STORIES OF TRIUMPH AND PROGRESS FROM / CASA COLINA CENTERS FOR REHABILITATION

# ACVSTOILE

2011

The Katherine Wolf Story



After having a large part of her brain removed, her marriage, life, and faith are still intact.



## The Strategy of Excellence

In the financial world there's nothing like good times to make everyone look like a hero. It's in unpredictable, turbulent times such as those we are in now that there's a real need for sound strategy and clear thinking.

Over the long haul, of course, sound strategy and clear thinking about the financial future is needed all the time. It is the primary responsibility of the Board of Directors to bring that sense of accountability to an organization like Casa Colina. The last decade



has shown that my fellow Board members have met that responsibility admirably through their choice of a dynamic management team, the support of bold innovations that have produced unprecedented growth, and a sharp eye on maintaining reserves that have been gathered over more than seventy years that allow us to continue on a healthy path of providing care to so many.

As a group of community members ourselves, we on the Board also bring forward the needs and concerns of the larger community that help shape the direction that Casa

Colina takes as a constantly innovating provider of specialized services. We work with management to shape the strategies for Casa Colina to meet the needs of our patients, while always keeping a weather-eye on the issue of financial soundness. We know that fiscal strength leads to clinical strength – you cannot have one without the other.

We can do this because you, the members of our community, have supported Casa Colina for years. In a sense, you have made a charitable investment in Casa Colina. As a non-profit organization, Casa Colina pays you back by providing a quality of service that is unmatched regardless of payor concerns that plague so many healthcare organizations. And, as we all move forward into a medical landscape that is constantly changing, we Board members believe that Casa Colina's rehabilitation focus and patient-centered health care will be keys to better recovery and better life-outcomes for many people. We look forward to your enthusiastic continued support as we create this new, strategic system of care that responds with humanity and clinical expertise. It will stand as a model of effective medical practice that others will use as their reference point in rehabilitation service delivery throughout the United States and beyond.

Ste Noun

Steve Norin Chairman, Board of Directors

# Board of Directors Casa Colina, Inc. and Affiliates

Our Board of Directors provides a special kind of leadership. Their responsible oversight coupled with their forward thinking has enabled Casa Colina to continue to grow in infinite ways and evolve into one of the country's top rehabilitation facilities. They are comprised of physicians, community leaders and previous patients.

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255 East Bonita Avenue, P.O. Box 6001, Pomona, CA 91769-6001 e-mail: rehab@casacolina.org • www.casacolina.org 909/596-7733 or toll-free 800/926-5462 • TDD-TTY-Q 909/596-3646

### From the President & CEO

Thank you for taking the time to read about what we are doing for patients at Casa Colina and how you can be a part of it. We have committed ourselves to doing the right thing for those who entrust us with their care and creating an exceptional environment for physicians and clinicians, so they can provide the best rehabilitation and medical recovery possible for these thousands of patients.



There are many changes occurring in how health care is delivered and paid for, and what our health care needs will be in the future. This is particularly true of people who are not able to simply return home after a hospital stay. The need for a system of continuing care for these people is being recognized by medical professionals

across the country. This is a major change for most medical organizations. The good news is that Casa Colina, as a leader in rehabilitation, has already developed a system to address most of these needs. It is the continuum of care that you have read about in these pages for many years.

Our continuum begins with Casa Colina Hospital, a specialized inpatient hospital for rehabilitation to which a patient is referred after initial recovery in a traditional medical-surgical hospital. From there the patient can either go directly home or continue with transitional care, outpatient care, home care, residential care, or community programs, such as Outdoor Adventures. A particular patient's path through the continuum is entirely flexible and dependent on the person's needs, and is directed by the finest physicians and clinical staff in our region. This continuum has proven to be a powerful tool for helping patients achieve their best medical recovery and rehabilitation success.

To further improve this continuum, we are planning two strategic projects that will complete the Pomona campus: the addition of 31 private rooms to the existing hospital, bringing the total to 99 beds, and the construction of a medical office building that will include an urgent care center, offices for primary care physicians and additional offices for the specialists in our physician clinics. They will ensure that we will be able to provide care that meets our standards as a Center of Excellence, and they will ensure financial stability for Casa Colina.

We are confident the community that has supported Casa Colina's mission of care with such insight and generosity in the past will understand the importance of this extension of the continuum of care that will allow us to treat sicker patients in the future, in an environment that focuses on the most pressing needs of each individual.

It will be a way to define a standard in rehabilitation and health care that truly serves the needs we have as a community.

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Felice L. Loverso, Ph.D. President & CEO, Casa Colina, Inc.

After having a large part of her brain removed, her marriage, life, and faith are still intact.

November 2, 2009

Dear Dr. Loverso,

My name is Katherine Wolf and I almost died a year and a half ago. To make a long story shorter, on April 21, 2008, I suffered a massive bleed in my brain that caused a nearly fatal brain stem stroke. In order to save my life, half of my cerebellum had to be removed and many of my intracranial nerves were damaged. I spent 40 days in the ICU at UCLA, then 3 months in their neuro-acute rehab.

I was so blessed to come to Casa Colina's TLC. We were all going to stay in LA, and I was going to do home therapy. However, the ranking of your facility, some high recommendations from trusted friends, and my husband's visit convinced him that this was the place for me to go. I will never forget pulling in to Casa Colina in an ambulance from UCLA. I really

think this place looks more like a resort. The grounds are so gorgeous and clean, and I feel they are a powerful beginning to the healing process.



Recovery has been tough, but day-by-day,

by the grace of God and with the incredible support of my husband, family, friends, and your amazing doctors and therapists, I am regaining my life. It is a miracle.

Love and Blessings, Katherine Wolf



The Wolf family in front of their new home in August 2010.

atherine and Jay Wolf were college sweethearts. After marrying at the age of 22, these Southerners moved to California. He studied law at Pepperdine; she began modeling and acting. Soon she appeared in advertising, catalogs, and packaging for Target and Harry-Winston Jewelry. She landed small television roles on *The O.C.*, and several pilots. She was also

roles on *The O.C.*, and several pilots. She was also "Cinderella" in Disney's Print Campaign.

Three years after they married, their son James was born. Mother and son were quite the team, modeling for Munchkin baby products during his first few months of life.

Then the unthinkable happened. While her baby napped peacefully in his crib and she made lunch, Katherine collapsed on the kitchen floor. Though it was not the norm, Jay arrived home for lunch that day and found his young wife in distress. He called 911. She was rushed to UCLA Medical Center where

doctors discovered she had massive bleeding in her brain caused by a congenital brain defect – an arteriovenous malformation (AVM).

It's a condition where there is an absence of capillaries, which normally slow the volume of blood between the arteries and the

veins. Over time, these weak connections finally give way and rupture, which results in internal bleeding that causes massive swelling and squeezes the brain into the spinal column. The surgeon reported that Katherine's AVM was the largest he had ever seen. It was the worst possible blood flow in the worst

location of the brain. He was not optimistic that she would survive.

During 16 hours of intricate brain surgery, Katherine's surgeons removed the AVM, which unavoidably included a bundle of inter-cranial nerves that controlled hearing in her right ear and facial control of her eye, eyelid, cheek, mouth, tongue, and palate. The right side of her face became paralyzed. And since blood cannot touch any part of the brain without causing tissue death, the surgeon was forced to remove 60% of her cerebellum, the part of the brain that controls

balance and coordination, and gives one the ability to perceive the difference between up and down. Katherine's cognition and mental faculties were still intact, but her motor control was completely gone.





Katherine on a modeling shoot; Jay and Katherine on the beach in Malibu just before celebrating their first Christmas in California.





Katherine on her wedding day; and the expectant couple in the summer of 2007.





Holding James for the first time, moments after the delivery; and the Wolf family two months prior to her AVM and hospitalization.

When Katherine awoke from the surgery, she felt a sense of urgency to communicate with Jay, doctors, and her parents who rushed to Los Angeles from Georgia to be by her bedside. She explained, "I used a letter board because I could not speak. I looked so bad physically that I wanted to reassure them that I was still the same person on the inside."

It was difficult for Jay to accept the sudden turn of events. They'd traded their idyllic life by the beach in Malibu, for the inside of an ICU, faced with many unknowns. Would his young wife survive? How would he care for her and their son? What could he do to help her recover?

After consulting with her physicians at UCLA and doing his own research, Jay had Katherine admitted to Casa Colina's Transitional Living Center (TLC) for residential rehabilitation on August 12, 2008. Dr. Yong Lee, board-certified physiatrist, oversaw her medical care. She spent up to six hours a day working with an occupational therapist, physical therapist, neuropsychologist, and speech language pathologist to re-learn the skills that once came so easily to her. Ironically, they were the same skills her toddler, James, started to develop at the same time.

"James was eating baby food when I was trying to swallow baby food. James was learning to walk when I was re-learning to walk. James was learning to talk when I was re-learning how to talk.

It was crazy!" Katherine stated.

### Learning to walk.

"I'd never seen such an extreme case of cerebellum problems before we treated Katherine," recalled Dr. Lee. "We hoped to get other neurons to take over for the part of her brain that was removed. It's called neuroplasticity, when other neurons make new connections and learn new tasks by practicing them over and over again. It's like re-wiring the brain."

