# keystone

2019





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Family Ties Patients and their families heal together

Tribute to Courage 2018 Recap

**Grand Slam** Giving Brandon & Jalynne Crawford put their belief in Casa Colina

Every Individual Counts

A Little Help from Our Friends

the Leader

Foundation

Progress

Performance



ROM:

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** Casa Colina, Inc. and Affiliates

Our Board of Directors provides a special kind of leadership. Their responsible oversight and forward thinking enable Casa Colina to continue to grow in dynamic ways and evolve into one of the country's top medical and rehabilitation facilities.

They comprise physicians,

community leaders, and

CHAIRMAN Randy Blackman

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As Chairman of the Board at Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare, it is my duty to ensure the ongoing vitality of our great institution, a Center of Excellence for medical-surgical and rehabilitative care that has served our community for more than 80 years. Thankfully, Casa Colina's highly skilled staff and determined, courageous patients do much of that work for me.

The Board of Directors is tasked with providing the broad vision that will guide Casa Colina toward future success. But when it comes to the miraculous recoveries we witness each day, credit goes to the hard-working people on the ground. Physicians, therapists, nurses, housekeepers, administrative staff, and so many others play essential roles in providing the high-quality, specialized services required by our patients. And, as always, these individuals perform their duties with the trademark patience and dedication that define the exceptional care for which Casa Colina is renowned.

I am thankful, as well, for the sustained excellence of Casa Colina's medical-surgical and ICU clinicians and caregivers, who provide the highest levels of care, using the latest medical protocols and equipment, to ensure safe, speedy recoveries for our medical-surgical and intensive care patients.

I must also acknowledge Casa Colina's heroic rehabilitation patients, who, despite the uncertain future that comes with catastrophic injury or illness, continue to believe miracles can happen. We provide the framework for recovery: specialized rehabilitation, led by expert clinicians, using state-of-the-art equipment. But patients and families do the legwork. I believe we achieve more positive outcomes thanks to the inspiring tenacity of our patients and the support their families provide.

As I look toward our future, one thing is clear: Casa Colina remains steadfastly committed to providing individuals the opportunity to maximize their medical recovery and rehabilitation potential, in an environment that recognizes their uniqueness, dignity, and self-esteem.

YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT HELPS MAKE THAT POSSIBLE.

Edward "Randy" Blackman

Edward R. Blailwan

Chairman, Board of Directors

Felin Luco

other critical health resources.

I believe wholeheartedly that family dynamic plays a critical role in patient

throughout my 20 years at Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare.

families. Relayed by relatives of patients past and present, the stories of the

reintegration into daily life ("Family Ties," p. 2).

success. In fact, research shows patients with strong support systems are likelier to

achieve better outcomes. The sentiment has been echoed in many recovery stories

This issue of Keystone examines injury and illness through the eyes of such

Aquino, Bosserman, and Hargrave families offer a revealing look into the complex

Recognition of families—of their life-changing experiences—is so important

that it is built into the fabric of Casa Colina. Twenty years ago, when we conceived

what became the modern-day Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare, we

did so with a primary focus on patient needs, but also knowing that a supportive,

courtyards, outdoor fireplaces, and open-air porticos where families can gather to

process difficult news, celebrate a milestone, or just breathe. We refused to be just

another hospital. We shunned industrial parking structures and all of the bottom-

line benefits of vertical construction, because we envisioned a soothing, naturally

with their loved one's recovery. Thanks to generous supporters like you, Casa

Colina is able to offer free peer-support groups, educational seminars, and a host

Our goal is simple and singular: to better prepare patients and families for the

of other community resources, including a patient navigation study examining

realities of life after injury or illness, including options for continued care and

At Casa Colina, we are committed to enhancing the quality of life of every

person we serve—whether they're exploring the new adventures of childhood,

like Jude Aquino, or enjoying their Golden Years, like Barbara Bosserman. It's a

We encourage families to participate in therapy and to get firsthand experience

nurturing family presence increases their odds for a successful recovery.

lit environment where patients and families could heal together.

discharge success run by the Casa Colina Research Institute.

commitment that truly creates better outcomes for all.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US ON THIS JOURNEY.

