



# Su Casa

December 2014

## Employee of the Quarter: Ishna Mesa

Ishna Mesa, Staffing Coordinator/Unit Support Team Coach, was selected as the employee of the quarter. Ishna brings her positivity and warm smile to work each day as she coordinates many of the activities on the units. She is responsible for staffing, coordination of Patient Safety volunteers, overseeing the unit secretaries, training of new staff, developing the electronic medical record, and serves on the Safety Committee and Positive Force. Ishna always maintains a "can do" attitude and puts 110% into everything she does. Ishna models everything Casa Colina is about; excellence in quality, compassion, service, and integrity.



## The Joint Commission New Patient Safety Chapter

The Joint Commission has developed a Patient Safety Chapter from existing standards to exemplify commitment to quality care and the safety of patients, effective January 1, 2015. This is a commitment not only of The Joint Commission, but also of Casa Colina. Casa Colina is committed to reducing harm, improving quality, eliminating system failures, and providing the highest level of safe patient care to every patient in every care setting and service. This is accomplished by ensuring a strong safety culture utilizing validated methods to improve processes and systems, standardized ways for interdisciplinary teams to communicate and collaborate, and safely integrated technologies.

All Healthcare workers are expected to engage in professional conduct and behavior which is honest, ethical, responsible and respectful towards patients, families, colleagues, and co-workers in the delivery of safe patient care.

We look forward to continuing to work together to enhance Casa Colina's patient safety system, eliminate complacency, promote collective mindfulness, treat each other with respect and compassion, and learn from adverse patient events.

*High quality care and patient safety depends on highly trained individuals diligently fulfilling roles and responsibilities by acting together in the best interest of each and every patient's needs. I look forward to working with all of you on Casa's continuous dedication and commitment to Patient Safety.*

## It's Buggy!

The flu season has begun and Casa's staff has really improved our vaccination compliance!

Casa Colina Hospital Rehabilitative Medicine  
Employee Influenza Statistics for the 2014-2015 Season  
Preliminary as of Dec 4, 2014

| Influenza season | # Casa Colina Emp | Rec'd Vaccine at Casa Colina Or Rec'd Vaccine At another site | Declines  | Overall Compliance | Non-compliant |
|------------------|-------------------|---|-----------|--------------------|---------------|
| 2014-2015        | 898               | 584 / 65%   | 259 / 28% | 620 / 85%          | 59 to date    |
| 2013-2014        | 764               | 339 / 43%   | 55 / 7%   | 394 / 51%          | 374           |

Compliance is determined by number of employees that took the vaccine or signed the declination in accordance with state regulations.

The CDC has issued an official Health Advisory warning those people who have been vaccinated this year may still be at risk for developing influenza from other circulating influenza viruses or possible mutation of the viruses from those ones the vaccines were made for.

LA County Department of Health encourages all healthcare workers to:

- Wear a mask around patients if have not taken the flu vaccine (we still have plenty)
- To stay home when ill with fever and/or respiratory symptoms
- Contact personal physician promptly if influenza symptoms occur to determine if antiviral medications are warranted
- Encourage all family members to take the influenza vaccine
- Use of other preventative health practices that may help decrease the spread of influenza.

These include:

- respiratory etiquette
- staying away from people who are ill
- meticulous hand hygiene
- getting sufficient rest
- eating a balanced diet



# New Name Beginning with the New Year!

As you know, the Board of Directors has approved a name change for Casa Colina effective January 1, 2015, in anticipation of the opening of our new 31-bed medical/surgical hospital wing later in the New Year. However, we will begin the transition to the new name "Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare" (CCHCH) and logo beginning in December 2014 on all newly created forms, flyers, educational materials, etc.

With regard to existing forms and print materials that use the previous name and logo "Casa Colina Centers for Rehabilitation," we ask that all departments update print materials (forms, flyers, educational materials, etc.) with the new logo before they are reprinted beginning in December. We are planning for all changes to be made throughout campus by May 1, 2015.

Thank you for your help with supporting the transition to our new name and logo as we move into the New Year. If you have any questions or need the new logo emailed to you, please contact your Supervisor or the Communications Office at ext. 2227 or email [press@casacolina.org](mailto:press@casacolina.org).



## Save the Date

**Casa Colina's Tribute to Courage Gala**  
**Saturday, February 28, 2015**

**Sheraton Fairplex Hotel & Conference Center**  
**601 W. McKinley Avenue, Pomona**

Please join us as we pay tribute to Casa Colina's courageous patient and hear the story of Aron Ralston, fearless adventurer, author of the bestselling book, *Between a Rock and a Hard Place*, and inspiration behind the film 127 Hours.

For sponsorship opportunities, please email [events@casacolina.org](mailto:events@casacolina.org) or call 909/596-7733 ext. 2223

Look for your invitation with complete details in your mailbox this holiday season

**Free Community Seminar**  
**When Spine Surgery Isn't Needed**  
**Tuesday, January 20, 2015**  
**from 6 to 8 pm**

**Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare**

**Tamkin Education Center, Building 1D**  
**255 East Bonita Avenue (at Garey) in Pomona**

**Guest Speakers: Scott Lederhaus, M.D and Tom Ponce, PT, MPT**

**Refreshments will be served. Seating is limited – please call to reserve your space. 866/724-4132**

## We Need Your Help

**Casa Colina in conducting important research titled: *What Predicts Behind the Wheel Driving Readiness?***

**We are actively seeking participants.**

The purpose of the study is to establish norms for behind the wheel driving readiness that we will later be used to assist in evaluating TBI patients. We are looking for adults within the age range of 18-80. However, we are requesting your help finding seniors who are willing to participate. Please help us spread the word through your community activities, outside social interactions, or request your senior family members participation. Anyone interested in participating should contact David Russak, PT, DPT at [drussak@casacolina.org](mailto:drussak@casacolina.org).

## New Hires

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Olivia Barraza      | SLPA, Children's Center                   |
| Jocelynn Conner     | ESD Technician, Housekeeping              |
| Peter Covarrubias   | Residential Aide, Apple Valley            |
| Calvin Davis        | Residential Aide, Apple Valley            |
| Idannia Garza       | Security Officer                          |
| William Haisman     | Residential Aide, Lucerne Valley          |
| Desiree Hawkins, RN | Manager, IP Case Management, M/S Hospital |
| Jenica Macchia      | Admissions Coordinator, Outpatient        |
| Naclaysia McGee     | Field Certified Athletic Trainer          |
| Nguyen Nguyen       | Pharmacy Technician, Imaging              |
| Matthew Richmond    | Residential Technician, TLC               |
| John Scott          | COTA, Inpatient Occupational Therapy      |
| Carlene Wasserman   | Occupational Therapist, CSC               |
| Jason Palacio       | MRI Technologist, Imaging                 |

