at St. Mary and at Pacific Shores Medical Group Cancer Center.”

And Liz Lucas has given back to St. Mary Medical Center. She has dedicated countless hours of service and provided generous financial support to the medical center. Liz served as chairperson of the St. Mary Medical Center Foundation Board (2001 to 2003), served on the hospital Community Board (2007 to 2009) and also was chair of the Foundation 21 Society. She is now an emeritus member of the Foundation board and frequently participates in Foundation activities.



In 2005, Liz started the Justice Campbell and Elizabeth Lucas Family Educational Fund. A portion of that fund helped toward the purchase of St. Mary's second digital mammography unit in 2013. A patient room was named in honor of Liz's husband, Justice Campbell Lucas, who also was a strong supporter of St. Mary, serving for many years on the Board of Directors. Former Long Beach Mayor Eunice Sato named a hospital room in Liz's honor.

In addition to her financial and leadership support, Liz has provided the hospital with gifts of her own fine art. Two inspiring calligraphy pieces are on display at St. Mary – one on display in the Sisters' Dining Room, and the other in the new mammography center's foyer, in honor of the late Dr. Vincent Esposito. Other pieces of her work are in the Pacific Shores Medical Group's treatment center.

Liz's latest St. Mary project is her creation of embellished visors for cancer patients to wear during treatment. She also produces a line of "What Cancer Cannot Do" products that offer encouragement to individuals battling the disease.

Liz has been good to St. Mary Medical Center in so many ways, and for this she credits as her inspiration Sister Alphonsus Tallon, who dedicated 70 years of her life to the patients of St. Mary's.

"Sr. Alphonsus would come to my room when I was recovering from breast cancer surgery and she always took my hand, saying that I must

be tired, and asking if she could get me a healthy snack or a soda," she recalls. "I would always just think that she must be the one who was tired after so many years of service to so many people."

Liz decided she wanted to leave a lasting legacy for the medical center by making a gift from her estate, becoming a member of the Sr. Alphonsus Tallon Circle of Philanthropists, a giving circle that recognizes those who have provided for St. Mary in their estate plans. "As a charter member of the Sr. Alphonsus Circle, I would simply encourage everyone to keep St. Mary Medical Center in their hearts and support this hospital in any way they can. St. Mary's has taken wonderful care of the community of Long Beach for so many, many years. It's nice to be able to do something that will help impact others for years to come."

As an artist and entrepreneur, Liz is an inspiration to others. She was first granted exclusive publishing rights in 1984 to the copyrighted poem, "When I Am An Old Woman." Since those early years, the "When I Am An Old Woman" product line has expanded to include prints, T-shirts, sweatshirts, purple tote bags, framed quotations, plaques, magnets, decorative boxed note cards, snack trays and other gift products, all featuring the entire poem. More than two million copies of Elizabeth's original card have been sold, which goes to show that one is never too old to have fun and succeed!



## Plan Your Legacy Today... and Receive Fixed Income for Life!

You can receive fixed income for life while creating a legacy to support important community programs and services at St. Mary Medical Center through a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA).

### Here are the benefits of a Charitable Gift Annuity:

- Provides financial security for you and/or a loved one with regular fixed income payments *for life, at a high rate of return.*
- Can be funded with a gift of cash or stock of \$10,000 or more.
- A portion of your annuity payments may be treated as *tax-free income.*
- Receive an immediate charitable tax deduction, usually in excess of 50% of the gift amount.
- If funded with appreciated securities, no upfront capital gains tax is due.
- Only a portion of your capital gains will be reportable, and the tax will be spread out over your annuity payments.
- Fixed, reliable income helps offset the risks of the stock market.
- CGAs are easy to create – the agreement is a simple two page contract between you and St. Mary.

### Gifts Anyone Can Make:

You can make a planned gift to St. Mary Medical Center Foundation in a number of ways:

- Retirement Plan: Naming St. Mary as the beneficiary of your Life Insurance Policy or your IRA.
- Retained Life Estate: This allows you to gift your home to St. Mary and continue to live in it, and receive an immediate and significant charitable tax deduction.
- Bequest Gifts: By including St. Mary in your estate plans, your gift will create a legacy in your/or a loved one's name that will provide for the future needs of the medical center and support the ongoing needs of our patients.

For more information on CGA rates or to request a free, no obligation personal gift illustration, please contact Linda J. Rahn, CFRE, Director of Gift Planning at the St. Mary Foundation at 562-491-9225 or via email at: [Linda.Rahn@dignityhealth.org](mailto:Linda.Rahn@dignityhealth.org). You can also use our confidential on-line gift planning tools at our website at: <https://www.planyourlegacy.supportstmary.org>.



# St. Mary Medical Center Foundation's Honor Roll of Donors 2014

Each year at this time, we reflect on the generosity of our donors without whom much of the vital work of St. Mary Medical Center would not be possible. In 2014, more than 2,500 generous individuals, families, foundations, organizations and businesses contributed to help fund new equipment, lifesaving programs, and community benefit programs. We are pleased to recognize our valued 2014 annual donors and extend our heartfelt appreciation to all who have given support to St. Mary Medical Center. Your continued support makes an important difference. Thank you.

*We have made every attempt to accurately list these gifts. If we have made an error, please accept our sincere apologies and inform our office.*

## Annual Giving Honor Roll:

Annual Giving support is crucial to helping St. Mary Medical Center continue to deliver exceptional health services. Every gift, no matter the size, is deeply appreciated. Due to space limitations in our newsletter, our listing recognizes gifts of \$250 or more contributed between January 1 and December 31, 2014. Listing includes gifts paid (not pledged) - and includes charitable support from gifts at our special events.

*\*\*Indicates deceased in 2014*

### \$50,000+

The Ackerman Family Fund  
of the CA  
Estate of Richard Blackwell  
Mr. Donald E. Johnson  
Estate of Stephen R. Sandberg  
Estate of Viola R. Schmitt

### \$10,000+

Anonymous  
Mrs. Jo Ann Clark  
Estate of Marietta Elliott Davis  
Mrs. Janet Esposito  
Mrs. June Gault  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward J. Kaleff, Jr.  
Mr. Lani Kono  
Ms. Josephine Molina  
& Ms. Heather Rudy  
Estate of Martha L. Olsen  
Ms. Christie Peck  
Dr. & Mrs. Stephen R. Shea  
Mr. J. David Shlemmer &  
Mrs. Virginia P. Shlemmer\*\*  
Estate of Norbert E.  
Vogelbacher

### \$5,000+

Mrs. Loraine Ackerman  
Dr. Mindy Aisen  
Mr. Louis J. Cassani &  
Honorable Joan Comparet  
Cassani  
Dr. & Mrs. Chester Choi  
Mrs. Jeanne Coughlin\*\*  
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From left to right: Celebrating victory at the 2014 Charity Golf Tournament are Luciann Maulhardt presenting the Vincent Esposito Trophy to Danny Bonin, Dr. Jim Murray and John Sawicki. Also pictured are Dr. Michael Esposito and his son Marc Esposito. Not pictured is golf team member Brandon Murray.

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