That's why, across our sprawling 20-acre campus, you'll find inviting

tapestry of emotion experienced during a loved one's diagnosis, treatment, and

Felice L. Loverso, PhD

President and CEO

CASACOLINA.ORG

KEYSTONE 2019

# family ties

Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare was designed as a state-of-the-art facility to serve patients and help them achieve maximum recovery.

But we didn't forget about their families.

Our highly trained medical and rehabilitation specialists understand how crucial families are to the outcomes of individuals dealing with both short- and long-term disability.

A spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, stroke, or developmental delay affects not just the individual patient, but their entire family, which is coping with its own stress and anxiety. "We think about all aspects of the family's emotional health," said Felice L. Loverso, PhD, Casa Colina President and Chief Executive Officer. "We ask, what can we build into the environment that helps a family heal alongside the patient?"



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With our elegant 20-acre campus and Spanish-style architecture, Casa Colina has been called the "Jewel of the Inland Empire." In this resort-like environment, families find the comforts of homewelcoming places to process news about their loved one's condition or gather together, including sun-lit dayrooms, a cozy cafeteria with delicious food, and secluded courtyards dotted with fountains and fireplaces.

Casa Colina also provides well-appointed semi-private and private patient rooms, many with sleeping areas for a family member, and maintains homes adjacent to campus for visiting families from out of the area. The Casa Colina parking lot even features convenient electrical RV hookups.

Our staff gets to know family members by name, encouraging them to ask questions and to learn how to help their loved ones realize their optimal recovery potential. In addition to education, families can rely on Casa Colina's family support groups—and a host of friendly shoulders to lean on as they explore ways to cope with their "new normal."

Three families—the Hargraves, the Bossermans, and the Aquinos—speak to the experiences of so many others who begin their healing here.

Hal Hargrave, Jr., right, and his parents, Lorie Hargrave and Hal Hargrave, Sr., share a meal at the Casa Colina cafeteria—one of the hospital's many familyfriendly places where they found comfort after Hal,

Jr.'s traumatic injuries.



The staff not only answered all our questions, they anticipated what we needed to know to build our new future.

**Lorie Hargrave** 



#### **A Devastating Accident: A Family Transformed**

When Lorie Hargrave and Hal Hargrave, Sr., arrived at Casa Colina with their eldest son in August 2007, they had already experienced the worst of the shock and grief at the news that Hal, Jr., had suffered a traumatic injury in an accident on a lonely stretch of highway near Barstow, California.

The semi Hal was driving rolled over four times when he swerved to avoid some blown-out tire tread. His truck cab was crushed. Unable to move, Hal waited for rescue crews, who airlifted him to a nearby trauma center.

Lorie and Hal, Sr., rushed to reach him, not knowing if he would be alive when they arrived. They would soon learn that Hal, Jr., had broken his neck and fractured his vertebrae at the C5/C6 level—one of the most disabling spinal cord injuries.

He survived an eight-hour surgery to insert metal plates in his neck. Now what?, the family asked themselves. An athletic teenager who had looked forward to a college baseball scholarship was now a quadriplegic, unable to move from the shoulders down. The doctors gave Hal, Jr., a 3% chance of walking again.

The Hargraves had heard of Casa Colina Hospital because their family business was only blocks away from the famed physical rehabilitation facility. They knew its great reputation for treatment innovations and outcomes. They would soon find out it specialized in caring for families, too.

"We weren't sure what the next phase for Hal and for us as a family would be," said Hal, Sr. The moment they settled into Casa Colina, he said, "as a dad, I instantly felt some peace of mind."

Lorie, who had spent days crying, felt optimistic in the warm, homey atmosphere, where they could heal as a family. "Casa Colina gives people hope," she said.

Hal, Sr., took the night shift, sleeping beside his son's hospital bed. Lorie took the day shift. In the afternoons, Hal's younger brother and sisters—Corey, Haley, and Bella—came to Casa Colina to do their homework and play games in one of the many family rooms. At night, the family ate their dinners together in the cafeteria.