When Katherine first arrived at Casa Colina's TLC, she was extremely weak. When propped up in bed, she hunched over like a rag doll. She couldn't sit at the edge of the bed or transfer herself into a wheelchair without risking a fall.

"She had no proprioception," explained physical therapist, Awon Nyirady, "Which is how the nervous system gives one a sense of the orientation of their limbs in space. As a result, she couldn't feel if her knees or hips were bent. With so much of her cerebellum removed, it was very difficult to get her to stand."

Initially, much of her physical therapy involved strengthening her core to help control her trunk. Like many with brain injuries, her daily improvements seemed imperceptible. Yet after five weeks of intensive therapy each day, she was able to sit at the edge of the bed and transfer onto her wheelchair. It was a milestone. It was her first step toward independence. It helped her feel like a mother again.

"Jay pushed Katherine in the wheelchair and Katherine pushed James in his stroller," recalled speech language pathologist, Rachel Conrad. "They were like a little train in the halls of TLC." Jay accompanied her to every single therapy session in 2008, and many more in 2009 when he wasn't studying for the bar exam.

Over the course of several months, her physical therapist continued to work with Katherine to strengthen her core further. Since she had no coordination on her right side, the goal was to get her abdominal and gluteus muscles to compensate for her lack of balance. She learned to stand on her own and take steps with Awon holding her up on one side and the use of a cane to help her balance on the other. Together they walked the hallways of TLC every day. On October 21, 2009, Katherine was able to walk on her own with a quad-based cane. "It was exhausting and seemed like there were no breakthroughs for such a long time. But that repetition is the reason I'm walking today," Katherine explained.

### Learning to drink, eat, and talk again.

"When Katherine arrived here, she was on a feeding tube for her nutrition," stated her physiatrist, Dr. Lee. "She had significant problems in the beginning just swallowing her own saliva."

A Fibro-endoscopic evaluation at Casa Colina's Diagnostic Imaging Center gave her doctors and therapists video footage of her throat. It showed how poorly Katherine swallowed and why. Speech language pathologist Rachel Conrad explained, "The paralysis on her right side included her tongue, velum, and pharayngeal muscles, which affected her swallowing and speech. So the velum could not properly close off the oral cavity from the nasal cavity."

Until Rachel could find a way to fix this issue, Katherine was at risk of aspirating or drowning on anything that trickled down her windpipe into her lungs, instead of her throat.

There were many scary moments. Jay recalled, "She was gagging a lot. You had to give her a certain number of calories a day through the feeding tube. But her stomach filled up within a couple of minutes. She'd go into therapy and sometimes throw up and start choking."

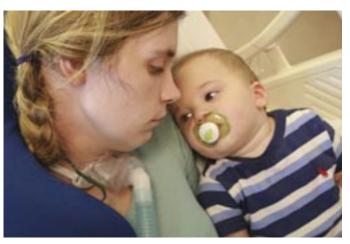
She went from a model figure to an emaciated one during those difficult months. Katherine exclaimed, "I gained 42 pounds when I carried James. Then I lost all of it, as well as another 33 pounds. Within six months, my weight fluctuated by 75 pounds!"

Rachel referred Katherine to a prosthodontist, a dental specialist, to be fitted for a palatal lift. "This prosthesis could

be worn like a retainer," she explained, "It closes off the velum manually, so she could eventually swallow things safely again."

Katherine didn't sound like herself either. Her voice was weak and breathy. "The paralysis affected her plosive and fricative sounds (s, z, ch, sh, p or k) because she couldn't build the pressure in her mouth and with her lips or velum to make a tight seal," Rachel stated, "But she did well after she got the palatal lift." Katherine continued refining her pronunciation with oral motor exercises and speech drills until the end of September.

Then they worked exclusively on her swallowing. "Not being able to eat was a huge blow to her. At one point, Katherine said, 'I'd rather eat than walk." Rachel explained, "She's Southern and she's a 'foodie.' The taste of food brought so much enjoyment to her life. It was really hard on her that she couldn't eat."



James visiting his mother in the hospital bed at UCLA Medical Center.

She also had to strengthen her muscles for swallowing again. During speech therapy, Rachel used a neuromuscular electrical stimulation device to help bring back sensation in that area. They initially worked on improving Katherine's dry swallows. Next, she advanced to swallowing ice chips and then to different consistencies of liquids and textures of foods.

On Halloween, Rachel placed a tiny morsel of a Reese's peanut butter cup on Katherine's tongue. They weren't sure if she could taste anything anymore since her tongue was numb. Katherine was overjoyed by its sweet flavor. "It was heavenly!" she recalled.

Katherine was hopeful each month that she could have her feeding tube removed. But she would need to pass a modified barium swallow test, which uses a video X-ray to show if a patient is swallowing liquids and food correctly. Despite all her hard work, Katherine failed these tests and was only able to eat small morsels in her speech therapy sessions.

On March 25, 2009, after months of working with Rachel in speech therapy, Katherine finally passed her tenth modified





Katherine during her speech therapy sessions: Using electrical stimulation and sampling food.





Learning to walk again in physical therapy: She progressed from using a walker with assistance to taking steps by herself on the treadmill.





Learning to compensate for her lack of balance: Using a vacuum in occupational therapy and walking in waist-deep water in aquatic therapy.

barium swallow test. She was cleared to eat ten small teaspoons of food with a pudding consistency each day.

"We went to Trader Joe's and bought \$100 worth of puddings and yogurts because I was so excited to eat again. Katherine explained, "Attitude is everything. Truly, you can celebrate going to Trader Joe's to get your ten teaspoons or you can consider it a tragedy not to eat normally. So I'm going to choose to celebrate everything. I think it's a huge factor in getting well. You have to stay super positive because it would be so easy to fall into traps of depression or wild ingratitude."

Katherine could safely swallow most foods and liquids by June 10, 2009, ten months after being admitted to Casa Colina.

### Learning to be a mom again.

Katherine also received a great deal of occupational therapy at TLC. This therapy focused on the activities of daily living that Katherine would need to live more independently.

At first, this included the basics of grooming and getting dressed. She also practiced a lot of her parenting skills in

those "OT" sessions.
She re-learned how
to change her son's
diapers and clothing.
She practiced feeding
him in his high chair
and playing games
with him on the floor.
Perhaps her proudest



achievement was re-learning how to safely stand at his crib, reach for him, and carry him a short distance.

The TLC also has a kitchen and laundry room where she practiced packing a lunch for James, putting dishes in the dishwasher, and removing clothes from the dryer.

### Learning to live as a family.

When Jay first toured the Transitional Living Center, he learned about the Casa Colina homes that were available for the families of patients who require long-term care. It turned out to be the final deciding factor in choosing Casa Colina. He moved into a house adjacent to the campus with his son in August, 2008. "I was impressed with the foresight to have that type of housing for patients and their families," Jay explained, "It was so close that I was able to wheel Katherine home in the afternoon after her therapy or stop by the TLC with James for visits, and it made it easy for us to get to her therapy sessions."

On November 10, 2008, Katherine was discharged from TLC's residential program and continued to receive daily therapy through its day treatment program. She was finally



Adjusting to life at home again: Staying seated while safely getting James out of the high chair.

able to live with her family again in their Casa Colina home, after eight months of living apart.

The house also had a guest room. Jay and Katherine had a string of family members visit and help care for young James. They also had the opportunity to attend her therapy sessions to help Katherine improve even more while at home.

Katherine's mother, Kim, watched her daughter's therapy sessions closely. What did she observe?

"Everyone was so unbelievably positive, life-affirming, uplifting, and hope-giving," Katherine's mom stated.

"The therapists manifested sacrificial love.

They poured themselves out continuously.

They were physically, emotionally, and spiritually strong.

They transmitted that strength to the patients.

So it became a happy place."

Their Casa Colina home became a happy place as well. Jay could continue to study for the bar. Katherine could rest or play with her son in between therapy sessions. They continued to practice the skills she learned in therapy to encourage that neuroplasticity or "re-wiring" of her brain. They could be together as a family.

In November 2009, Katherine was discharged from the TLC day treatment program. She received another ten days of therapy through Casa Colina's Outpatient Center, which included aquatic therapy in the pool, where she continued to work on her balance.

### Continuing the journey.

A year and three months after being admitted to Casa Colina, Katherine began the next phase of her life. She and her husband found a home in the Los Angeles area, close to their friends and colleagues, where they moved after

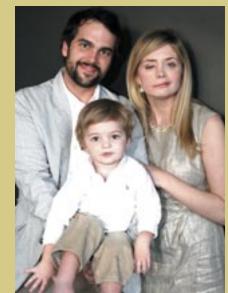
leaving their Casa Colina residence.

Today Jay continues to work part-time as a legal advisor for a real estate development firm and devotes much of his time to caring for Katherine and their son, James, who is now three and attending pre-school. He also just received news that he passed the bar exam. He is now a California attorney.

Recently, Katherine underwent 12 hours of facial surgery that involved transplanting a muscle from her thigh to her face. The surgery was successful. They are hopeful that within a few months, Katherine will be able to smile and have other facial expressions again. She will also have two more surgeries to help alleviate the corneal exposure, resulting from the paralysis of her right eyelid, and the double vision. One procedure will lift the eyelid and the other will reposition the eyeball to bring her right eye in line with her left.