"It gave me a sense of normalcy to have them all there," said Hal, Jr. "I realized I could still be a brother and a mentor, I was still Hal."

"Research shows that people with strong family support have better outcomes," said David Patterson, MD, Hal, Jr.'s physiatrist. "So we do all we can to help families provide that support." Dr. Patterson made himself easily accessible to Hal, Jr., and his parents, preparing them for each aspect of recovery.

About three weeks after arriving at Casa Colina, Hal, Jr., turned 18 and Bella three. The family asked if they could have a birthday party in one of the hospital courtyards. Nearly 300 people showed up. "That we could do that is a tribute to Casa Colina's values as a family place," said Hal, Jr.

He and his parents began to learn there is hope after a spinal cord injury—a life that can be happy and fulfilling. He immersed himself in physical and occupational therapies, as well as the counseling Casa Colina offered. "Little did I know, the hospital was reaching out to my family as well," said Hal, Jr.

Lorie and Hal, Sr., attended family support groups, took part in medical team conferences, observed therapy sessions, and threw themselves into all the education Casa Colina doctors, nurses, and physical and occupational therapists provided.

"The staff not only answered all our questions," recalled Lorie, "they anticipated what we needed to

know to build our new future."

#### **Extending the Life of a Loving Mother**

With Casa Colina's 80-year history of excellence, the Bosserman family knew it represented their mother, Barbara's, best possible chance for recovery after she suffered a stroke in November 2011.

As a respected medical oncologist at Casa Colina Hospital, San Antonio Regional Hospital, and now City of Hope Medical Center, Linda Bosserman, MD, FACP, FASCP, understands the importance of personalized care and the difference it can make in healing.

Dr. Bosserman and her siblings—Nancy Bryant, Susie Fraize, and Steve Bosserman—found comfort in the intimate environment of Casa Colina, knowing their mother's needs would not get overlooked in the hustle and bustle of a larger facility.

Most of all, the siblings appreciated access to "the remarkably talented, patient, and kind teams of docs, nurses, and physical and occupational therapists who convinced our mom she could and would walk again," said Dr. Bosserman.

Barbara Bosserman was an intrepid '50s woman, married out of high school and determined to raise empowered, independent children. She taught them how to cook and sew, knit and crochet, camp, hit a tennis ball, and play and sing music. She encouraged each in their diverse interests and in "how to sacrifice for the important things in life and for each other," said Dr. Bosserman.

Unfortunately, Barbara had a history of hypertension and of smoking, though she had quit cigarettes decades before. The stroke left her dominant leg and arm weak and dysfunctional. But Casa Colina's therapists "held a vision of her healing even when she'd get discouraged," said Dr. Bosserman.

After about three weeks of intensive therapy, Barbara was discharged—but only after Casa Colina experts did a home assessment and made recommendations to the family to ensure her safety.

Casa Colina's beautifully appointed campus became her home away from home during Barbara's months of outpatient physical therapy. Aquatic therapy and other strength-building exercises increased her confidence and mobility.

Watching their mother get stronger and be able to play her beloved bridge again and spend time with her grandsons also gave her children a sense of joy.

Over the next five years, Barbara would suffer additional health setbacks involving two more strokes. Her family worried she would not be able to reclaim any of her independence. But each time she was admitted to Casa Colina, she gained a greater level of function. Barbara was able to revel in family baby

The doctors, therapy, and teaching at Casa Colina let our mother spend her final years doing what she enjoyed most—sharing life and laughter with her family and inspiring each of us to make a difference in the lives we touch.

Dr. Linda Bosserman

showers and beach days and to welcome her first

great-grandchildren.

"Casa Colina experts gave our mom seven more vital years," said Dr. Bosserman. "The doctors, therapy, and teaching at Casa Colina let our mother spend her final years doing what she enjoyed most—sharing life and laughter with her family and inspiring each of us to make a difference in the lives we touch."

In July 2018, Barbara passed away at age 84. "My mom's story is just one example among thousands," said Dr. Bosserman, "of the remarkable impact that Casa Colina and its staff and services have on people's lives."

Left to right: Susie Fraize, Dr. Linda Bosserman, and Nancy Bryant with a photo of their mother, Barbara Bosserman

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We teach families exercises and skill-building they can do at home. The family actually does much of the rehabilitation themselves.

Michael Chang, PT



Jude Aquino brushes a drawing of a mouth, under the watchful eyes of Casa Colina Occupational Therapist Michelle Lee, OTR/L. Jude thinks he is just having fun, but he is also gaining important skills in agility and self-care.

to keep down. "We arrived with a scootcher," said his mom, "now we have a runner."

Jude is accompanied to Casa Colina by his mother and a rotating crew of half of his eight siblings at each visit. "For us, the Casa Colina staff members are more than just therapists, more than just our 8-10 a.m. schedule every week," said Jade. "It is like visiting family."

Early on, Jude relied on a gastronomy tube for nutrients. He also had esophageal problems. So among his therapies at Casa Colina is learning how to chew, swallow, and pace his eating. He sings songs about brushing his teeth and practices that skill. In speech therapy, he is picking up sign language, using communication boards, and building his vocabulary ("Mom" is a favorite word).

The therapists assign "homework" for the family. "They give us the tools that help him progress," said his mother. Everyone gets involved. Jude's siblings throw toys on the ground so Jude has to squat to pick them up, pile up pillows for him to climb, or dance around him to encourage him to move.

"We teach families exercises and skill-building they can do at home," said Michael Chang, PT, one of Jude's Casa Colina therapists. "The family actually does much of the rehabilitation themselves."

Jude's prognosis is an open book. "We don't know the end point," said Bryant. "We take it one day at a time. But we are seeing progress every day."

#### **Turning Work into Child's Play**

Jude Aquino doesn't understand Casa Colina is a place for recovery. He thinks it's a place to play. But then, Jude is only four years old, and he loves to roll balls on the sloping green lawn, chase after bubbles, climb the play structure outside the Children's Services Center, and go on adventures across the campus with his therapists.

Soon after Jude was born, his parents, Jade Sison-Aquino and Bryant Aquino, realized something wasn't right. Jude didn't sleep well, had difficulty eating, and cried incessantly. It seemed as if nothing could comfort him.

Tests showed that Jude was born with chromosome abnormalities that resulted in a broad diagnosis of

"globally delayed." He is small for his age and developing so far at about a two-year-old level.

Before finding Casa Colina Children's Services, his mother had to spend hours driving to multiple therapy clinics in different cities to get Jude the services he needed. Now he receives a full complement of back-to-back physical, occupational, and speech therapies at Casa Colina three days a week. The result: His parents have seen their youngest boy blossom.

Previously, Jude wouldn't try to walk or even crawl; instead, he scooted along the floor on his bottom. After working with his Casa Colina therapists, Jude is hard



### **Preparing Patients & Families**

What Casa Colina does most of all for patients and families, said Hal Hargrave, Sr., is "prepare you to launch."

It did that for Hal, Jr., who graduated from college, started a foundation focused on spinal cord injuries, and recently married. It did that for Barbara Bosserman, who enjoyed more time loving life and her family.

And now, Casa Colina is preparing Jude Aquino and his family for their tomorrows.

"In every way," said Jude's mother, "Casa Colina is looking out for the betterment of the family to help the person in need."

## Tribute to Courage

2018 RECAP







TRIBUTE TO COUR AGE Above, clockwise from top left: Tribute to Courage honorees and families on stage; honoree Katrina Hannah with father, Mike Hannah, and mother, Loreto Hannah; Casa Colina CEO and President Dr. Felice Loverso, California State Senator Connie Leyva, and actor Bonnie Hunt

Opposite page, clockwise from top left; Dr. Felice Loverso: Bonnie Hunt: Casa Colina Board Chair Randy Blackman; honoree Daniel Franco with girlfriend, Lea Munoz, and mother, Teresa Franco; honoree Johnny Schamweber dances with wife, Jennifer her MBA at University of La Verne.

Steady rainfall didn't keep 900 guests from celebrating the courageous patients and dedicated supporters of Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare at its Tribute to Courage Gala Saturday, March 10, 2018, at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel and Conference Center in Pomona, California.