Jay is Katherine's physical therapist now. He regularly takes her to the gym and helps her do many of the same exercises they learned at Casa Colina. He supports her as she walks on the treadmill. He spots her as she lifts weights. He takes her into the pool to practice walking in the shallow end. It's obvious to other gym members that this couple has gone through a lot. "It's really touching because strangers at the gym come up to us with tears in their eyes to let us know how inspired they are to watch us."

After having such a close call and almost losing his wife at the age of 26, Jay has a remarkably healthy perspective on life. "We don't have any expectations. We hold onto things very lightly and just go with the flow because we know how quickly things can change," he stated, "All the more reason to celebrate the time we have together with our families, those milestones and happy, small moments." Today, Katherine can eat anything. She's back to her normal weight and still celebrates every trip to the grocery store.



The Wolf family in December 2009.

Credit: Zoomworks



Pictured from left to right: Event honoree Lee Woodruff, actress and host Bonnie Hunt, ABC News correspondent Bob Woodruff, honorees Marco Ferreira and Wendy Tucker Ferreira, and Casa Colina President & CEO, Felice L. Loverso, Ph.D.

ABC reporter Bob Woodruff suffered a traumatic brain injury from an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) while on assignment in Iraq in 2006. Marco Ferreira also suffered a traumatic brain injury after his motorcycle slid off the side of the road in Malibu Canyon in 2008. This year's Tribute to Courage was an opportunity to celebrate how far these men have come since their accidents. And how their wives, Lee Woodruff and Wendy Tucker, offered their unwavering love and support throughout their recovery, which made all the difference.

More than 700 people gathered at the Pacific Palms Conference Resort in Industry Hills for this special black-tie event, which included dinner, dancing, live entertainment and a very special Tribute to Courage presentation.

Film actress and television personality, Bonnie Hunt, shared Casa Colina's mission to help patients with traumatic brain injuries. Lee Woodruff recounted the struggles she and her family endured after her husband's injury. Inspired to help others touched by traumatic brain injuries, the couple co-wrote *In an Instant*, which chronicles the Woodruffs' amazing journey following Bob's return from Iraq. They also founded the Bob Woodruff Foundation, an organization that assists wounded servicemen, veterans, and their families with obtaining the care they need to thrive physically, psychologically, socially, and economically after a brain injury.

Wendy Tucker described her husband's experience. After Marco's motorcycle accident, he was flown by helicopter to the UCLA Trauma Center for life-saving treatment. Upon discharge from the hospital, he was admitted to a nursing home but was not progressing in his recovery. Wendy, a successful attorney, pushed to have him transferred to Casa Colina for more aggressive care that included acute rehabilitation, transitional care and day treatment services. Marco, also an attorney, not only cheated death, but defied the odds with his wife's unwavering support and their steadfast commitment to his rehabilitation.

These are the stories that moved the doctors, clinicians, community leaders and Casa Colina supporters who attended the event. "We are truly inspired by the incredible courage, commitment and dedication demonstrated by Lee Woodruff, Bob Woodruff, Marco Ferreira and Wendy Tucker," said Dr. Felice L. Loverso, President and CEO of Casa Colina. "It is a privilege for Casa Colina to honor them at the Tribute to Courage because they exemplify the courage it takes to confront and overcome the tremendous obstacles that they were forced to face. By successfully engaging in the rehabilitation process they have turned tragedy into opportunity by increasing awareness about traumatic brain injury."

Through the generous support of donors and sponsors, such as The Novotny/Swahnberg Fund at the Boston Foundation, Rev. Judith Swahnberg & Mr. Carl Novotny, Upland Contracting, Food 4 Less / Ralphs, Pacific Rim Rehabilitation, The Pat and Mark Warren Family Foundation, Alton & Shirley Perkins, The Walter and Francine Laband Foundation, and Zenith Insurance Company, this event raised \$480,000 to benefit Casa Colina's programs and services. The proceeds will also help provide free care to those in need in the local community.



Left: Over 700 people attended Casa Colina's Tribute to Courage fundraiser. Right: Film and television personality Bonnie Hunt hosted the black tie event for the second consecutive year.



Pictured from left to right: Presenting sponsors Carl Novotny and Rev. Judith Swahnberg of The Novotny/Swahnberg Fund at the Boston Foundation pictured with Alexandra Novotny, Denise Loverso, and Casa Colina President & CEO Felice L. Loverso, Ph.D.





Left: Grace F. Napolitano, Member of Congress

Right: Pictured from left to right – Dr. David Patterson, Casa Colina Medical Director; Bob Woodruff, ABC News Correspondent; and Dr. Bob Shafa, Neurosurgeon at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center Casa Colina Sponsors
"Our Body:
The Universe
Within" Exhibit

When the L.A. County
Fair came to the Pomona
Fairplex in September of
2010, it presented a new
and unique opportunity
for Casa Colina to team
up with the area's leading
hospitals to provide

educational support for a very special exhibit. The worldrenown "Our Body: The Universe Within" showed actual human specimens that went through a process known as polymer impregnation to preserve the tissue.

With these amazing displays of the human anatomy, Casa Colina's physicians and therapists were able to describe to Fair attendees exactly how the musculoskeletal system works and answer their questions about it. Casa Colina also provided educational materials about the body, video programs, and educational materials about its facilities and rehabilitation technologies.

This exhibit represented the first time that Casa Colina collaborated with other major healthcare forces in the region, including Citrus Valley Medical Center, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, San Antonio Community Hospital, and Western University of Health Sciences.



Pictured from left to right: Robert Curry, CEO of Citrus Valley Health Partners; Felice L. Loverso, Ph.D., President and CEO of Casa Colina; Steve Moreau, CEO of San Antonio Community Hospital; Kurt Weinmeister, COO of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center; Jeffrey Keating, Executive Director of Public Affairs, Western University of Health Sciences

# Technology Center Offers Tools for Patients' Rehabilitation and Quality of Life

hen you get a glimpse at the number of high-tech tools, gadgets, and software programs available at Casa Colina's Technology Center, you realize the future has arrived.

Doctors and therapists now have access to incredible devices that provide objective data to better evaluate and scientifically measure patients' muscle strength, balance, gait, and movement. Which, in turn, enables them to make any necessary adjustments to patients' therapy treatment plans and demonstrate patients' progress or justify the need for further rehabilitation to insurance providers.

The therapists at Casa Colina's Technology Center, many of whom are also certified Assistive Technology Practitioners, work with physicians, other therapists, and community resources to help provide innovative services to a wide variety of patients. The Technology Center is a clinical laboratory that focuses on motion analysis, balance, coordination, and vision.

### **Improving Vision and Balance**

"Vision is composed of viewing information from the visual field and then processing that information to make adjustments in your balance. There are several different muscles that control the eyes and these muscles, just like any other in the body, may need to be strengthened," explained



Stephanie Kaplan, PT, DPT, ATP and Casa Colina's Director of Rehabilitation. "We also work on how your body makes adjustments to those perceived visions as

you continue walking, standing or engaging in an activity."
With the goal of improving vision and balance, the
Technology Center recently added Dynavision™ to its facility.



This piece of equipment, which is mounted to a wall, features a large board with 64 lights.
Patients are positioned in front of the height-adjusted

lights and must react as quickly as possible by striking the lights as they turn on in random succession.

Dynavision helps patients increase their peripheral vision, depth perception, awareness, eye-hand coordination, and reaction time. It can also be used to increase upper-extremity range of motion and coordination, muscular and physical endurance, and to improve motor planning for people who have suffered motor impairment resulting from a stroke, head injury, amputation, spinal cord injury or orthopedic injury.

### Measuring Strength, Speed, and Coordination

A new area of the Technology Center is the Gait Lab, which is comprised of three important pieces of equipment – the Gait Rite, the Delsys Surface EMG System, and the Dartfish Motion Analysis System.

The Gait Rite consists of an electronic mat that provides instant feedback on an individual's walk – the length and speed of the stride as well as whether the person favors his or her left or right side. It also allows the therapists to analyze



jumping, running, and stepping, so they can then develop an individualized plan to address any deficits.

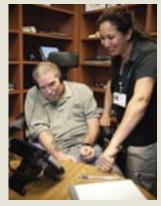
Therapists can see exactly how well a muscle is working

with the Surface EMG System. With electrodes placed on the muscles, it records muscle function and therapists can clearly see how the muscles respond to an activity. Kaplan explained, "Is a muscle overreacting or under responding? It's very useful for a clinician to identify what the patient needs to work on and how he or she can become more efficient with these movements."

The Dartfish System is a motion analysis tool that records any movement and allows therapists to measure and analyze it. Kaplan added, "We can see angles, speed, biomechanics, posture and much more while you are walking, jumping, swinging a bat, golf club or any other motion. For example, are you bending your knees or your hips enough? We can put everything in slow motion and measure your movement better than just the naked eye."

### **Communicating with Devices**

An elderly woman with Alzheimer's knows her daughter's face, but can't recall her phone number. A man with a spinal



cord injury may have difficulty getting to the phone after it rings three times. And a woman with hearing difficulties may not hear the phone ring at all. Yet all of these individuals are capable of using some type of phone to communicate with others.

Casa Colina's Technology Center has obtained a wide variety of adaptive phones from the California Telephone Access

Program to help patients evaluate and select the phone that's

right for them. These phones are typically free with landline phone service and a doctor's prescription stating the person's deficits.

In addition, the Technology Center has augmentative and alternative communication devices to help patients with speech and language deficits determine what works best for them, before they invest in their own equipment at home. These devices generate speech to allow a person to communicate their basic and complex needs. A speech language pathologist and occupational therapist evaluates the patient to determine their language needs as well as their ability to use the device.

### **Accessing Computers**

Computers have quickly become our windows to the outside world. They are used to inform, engage, communicate, and entertain. Fortunately, through voice-recognition, voice-activated software and innovative peripherals, such as



trackballs, joysticks, switches, and mouse devices that can be controlled by one's head or foot, most patients with disabilities can now use computers without help – other than the initial training they receive at Casa Colina's Technology Center. Here patients have an opportunity to try different types of

hardware and software before they purchase anything for use at their home or office.

### **Using Assistive Technology**

Another area where technology plays a significant role is with Environmental Control Units designed to help mobility impaired patients control their environments in the home. A variety of different remote controlled devices can turn on lights or fans, open and close doors, and operate phones, televisions, and computers. In fact, everyone in the home can use these simple devices. Casa Colina's Technology Center refers patients to trusted contractors who can safely install this assistive technology in the home.

### **Making Rehabilitation Fun**

The Nintendo Wii System's multitude of video games is typically viewed as child's play. Yet at Casa Colina's Technology Center, it is a very useful tool to help patients work on their balance, coordination, and endurance. In fact, it adds so much fun to their rehabilitation that they are often able to withstand more exercise than they would in the therapy gym.

"The other day, I had a patient who had lung surgery and a spinal cord injury patient with a brace who both needed to work on their endurance and



balance," explained Krista Mackenzie, OTR/L, Casa Colina's Director of Inpatient Occupational Therapy.
"During a Wii boxing match, they were joking around, egging each other on, and offering each other encouragement. They did some of the same exercises that are done in the therapy gym, but

chose to take more time and with less rest breaks then they required the day before." The Nintendo Wii has been so successful for patients' rehabilitation at Casa Colina that patients are now requesting to use the system as a regular part of their therapy.

# **Physician specialists** set standard of care

#### **POMONA CAMPUS**

Arthritis & Fibromyalgia – Antony Hou, M.D.

Diagnostic Imaging - Gary Jensen, M.D.

EMG – David Patterson, M.D.; Alex Francini, M.D.

Headaches – Ernestina Saxton, M.D.

Infectious Disease – Dan Gluckstein, M.D.; Kerry Gott, M.D; Luong (Mike) Ly, M.D.; John Mourani, M.D.

**Kidney Disease & Hypertension** Michael Bien, M.D.

Neurology – Movement Disorders, Parkinson's Disease & Multiple Sclerosis Richard Shubin, M.D.; Jerome Lisk, M.D.; Gail Hartley, MSN, RNP

Neuro-Optometry – Eric Ikeda, O.D.

Orthopedics - Christopher Chalian, M.D.

Pain Management

Marc Lynch, D.O.; John Sasaki, M.D.

Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
Alex Francini, M.D.; Sepehr Khonsari, M.D.;
Yong Lee, M.D.; David Patterson, M.D.

Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery Devdas Wali, M.D.

**Podiatry** – Jeffrey Breuning, D.P.M.; Thinh Le, D.P.M.

**Pulmonary Rehabilitation** 

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Senior Evaluation Program

Harvey Cohen, M.D.; Gimha Gunawardana, M.D.

Sleep Disorders - Richard Shubin, M.D.

Spine – Alex Francini, M.D.

**Sports Medicine** – Sachin Patel, M.D.

Urology – Aaron Nguyen, M.D.

**Vestibular & Balance Disorders** Tyson Shih, M.D.

Wound Care & Hyperbaric Medicine Kerry Gott, M.D.

#### **AZUSA CENTER**

Neurology & EMG – Arthur An, M.D.

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Orthopedics - Thomas Bryan, M.D.

**Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation & Spine** Sepehr Khonsari, M.D.

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# Reaching Out to Our Community

n some ways Casa Colina is like any other business: we provide services, receive payments for those services, and pay all the expenses related to providing those services. Yet in spite of changes in healthcare funding, we have maintained a positive balance for more than 40 quarters – 10 years is a remarkable record in today's economy.



Financial responsibility is only one of the ways Casa Colina has set itself apart. Since its founding in 1936, this non-profit organization has been committed to helping members of our community, first by caring for children with crippling diseases, then expanding our scope to offer rehabilitation and medical services to people of all ages with many different needs. Today we care

for more than 10,000 individuals a year.

You and many other members of our community have made this possible through donations, sponsorships, gifts, bequests, volunteering and planned giving arrangements. You have seen in these pages how individuals have benefited from the therapies and programs at Casa Colina in very practical and life-changing ways.

But there is another question that is now being asked of all non-profit organizations, particularly hospitals. How does the community benefit from the organization? What warrants its special status as a non-profit entity? At Casa Colina, there are many answers to these questions.

### **Free and Subsidized Care**

First and foremost among the benefits we provide to the community are medical and rehabilitation care services.



The most well known in terms of direct care is our "Free Care" fund. Throughout all of our buildings, in every area where patients are admitted for services, there are signs that inform people of the availability of free care and how to apply. In

addition, Casa Colina provides free screenings for sports injuries every week at three locations and free audiology screenings, among other free and subsidized programs.

We have also established a special fund for military personnel with traumatic brain injury called the Wounded Warrior fund. It has received major contributions from individuals, grants, businesses, local and national organizations. These funds have been instrumental in allowing Casa Colina to provide specialized care for these heroes,



without regard to whether we would receive full payment.

The total value of charity care and subsidized medical services in the last year was more than \$1,000,000.

Outdoor Adventures provides a unique benefit for individuals with disabilities: it helps more than 500 people a year become involved in an active, engaging life with other members of the community. However, there is no insurance reimbursement for these activities and the fees need to be kept at a level that



the participants can afford. The result is that the annual subsidy for the program to continue is more than \$350,000.

### **Other Ways We Serve**

There are many other ways that Casa Colina benefits the community. One way is our special attention to programs for



individuals who are considered particularly vulnerable, such as children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. These programs include educational sessions, support groups, and our Children's Services, which will

receive a Board-authorized subsidy of \$100,000 this year to continue providing 15,000 treatment visits.

Additionally, the community benefits from Casa Colina's commitment to professional education. It is a resource for

continuing education for physical, occupational and speech therapists, and for nurses from across the region. These medical professionals learn and practice the most effective treatment approaches to raise the standards



of health in our community. Casa Colina also helps train the next generation of physicians, nurses, therapists and students who we mentor and engage in internships, residencies and fellowships. Each year this education effort touches 2,275 people – and 3,011 hours of Casa Colina staff time is contributed to supervising 32,356 hours of intern, extern and resident training. Last year, Casa Colina's investment in education, training and research, on behalf of the community, was more than \$385,000.

#### **Meeting Future Needs**

Casa Colina is interested in what you think are your most important health needs, especially in relation to disability, recovery and preventing the risk of disability. If you would like to be part of our next Community Needs Assessment, please call the Casa Colina Foundation at 909/596-7733, ext. 2222 or email rehab@casacolina.org.

### **Meet Dr. Emily Rosario**

Research is a critical part of advancing the work done for patients at Casa Colina. Whether it's analyzing how to avoid



falls or providing evidence that one treatment protocol is more effective than another, research is one of the three pillars that define Casa Colina as a Center of Excellence, along with clinical expertise and education.

To meet our commitment to research in our practice of

medicine and rehabilitation, it is with great pleasure that we introduce Emily Rosario, Ph.D., as the new Director of the Research Institute. With a strong background in research related to the neuroscience of aging, she brings new skills, breadth of experience and leadership to clinical research at Casa Colina.

Some of the studies already underway involve looking at the effects of hyperbaric oxygen therapy on physical, cognitive and speech/language impairments resulting from ischemic stroke; a study of the effectiveness of a special therapy protocol after microdiscectomy using physical therapy on land and/or in the pool; a retrospective study looking at hypopituitarism related to traumatic brain injury; and a large outcome study project involving patients at Casa Colina Hospital, the Transitional Living Center and Outpatient Services.

Casa Colina continues its participation in the multi-site ICARE Study (Interdisciplinary Comprehensive Arm Rehabilitation Evaluation Stroke Initiative), a five-year study of an intensely focused physical therapy program for stroke patients who have lost movement in their upper limbs. It is a collaboration that includes the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, CA, the National Rehabilitation Hospital in Washington, DC, Emory University in Atlanta, GA and five Southern California rehabilitation sites.