Gala honorees Katrina Hannah of La Verne, Daniel Franco of Rancho Cucamonga, and Johnny "Ringo" Scharnweber of Phelan reflected on the traumatic injuries that brought them to Casa Colina for rehabilitation and recovery. Each inspiring patient journey shared common threads of hope, determination, and the Casa Colina Continuum of Care.

In October 2017, Hannah was one of more than 500 injured at the Route 91 Harvest Festival shooting in Las Vegas, paralyzed after a bullet hit her spine. Hannah underwent inpatient rehabilitation at Casa Colina, followed by ongoing outpatient therapy, and is now walking without support and clearing new hurdles each day. She recently completed

Franco's professional boxing career ended abruptly due to a knockout in June 2017. After two surgeries to relieve life-threatening pressure on his brain, he was moved to Casa Colina for medical-surgical care to combat an infection, followed by a lengthy rehabilitation. Franco began his road to recovery, and he hasn't looked back. Today he teaches boxing in Rialto, California, with his father and coach. Al Franco.

Champion motorcyclist Scharnweber misjudged a turn during a race in January 2017. The resulting full-body paralysis left him little hope of walking again. A week after Scharnweber arrived at Casa Colina, his therapist told him, "We're going to walk today." He not only walked onto the Gala stage but danced with his wife, Jennifer, during the social hour.

"I don't think there is a greater endorsement for the work we focus on here at Casa Colina than the results we have shared this evening," remarked Dr. Felice Loverso, Casa Colina President and CEO. "There is no greater 'thank you' than to see them here tonight being the forceful, engaging people they are."

Actor and longtime Casa Colina supporter Bonnie Hunt served graciously as host. Hunt, a former oncology nurse, acknowledged the remarkable efforts of these patients and their caregivers.

"We are here to celebrate courage and tenacity, to celebrate the success of individuals in overcoming unique. tremendous challenges," said Hunt. "And we are here to celebrate a distinct system of medical services that supports these achievements: the Casa Colina Continuum of Care."

Loverso honored Hunt's years of healthcare service with the introduction of the Bonnie Hunt Nurse Scholar Award. The annual award recognizes a Casa Colina nurse who best exemplifies the practices of nursing and patient care and seeks new knowledge and skills to advance nursing. The inaugural recipient, announced at the Gala, was Georgette Rodriguez, RN.

The 2018 Gala raised \$510,000 toward Casa Colina's free and uncompensated care fund, which provides subsidized care for Casa Colina patients and, when necessary, temporary housing for families.











A special thanks to the major sponsors of Tribute to Courage 2018.

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Dr. Kenneth Wogensen



### **GRAND SLAM GIVING**

Brandon & Jalynne Crawford put their belief in Casa Colina into philanthropic action on and off the field.



As a professional athlete, Brandon Crawford, All-Star shortstop for the San Francisco Giants, understands injuries and their potential impact on a career. But he also knows the difference between routine injuries on the field and something truly momentous.

"Coming to Casa Colina puts things in perspective. Here, people are coping with lifealtering injuries," said Brandon, who, together with his wife, Jalynne, has made Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare one of their top philanthropic priorities.

In January 2019, Brandon and Jalynne visited Casa Colina, where the three-time, back-to-back Gold Glove winner signed baseballs and photographs for patients and staff and talked all things baseball.

In addition, the Crawfords added to their Casa Colina giving with a contribution of \$70,000. Much of that came from proceeds of the sale of the "Craw Claw," an oversized foam baseball glove created and sold to benefit the work being done at Casa Colina.

The couple's commitment stems from one of those profound injuries—suffered by Jalynne's father, John Dantzscher. He came to Casa Colina for rehabilitation after being severely injured in a traffic accident while attending the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia.

The whole Dantzscher family was there to see Jalynne's sister, Jamie, compete with the United States women's gymnastics team, which would go on to win the bronze medal. On a day that was supposed to be filled with sightseeing, John and another daughter, Jennifer, were riding in a cab when it was struck by a bus that ran a red light.