Significant progress continues with the three-year study "Healthy Aging Practices and Persons Aging with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities," in collaboration with Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and L.A. Care Health Plan, and funded by a grant to Casa Colina from the UniHealth Foundation. While the results of the Los Angeles County-wide health-risk appraisal of individuals aging with intellectual/developmental disabilities will not be known until the end of the study, the health promotion activities among Casa Colina Padua Village residents have already brought significant positive changes in eating habits, weight control and exercise.



There are many ways I for you to help the patients of Casa Colina reach their maximum rehabilitation potential. Your contribution, whether small or large, takes on new meaning when it allows a therapist to give a patient the extra



OF CASA COLINA

therapy session that insurance does not cover, or provides the subsidy so a toddler with autism can have a full evaluation. Here are some of the ways you can be a part of the Casa Colina tradition of caring:

- Make a direct donation to the Casa Colina Foundation
- Participate in Casa Colina's fundraising events
- Make a memorial donation for someone who has passed
- Make a donation to mark a special event, such as an anniversary or birthday FOREVER A PART
- Buy a brick that will be used in our campus gardens, with your choice of inscription
- Join the Frances Eleanor Smith Circle of Giving and make regular donations through an automated arrangement
- Remember Casa Colina in your Will
- Make a donation of property or investments
- Take advantage of a naming opportunity to recognize
- Consider a planned giving arrangement that will benefit you and Casa Colina
- Become a volunteer

To make a donation now, you can use the envelope on this page or go to our website, www.casacolina.org. At the Foundation office you can find out more about any of these ways to give - and more. Give us a call at 909/596-7733, ext. 2222.





# Lonors Make Casa Colina Strong

Casa Colina Foundation is grateful to the individuals, families, foundations, and corporations who understand our mission and have chosen to support the needs of our patients and help give them the opportunity to receive rehabilitative care. Some donate time to help bring a more personal touch to the challenges of rehabilitation. In the last year, 659 volunteers contributed more than 24,835 hours of service to Casa Colina's programs. Many others have made financial contributions. Through these gifts received between April 2009 and March 2010, you have shown that Casa Colina has a dynamic support system to meet its commitment to excellence for our community's present and future rehabilitation needs. Your generosity has helped us expand our services, pursue innovative treatments, continue signature programs and provide charity care. Thank you for your caring and support.

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IN MEMORIAM Casa Colina extends its warmest thoughts and condolences to the families and friends of these cherished supporters who passed away

in the last year. Their efforts as members of the Board of Directors or advisory boards, their contributions as donors and volunteers, and their participation in our events helped make it possible for Casa Colina to provide rehabilitation to thousands of people. Their spirit, community involvement, and compassion for the needs of others will be remembered as a tribute to their own lives, and an example for us all.

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Stephen Zetterberg





Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is recognized as the signature wound of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan Casa Colina has made a special commitment to respect and honor these brave men and women by using our expertise in traumatic brain injury rehabilitation to help them, whether or not funding is available, through our Wounded Warrior program.

As part of that effort, Casa Colina held "Survive & Thrive," an innovative 5-day therapeutic intervention in October 2009 for 12 service members and their families. These families from all over the U.S. participated in a full schedule of education sessions, workshops, experiential learning sessions, one-on-one time with physicians and neuropsychologists, and also free time for relaxation and group dining. The services members, spouses and children were grateful for this chance to learn more about how to manage their day-to-day lives with TBI and the opportunity to appreciate themselves as families again.

"Survive & Thrive" was provided free of charge to these families, thanks to a grant from the Welcome Back Initiative of the McCormick Foundation and Major League Baseball, Additional funding came from Casa Colina's Wounded Warrior program, the Bob Woodruff Foundation, the Majestic Realty Foundation, the Pomona Rotary and many other business and individual donors. A second session of Survive & Thrive is scheduled for April 2011.

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Gloria Terrill

Paul White

Barbara Yarlott

Ella Gullock

Jack Gullock

Ioan Hadley

Iean Haley

Carl Hess

Angelina Romo

Duane Johnson

Karen Wildman

Nanette Keith

Leon and Iris Krasner

Eunice Pedersen

John and Susan Kukta

Mr. and Mrs. John Rowe

John and Lora Russell

Mr. and Ms. Jim Michaelson

Sierra La Verne Country Club

Mr. and Ms. Philip Solter

Gregory and Alice Terlecky

John and Kristine Vara

Allen and Ruth Walton

Fred and Harriet Aronow Edla Becker Mr and Mrs William Dingle Mr. and Mrs. Bill Dwyre Ann Garner William and Carol Grant Darrell Goddard Mr. and Mrs. William Granewic Richard and Patricia Goddard

Elizabeth Grindle Victor and Elena Godinez Bryan, Leesa, Jason and Ashlee Joanne Good Lamb Mr. and Mrs. William Grant Iov Matsumoto Homer Henderson

Mr and Mrs McGwire Marilyn Peppin Bill and Cheryl M. Kondrat Ianet Riser Mr. and Mrs. John Rountree

Kevin Kulbacki

Eugene and Jeryl Boring

Harry and Linda Gibson

Jaaco Corporation

team and friends

Ruben and Patricia Rocha

Sherry Stewart/Universal

Mr. and Mrs. John Rountree

Mr. and Ms. Robert Allison

John and Laurie Schink

Fastener Outsourcing

Lorraine Larue

P. I. Moreland

**Bob Kunce** 

Virgina Leon

Robert E. Liles

Mr. and Ms. Leonard Branch

Michael Reinhard, God be with

you, From Discovery Softball

Iill Bissell

Gilbert Smith W. L. and Sharon Toothaker Iames Williams

Iames and Barbara Zavadil Albert Lum

Marjorie Lum Gerald A. Lunde Mr. and Ms. William Loud

Lettis P. Mc Mullen Vivian MCM Timmons

Ardelle Morse Richard and Linda Snelson

Delores Ograin Lt. Col. USAF (ret) David and Susan George

Bill Paulus Betty Jane Raab

Lucille Portolese Benjamin H. Hadley and Pat Woeste his friend Ralph Smith Surjit Sandhu

Rohinder Sandhu Alexis Renee Saucedo Jeff and June Plate Karen DuPont

Mary Jane Hess Dorothy Stamps Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Antonelli Virginia Herrera

> Doris Tinsley Mr. and Mrs. Paul Adelson

Dorothy Von Heydenreich Oskar Von Heydenreich, Ir

Ioe West Rev. and Mrs. Wilson

#### **Tributes**

In honor of Casa Colina staff Neil O'Dwyer

In honor of Donald Driftmier and the wonderful work at Casa Colina

Louise Felix and Walt Ortiz -Christmas Gift Phil and Madeline Rozuk

Analisse DeLara

Marco Ferreira & Wendy Tucker Mariellen and Peter Bergman -In celebration of his wonderful recovery Ralph A. Campillo Peter Ezzell, APC - In honor of his graduation home from Iames La Fleur

Lawrence Freilich Kirk and Susan Jenkins Mr. and Ms. Rui Lopes Mr. and Ms. Elliott Olson Mr. and Ms. Dick Shinee

Marcellus Gonzales Jose Montenegro

Robert A. Gough Kathyrn Gough

Merry Christmas Jeff Hornbaker and Virginia Miramon Melvin Hornbaker

Kathy Hornbaker's birthday Melvin Hornbaker

Felice Loverso, Ph.D. Dennis J. O'Malley - In honor of his ongoing devotion to persons with disabilities Mr. and Mrs. Charles Martinez

David Patterson, M.D. Wendy Tucker & Marco Ferreira -In honor of giving Marco his life back

Rick and Judy Pedevillano Denna Bartlett Mr. and Ms. Gerald Bradley Christine Bravo David O' Dell Norma Gomez Mr. and Ms. Raphael Medvitz Mr. and Ms. Bryon Pedevillano Kristina Vermeeren

**Jeff Plate** Mr. and Ms. Scott Rosnagle

In honor of Phil Putignano, Stephanie Kaplan, and Beth Nunn for their dedication and commitment to Outpatient Services Dianne Whiting

Ronald Plate

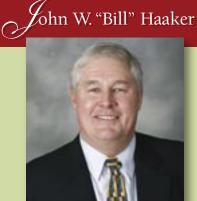
Dr. David Rodgers Mr. and Mrs. Cornish Rogers

The Wound Care Center Virginia Fossun Austin Wiesblott's 2nd Birthday

Francine Aron

Dianne Whiting, Annette Jones, and Patty Roone Cheryl A. Clark

We strive to keep accurate records. If there is an error or omission, please contact the Foundation office at 909/596-7733, ext. 2222.



T t is with great sorrow and respect that we write of the untimely passing of Bill Haaker, whose support of Outdoor Adventures and enthusiasm for all of Casa Colina's programs was unbridled.

As a member and Chairman of the Casa Colina Foundation Board and more recently, as a member of the Casa Colina Board of Directors, he participated in many committees and brought his energy and business insight to the deliberations of these boards. Starting in the late 1980's he volunteered as a member of the Casa Colina Golf Classic Committee and since 2002 has been its Chairman, leading the effort to raise more than a million dollars over that time to sustain the Outdoor Adventures program.

He had a larger-than-life personality and was an outdoors person himself, enjoying fishing expeditions and many other sports with family and friends. He was an avid golfer and long-time member of the South Hills Country Club. He also knew the work of Casa Colina first hand, both as a patient and as a volunteer with Outdoor Adventures, assisting on fishing and horse packing trips.

He had strong roots in our community and was a principal in Haaker Equipment Company, which was started by his father John Haaker in Pomona 38 years ago and moved to La Verne in 2004. The company is a major supplier of environmental cleaning equipment such as street sweepers, drain cleaning trucks and industrial sweepers and scrubbers.

With Cindy, his wife and teen-age sweetheart, they raised two children, Jake and Robin, both of whom have been strong supporters of Casa Colina and volunteers with Outdoor Adventures. One of his greatest recent joys was seeing two grandchildren added to that family.

A supporter of critical community organizations and a wonderful friend to so many, he leaves behind a legacy of passionate involvement with life and a commitment to the needs of others



Monday, November 9, 2009 at South Hills Country Club, West Covina

### **Presenting Sponsor**

The Elizabeth Kitchel Trust Iris Belding in honor of George W. Belding

### **Major Sponsors**

**SEI Investments** 

GKK Corporation
Haaker Equipment Company
JAMAC Steel, Inc.
George and Karen Langley
Pertronix
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

On this remarkable day, golfer John Pelton earned a Hole-in-One. He and 142 other golfers, as well as nearly 200 dinner guests, helped raise funds for Casa Colina and its nationally renowned Outdoor Adventures, a program that encourages over 500 people of all ages and abilities to participate in sports and therapeutic recreation each year. Outdoor Adventures helps people develop confidence and a greater understanding of their capabilities through activities such as scuba diving, snow skiing, whitewater rafting, jet skiing, sky diving and horseback riding.

The evening's entertainment included a video of long-time participant, Darryl Lair, and new participant, Spencer Hawk, who both spoke about how Outdoor Adventures has made a life-changing impact. Casa Colina is grateful to Committee Chairman, the late Bill Haaker, and the entire committee for making it such a memorable event.





Left to right above: Celebrating a hole in one, Felice Loverso, Ph.D., President and CEO of Casa Colina, pictured with winner John Pelton, Rick Pedevillano, Golf Classic Committee member, and the late Bill Haaker, Golf Classic Committee Chairman. The day brought sunshine and many smiles along

the fairway.



Saturday & Sunday, March 14-15, 2010 at Harvey Mudd College, Claremont



Margaret Bauman, M.D., leads a discussion followed up with an in-depth question and answer session with conference participants.

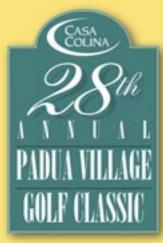
The Ninth Annual Trends in Autism Conference brought together thirteen nationally renowned autism experts who gave their invaluable insight into the latest research and treatment programs in the field. The conference, which was held in Claremont, gave parents, healthcare professionals and educators a chance to learn about recent clinical developments, new research perspectives, treatments and education.

This year's conference had over 160 attendees and featured 14 exhibitors. It included two breakout sessions: the first addressed the needs of young children with autism and the second one discussed the needs of adolescents and adults. The focus on teens at this year's conference responded to the needs of parents and clinicians who want to help teens continue to maintain and improve their skills as they mature.

Casa Colina Children's Services has one of the largest autism programs in California and provides comprehensive treatment to hundreds of children on the autism spectrum each year.



Conference presenter
Sue Rubin (pictured
at left) was the
subject of, and
writer for, the
2004 Academy
Award-nominated
documentary
"Autism is a World."



Monday, April 26, 2010 at Red Hill Country Club, Rancho Cucamonga **Founding Sponsor** 

Robert and Beverly Lewis
Foundation

### **Presenting Sponsors**

Hidden Villa Ranch The Liles Family Trust SEI Investments

### **Major Sponsors**

Certified Aviation Services
General Outdoor Advertising
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Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP
The Wasserman Foundation

Peter Ueberroth, the man who helped run the most successful Olympic Games in history, played a major role in making this



The legendary Peter Ueberroth, former Chief Executive of the U.S. Olympic Committee.

one of the best golf tournaments for Padua Village. A special thank you belongs to the 143 golfers and over 200 dinner guests who attended the event, as well as Bill Dwyre and John Rountree, who co-chaired the tournament.

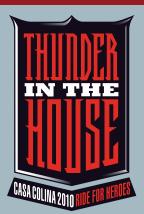
During the evening festivities, Peter Ueberroth joined Bill Dwyre on stage for a reflective conversation about the challenges involved with managing his sports enterprises and his unique problem-solving abilities.

Peter's candid remarks and in-depth knowledge made a lasting impression on the audience.

The funds raised by this tournament subsidize the Padua Village Homes in Claremont where 16 adults with developmental disabilities live in a supervised, structured environment that promotes activity and independence.



Felice Loverso, Ph.D., President and CEO of Casa Colina, with Ben Howland, UCLA Head Basketball Coach, and Steve Norin, Casa Colina Chairman of the Board.



Saturday, June 19, 2010 at Chino Fairgrounds, Chino

### **Major Sponsors**

Dr. Mel and Nora Butler Pacific Rim Rehabilitation Specialized Drywall Systems

More than 500 riders pulled up on Saturday, June 19, 2010, for the Thunder in the House, Ride for Heroes 2010. Cameron Nelson

Memorial Ride and Music Festival. This spectacular event was hosted by Casa Colina in partnership with Friends of Casa (F.O.C.), Abate 19 and the American Legion Riders.





Above: The Reno Jones Band, Amy Scruggs and Sabbath in Black provided musical entertainment.

Left: Co-Committee Chair Bill
Hartley with Felice L. Loverso, Ph.D.,
President and CEO of Casa Colina,
and Steve Kawecki, Co-Committee
Chair and Casa Colina employee.



# Third Party Fundraiser 6th Annual I.B.E.W. Brotherhood Motorcycle Run

Sunday, October 24, 2009 at IBEW Local #47 Union Hall, Diamond Bar

**Sponsor –** I.B.E.W. Local #47

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) created quite a spark when they honored Casa Colina as the beneficiary of their 6th Annual Brotherhood Motorcycle Run on Saturday, October 24, 2009. More than 200 riders participated in the poker run, gathering playing cards for their hands at each stop along the route. After their ride they enjoyed BBQ, live entertainment and a chance to win prizes. A check for \$8,000 was presented to Casa Colina.



he potentially lethal side effects of concussions are affecting professional athletes as well as college, high school, and middle school athletes, and others, at alarming rates. The dangers of concussions have become

indisputably clear. As a result, many federal, state and local agencies are trying to intervene by setting new evaluation and treatment guidelines. Casa Colina has taken the lead by establishing its new Concussion Program.

While the risks of concussion are now more well known, it is still very difficult for athletes to tell if they have one. For example, if you broke your arm, it would hurt and the injury would show on an X-ray. Concussions are different. Since the brain doesn't have any pain receptors, you can't feel the impact. Like the electrical charge of a lightening strike, concussions cause sudden chemical changes in the brain rather than structural damage, so they can't be seen on an MRI or CT Scan.

"Oftentimes, athletes may continue to play because they don't want to be seen as weak or let their team down – or because they don't fully recognize the severity of the situation," explained Casa Colina's neuropsychologist, Kelli McSwan. "They often think 'I just got my bell rung so what's the big deal?' Therefore they don't

rest and instead continue to practice and exert themselves, exacerbating symptoms and prolonging recovery."

This is where the danger lies. Concussions that are left untreated can lead to Post-Concussive Syndrome, a condition

that causes dizziness, balance problems, recurring headaches, fatigue, depression, sleep difficulties, changes in personality, short-term memory problems, and sensitivity to light and noise. All of these conditions can alter a person's mental state, affecting the ability to drive, work, or study.

What's even more troubling is that if an athlete goes back to the game or practice too quickly, he or she is at a high risk for "Second Impact Syndrome," which can be fatal. It is estimated that up to 4 million people suffer brain injuries while playing sports each year. Studies also show that approximately 50% of those who suffered a second impact shortly after their initial concussion may die.

"Athletes with concussions can be successfully managed," explained McSwan.

"It's when they are poorly managed and return to activities too soon that they can get into trouble and they are at the highest risk for further injury." Casa Colina's physiciandirected program combines the unique expertise of its traumatic brain injury specialists and its sports injury rehabilitation professionals.

It's a diverse team of clinicians whose purpose is to help athletes return to play safely after a concussion. A board-certified physical medicine and rehabilitation doctor oversees each patient's medical care and treatment.

Neuropsychologists help assess changes in brain function and psychological function as well as

ImPACT

behavior through the use of
ImPACT™ concussion testing
and a clinical evaluation.
Physical therapists help evaluate
neurological dysfunction and

promote strength and balance. Certified athletic trainers provide on-field support to coaches and schools.

Casa Colina's Concussion Program is one of only a few hospital-based programs in Southern California to offer ImPACT, a tool developed by the world's leading authorities on concussion management. This simple 20-minute online test is used as a baseline to measure athletes' neurocognitive

skills in the pre-season. Then, if an athlete suffers a blow to the head during play, a second test can be done and used as a comparison to determine if a concussion has occurred. Additional testing can also be used to track recovery.

"You would think the patient would do much better,

taking the same test twice," noted McSwan, "But in most cases, they do significantly worse, often their results go down by 30% or more after a concussion. And we can see the areas of the brain that were affected by how they answer the questions."

ImPACT is also very affordable at less than \$15 per test, yet the information it provides is priceless. Brian Roberts, ATC, Manager of

Athletic Programs at Casa Colina said, "I always tell the parents, 'Get the baseline testing done and hopefully you'll never need it. But if you do need it, you'll have something to compare it with – which allows our doctors the opportunity to clinically manage a concussion more efficiently, making the return-to-play decision a lot easier and the end result much safer."

### After Multiple Concussions, She's Back on the Field – and the Honor Role

indsey Gomez, a 15-year-old soccer player from Ontario, CA, is one of the athletes helped by Casa Colina's Concussion Program.

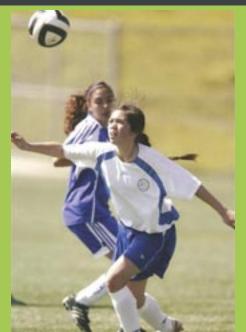
She suffered her first concussion during a game in August 2009. She continued to play, but her father and soccer coach, Tim, took her to the hospital after the game where a CT scan showed no physical damage to her brain. Yet she suffered minor headaches for weeks. She was instructed by the ER physician to take two weeks off of soccer. To be on the safe side, Tim made her sit out for three weeks.

A month later, she received a second concussion when a player kicked her in the back of the head. She was in severe pain, breathing heavily and crying

hysterically. Tim rushed her off the field, straight to the hospital. It was hard to keep her from dozing off on the way to the emergency room.

Though she was released from the hospital, he knew his daughter wasn't herself. Tim explained, "She began to ask me questions in the same way a toddler would and at that point I knew there was something terribly wrong."

After conducting extensive research about concussions and ImPACT, Tim took Lindsey to Casa Colina. She was



administered the ImPACT test by Brian Roberts, ATC and examined by physiatrist Dr. Alex Francini. The examination confirmed she was concussed and had neurological problems, including the loss of fine motor skills and balance on her right side. She was advised not to participate in sports for six months and undergo more extensive tests at Casa Colina.

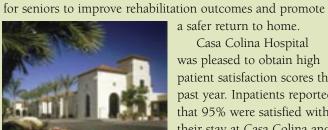
Dr. David Patterson, Medical Director of Casa Colina, prescribed an MRI to rule out other complications, and medication to treat her severe migraines. After a month, her condition improved dramatically and she no longer experienced mood swings or headaches.

Unfortunately, a third concussion

occurred in February 2010, when she accidentally collided with a classmate in her school's hallway. Lindsey required more treatment by Dr. Patterson after suffering from severe memory problems.

Today, Lindsey is doing much better. Her symptoms have subsided and she's now on the honor roll. In June 2010, she was cleared to work out for the first time since her third concussion, and her father hopes she will eventually return to the game they both love.

a safer return to home.



Casa Colina Hospital was pleased to obtain high patient satisfaction scores this past year. Inpatients reported that 95% were satisfied with their stay at Casa Colina and 95% would recommend

Casa Colina to their family and friends. The Hospital also demonstrated that 82% of its patients are discharged back to their home, not a nursing home, with the tools necessary to be successful in their environment. This is a significantly higher number than the national average of only 69.1% returning home after their rehabilitation. In addition, 94.73% of Casa Colina's inpatients remained at home after six months of leaving the hospital.

As a leader in rehabilitation, Casa Colina Hospital is also involved with helping the next generation of rehabilitation professionals hone their skills through its Residency Programs. The Orthopedic Physical Therapy Residency Program is accredited by the American Physical Therapy Association. A Neurologic Physical Therapy Residency Program was also started this year. The hospital's rehabilitation staff also collaborated with USC to develop the Neurologic Physical Therapy Professional Education Consortium, offering advanced neurological education to therapists across the country.

Casa Colina Hospital is a 68-bed fully licensed, Joint Commission accredited facility that serves individuals who can benefit from the intensive program of three hours or more of therapy daily, five days or more a week.

### Dr. S. Jerome and Judith D. Tamkin **Outpatient Center**

The Center has added three new innovative programs to its many services. The Concussion Program addresses the complications that can result from a sudden impact to the head, which can be severely disabling if left untreated (see story on page 20). The Gait Lab uses advanced technology to help physical therapists better determine what exercises patients need for improvements in walking or other movements, such as swinging a golf club (see story on page 10). The Outpatient Senior Evaluation Program helps identify and manage issues associated with aging, including changes in mobility and behavior, decline in memory or cognition, weakness and balance difficulties. This comprehensive geriatric screening and intervention is recommended for

individuals over the age of 65 with mild to moderate impairments. It consists of a series of outpatient visits over the course of 3 to 5 days to assess the individual's functional ability, physical health, psychological health, and

socio-environmental health.



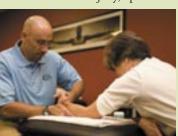
Free community seminars are held nearly every month at the Center regarding a wide variety of medical conditions. Free sports injury screenings are held every Sunday from 9 a.m. to noon (except holidays), and free audiology screenings are also available by

appointment. For a complete list of support groups offered by Casa Colina, please visit www.casacolina.org.

The Tamkin Outpatient Center serves individuals who have the potential to overcome or better manage physical disabilities and injury by receiving specialized medical care or rehabilitation services in an outpatient setting.

### **Casa Colina Azusa Center**

The physician specialty clinics at the Casa Colina Azusa Center continue to provide coordinated outpatient medical care and rehabilitative treatment for those living in the Foothill communities. The Orthopedic Clinic treats general orthopedic conditions, sports injuries, work-related injuries, and more. The Neurosurgery Clinic addresses the surgical needs of those with acute or chronic back pain. The Spine Clinic caters to non-surgical patients and specializes in traditional rehabilitation and alternative medicine treatments for people with back pain. Lastly, the Physiatry Clinic offers specialized medical care for those with musculoskeletal problems, traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injury, stroke, and more.



Expanded occupational therapy services focus on muscle strengthening, conditioning and therapeutic exercise, hand therapy, self-care and/or energy conservation training, home activity

and exercise programs, community re-entry education, and computer-based cognitive programs.

The Casa Colina Azusa Center also caters to the needs of its local athletes, many of whom attend local schools and colleges. There are free sports injury screenings offered every Monday from 4 to 6 p.m. The center has also implemented Casa Colina's Return-to-Play, an affordable program that allows athletes to continue the progress they've made in therapy once their medical benefits have reached their limit.

The Azusa Center is dedicated to providing specialized physician's clinics and a wide range of physical rehabilitation services to residents in the Foothill communities.

### **Transitional Living Center**

New research shows how the Transitional Living Center's quality of care has made quantifiable differences in the lives of many individuals and their families. A recent survey of 71% of the clients discharged from the residential program between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009 revealed impressive results. Only 8.5% of TLC clients were re-hospitalized compared to the national average of 22.9% at one year post-injury\*; 92% of clients' families reported that



the TLC ensured their loved one a safer stay at home; 91.5% of clients have freedom from unsafe falls: and 83% of TLC clients are residing at home safely.

The TLC is also experiencing a five phase facility renovation. The rehabilitation gym was expanded by 40% in Fall 2010. In addition, the client apartments are being remodeled with modern amenities to increase both functionality and appearance. Staff offices are being refurbished to make more room for treatment areas for patients and to enhance the functionality of administrative spaces. The entire facility also received a new roof to match the Spanish architectural style of Casa Colina's other structures. Construction will be completed by March 2011, including a renovation of the patio areas with additional landscaping.

\*Marwitz, J.H. et.al. J. Head Trauma Rehabil. (2001) 16(4):307-317

The Transitional Living Center helps individuals with traumatic brain injuries, spinal cord injuries or other neurological traumas further their rehabilitation goals in a 38-bed, short-term residential setting. Six hours of individual or group therapy are provided 6 days a week. Day treatment and home programs are also offered.

### Casa Colina at Rancho Piño Verde & Casa Colina at Apple Valley

Casa Colina's high desert programs provide 76 long-term residential beds for adults with brain injuries with 42 beds at



Casa Colina at Apple Valley and 34 beds at Casa Colina at Rancho Piño Verde. These programs are medically managed by a board-certified physician as well as a newly hired board-certified gerontologist. Additionally, both programs have a licensed vocational nurse and utilize outpatient therapy services at local hospitals and Casa Colina's campus.

Residents at both facilities have

been busy with trips to the Aquarium of the Pacific, the Big Bear Resort, outdoor community concerts, the beach, movie theatres, local restaurants, farmer's markets, and Tai chi

classes. Recently, an Apple Valley resident received his high school diploma and will begin Fall classes along with other residents in the program at Victor Valley Community College. The pool at Rancho Piño Verde was open for the summer with three certified lifeguards in attendance. Many residents also enjoy fishing in the campus' ponds year-round.

With such a strong focus on the health and wellness of its residents, both high desert programs are operating at 100% capacity. Casa Colina is currently investigating expansion opportunities for these facilities due to the high demand for this type of care.

Both programs serve adults with traumatic brain injuries who require long-term supervised residential care.

### A. Gary Anderson Family Children's Services Center

Children's Services launched the new Language and Learning Center in Fall 2010. A neuropsychologist-led team of therapists and educators leads this groundbreaking tutoring program, which is designed to give children effective ways to overcome



learning challenges and experience academic success.

Since December 2009, Children's Services staff has been providing physical, occupational, and speech therapy services four days a week for the ABC School in

Ontario. This is a private school for children on the autism spectrum. It also continues therapy services at the LeRoy Havnes Center in La Verne.

The Center also introduced its Aquatics Program to help promote comfort and safety in the water, so children with special needs may successfully participate in communitybased swimming lessons. The "Splash Zone" class is an eightweek session designed for children between 18 months and four years of age and their parents. The "Get Swimming" class is an eight-week session geared to children five to 12 years old.

To help raise funds for Children's Services, the families, friends and staff collaborated to produce a cookbook with many kid-friendly and gluten-free recipes. Copies of the book are still available for purchase at the Center or the Casa Colina Foundation.

Children's Services provides rehabilitation care to infants and children with a wide range of physical and developmental disabilities up to age 15. It is also well known for its diverse programs for children with autism.

### **Helen A. Kellner Adult Day Health Care Center**

Since 1978, Casa Colina Centers for Rehabilitation has offered participants and caregivers access to its Adult Day Health Care Center, which is licensed by the Department of Health and certified by the Department of Aging. It provides a nurturing, stimulating and supportive environment for adults with cognitive or physical impairments due to

22 • casacolina.org casacolina.org • 23 Alzheimer's, stroke, brain injury, cerebral palsy, Parkinson's, multiple sclerosis, dementia and other disabling conditions.

A board-certified physical medicine and rehabilitation physician oversees the center, which is comprised of highly



trained healthcare professionals, including nurses, social workers, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech language pathologists, nursing program assistants and an activities director.

This team of clinical professionals, who work closely with the participant's primary care physician, begins by developing a customized plan of care based on a multi-faceted assessment of a participant's needs. Then each day the individual receives constant monitoring of good health by a devoted nursing staff, in collaboration with the caregiver and primary care physician. Physical, occupational and speech therapy helps to maintain and maximize functional abilities. Social work services address the participant and caregiver's needs to adapt to a chronic, disabling condition, and foster greater enjoyment of life. Recreation, social activities and friendships keep minds and spirits lively. Nutritious lunches and snacks are served to meet the physician-recommended dietary needs of the individual.

The Adult Day Health Care Center serves adults with varying disabilities who require supervised care during the day.

### **Casa Colina Diagnostic Imaging Center**

In order to provide physicians in the community and surrounding area with timely access to their patients'



diagnostic images and results, the Casa Colina Diagnostic Imaging Center recently launched the Picture Archive Communication System (PACS). This secure web-based program

provides patient records via the Internet, ensuring prompt, convenient, and confidential access without the physical and time barriers associated with traditional film-based image retrieval, distribution, and display.

The Center has been awarded a three-year term of accreditation in mammography as a result of a recent survey by the American College of Radiology. To celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October, the Imaging Center offered women in the community access to low-cost mammography screening exams, along with a complimentary annual calendar and self-examination shower card.

Other services that specifically target women's health issues include breast biopsies utilizing ultrasound technology and DEXA screenings for bone health.

The Casa Colina Diagnostic Imaging Center is a full service facility with state-of-the-art equipment that includes MRI, CT and Ultrasound, and serves individuals who are in need of timely, high quality diagnostic care.

#### **Outdoor Adventures**

Outdoor Adventures hosted the 16th Annual Land Meets Sea Sports Camp in Long Beach where water, land, recreation and competitive sports were offered for children and adults with physical and cognitive disabilities. These activities included



kayaking, jet skiing, water skiing, outrigger canoeing, hand cycling, swimming, martial arts, Thai chi, Pilates, yoga, sailing, deep-sea fishing and an introduction to SCUBA.

Wheelchair sports included fencing, softball, basketball, volleyball, tennis, hockey, quad rugby, and mobility training.

This year's camp also had a portable climbing wall overseen by Mark Wellman, premier mountaineer and Paralympic athlete. Despite being paralyzed in a mountain climbing accident, Mark has inspired millions, including this year's camp participants, to meet their problems head-on and reach for their full potential.

The Outdoor Adventures staff, in collaboration with other Casa Colina professionals, also organized an entirely different camp for service members who have returned from Iraq or Afghanistan with traumatic brain injuries (TBI). "Survive & Thrive" assists veterans with TBI as they transition from a rehabilitation setting back to living at home with their families again. This five-day getaway brought together 12 families from around the country for an educational and experiential therapeutic program provided by Casa Colina's professional staff. (See story on page 16.)

Outdoor Adventures serves adults and children with a broad range of cognitive and physical disabilities who want to discover their abilities in a challenging outdoor recreational environment.

### **Padua Village Homes**

The Padua Village residents were treated to a two-day trip to Las Vegas by St. Louis University basketball coach, Rick Majerus. Padua Village staff, parents, and volunteers also accompanied the residents, which enabled everyone to enjoy a vacation that was tailored to their individual interests, which included a variety of restaurants, sightseeing excursions, swimming in the pool, and enjoying the hit show,



The Lion King.
Padua Village
consists of three
homes offering
different levels of
care for its adult
residents now and
as they age in the

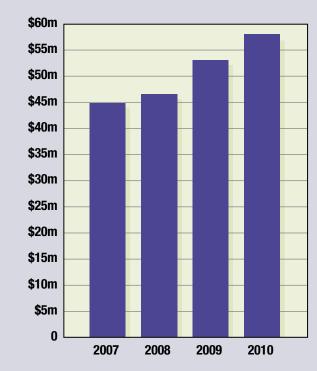
future. This allows Padua to provide a broad continuum of care for its adult residents.

These facilities serve adults with developmental disabilities who require supervised residential living.

## **Casa Colina's Operational Performance**

### **Net Revenue from Operations**

(Excluding Foundation)



### Casa Colina Operating Entities\* Financial Performance (Unaudited)

Revenues	2010	2009
Gross patient and other services	\$79,881,000	\$75,225,000
Other operating revenue	2,101,000	3,426,000
Transfers from Foundation		
for uncompensated care		
and community benefits	1,164,000	1,449,000
Total Revenues	83,146,000	80,100,000
Deductions		
Contractuals	24,841,000	25,822,000
Bad debts	345,000	1,261,000
Total Deductions	25,186,000	27,083,000
Revenue Less Deductions	57,960,000	53,017,000
Operating Expenses		
Salaries and benefits	30,881,000	30,911,000
Other expenses	11,537,000	10,385,000
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	42,418,000	41,296,000
Net Income from Operations Prior to Depreciation, Interest	<u></u>	<u></u>
and Amortization	\$15,542,000	\$11,721,000

\*Excludes Foundation

### **Casa Colina Balance Sheets**

(Unaudited/Consolidated)

March 31, 2010 and 2009

Assets	2010	2009
Current assets	\$26,930,000	\$23,762,000
Investments	52,272,000	34,827,000
Assets limited as to use	18,947,000	17,705,000
Property and equipment	56,133,000	57,831,000
Other assets	1,214,000	1,505,000
Total Assets	<b>\$155,496,000</b>	\$135,630,000
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current liabilities	\$11,136,000	\$11,759,000
Long-term debt and other liabilities	47,845,000	48,459,000
Unrestricted and		
restricted net assets	96,515,000	75,412,000
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$155,496,000	\$135,630,000



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### Mark Your Calendar •

Padua Village Golf Classic – Monday, April 25, 2011 • Red Hill Country Club
Tribute to Courage – Summer 2011
Thunder in the House – Saturday, September 10, 2011 • Chino Fairgrounds
Harvest Festival – October 2011 • Children's Services Center
Casa Colina Golf Classic – Monday, November 7, 2011 • South Hills Country Club
For more information about our events, please visit www.casacolina.org



### • Contact Us •

Casa Colina Centers for Rehabilitation 255 East Bonita Avenue, P.O. Box 6001 Pomona, CA 91769-6001 909/596-7733 or toll-free 800/926-5462 TDD-TTY-Q 909/596-3646 www.casacolina.org

Adult Day Health Care – Ext. 4400 Casa Colina Hospital – Ext. 3000 Children's Services – Ext. 4200 Corporate Offices – Ext. 2300 Diagnostic Imaging – Ext. 4541 Finance/Patient Accounting – Ext. 5558
Foundation – Ext. 2222
Human Resources – Ext. 2150
Job Line – 866/724-4135
Outdoor Adventures – Ext. 2216
Outpatient Rehabilitation – Ext. 3500
Padua Village – Ext. 4400
Physician Clinics – Ext. 3800
Sleep Center – Ext. 4600
Spine Center – Ext. 3802

Transitional Living Center – Ext. 4100 Casa Colina Azusa Center 910 E. Alosta Ave., Azusa, CA 91702-2709 626/334-8735

Casa Colina at Rancho Piño Verde 11981 Midway Ave., Lucerne Valley, CA 92356 760/248-6245

Casa Colina at Apple Valley 22200 Highway 18, Apple Valley, CA 92307 760/247-7711