Jennifer's injuries were relatively minor, but John sustained a fractured skull, two collapsed lungs, fractured wrist, and more. He was in a coma for four weeks and in a Sydney hospital for six weeks before he could return home.

Jalynne, who was 12, recalls visiting her father at Casa Colina during his recovery. "He was our rock," she said. It was difficult at times to watch him go through therapy, but inspiring as well. "I remember my father saying, 'Casa Colina is a second home to me.' From the beginning, it felt like a community, and everyone made all of us so welcome."

Now, if you met John Dantzscher, "you wouldn't know he had a brain injury," said Jalynne. Brandon calls his father-in-law "a great example of the power of the human mind and spirit to heal."

Six years after the accident, Brandon and Jalynne met at a UCLA student athlete orientation. Like her sister, Jalynne was a competitive gymnast, but a recurring injury forced her to give up the sport.

Brandon and Jalynne married in 2011 and have four children. Following one of their first visits together to Casa Colina,



I came away
in awe of the
courage and
perseverance
of people
dealing with
tragedy.

**Brandon Crawford** 







Brandon wrote in his blog, "I came away in awe of the courage and perseverance of people dealing with tragedy."

When he was called up to the majors in 2011, they were able to put their philanthropic goals into action. "This is the first place we wanted to direct our giving," said Brandon of Casa Colina. "It was an obvious choice."

## EVERY INDIVIDUAL COUNTS \* \* \*

Whether you give of your time, dollars, or gifts in kind, Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare is dedicated to maximizing your contribution to achieve the greatest positive impact on patient outcomes. In fact, the reach of your donation to Casa Colina extends far beyond the patients we serve, enriching the lives of their families and the community.

With the help of our donors, Casa Colina was able to provide over \$7.6 million\* in total quantifiable community benefits during fiscal year 2018, including free and subsidized medical and rehabilitation care. education, research, clinician training, and more. Your gifts have a tangible, lasting effect on our community—and we have the numbers to prove it!

\*Includes Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare and affiliates

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#### IN FISCAL YEAR 2018, CASA COLINA:

HELPED 5,499

INDIVIDUALS WITH FRFF OR

SUBSIDIZED

CARE

PROVIDED

19,221

CHARITY CARE

VISITS TO MORE THAN 1,000

CHILDREN

**ENABLED** 

280

**OUTDOOR** 

**ADVENTURES** 

PARTICIPANTS TO

SKYDIVE, SNOW

SKI. AND MORE

**PROVIDED** TEACHING

AND CLINICAL

**EXPERIENCE TO** 

360

STUDENTS AND TRAINFFS

PROVIDED

708

COMMUNITY MEMBERS WITH

FREE HEARING

**SCREENINGS** >> Event sponsorship

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**WAYS TO GIVE** 

If you're interested in

helping your community

by giving to Casa Colina

for Healthcare, you have

Hospital and Centers

numerous options for

Direct donations

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doing so:

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For more information on giving to Casa Colina, please contact Director of Fund Development Mary Koenig at foundation@casacolina.org or 909/596-7733, ext. 2260.

HOSTED FREE **EDUCATIONAL** 

SEMINARS FOR

3,500

PFOPI F

GAVE

568

FREE SPORTS

INJURY

SCREENINGS

**ATHLETES** 

TO COMMUNITY

**COMMUNITY** SUPPORT **GROUPS FOR** 

PROVIDED FREE

1,050 PEOPLE

KEYSTONE 2019

GAVE FREE FLU SHOTS TO

897 INDIVIDUALS

AND REFERRALS

ASSISTED

3,900

PEOPLE WITH

INFORMATION

TO COMMUNITY HEALTH AND

SOCIAL SERVICES

The complete text of the Casa Colina Community Benefits Report for FY2018 is available at casacolina.org/community-benefits-report

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#### A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS

At Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare, our goal is to enhance the quality of life of every person we serve, and we couldn't do it without the strong financial support of our friends in the government and nonprofit sectors. During fiscal years 2018 and 2019, Casa Colina received more than \$1.5 million in combined grant funding toward clinical research, support services, and program development. We are grateful for the support of these like-minded organizations that enable us to expand our continuum of highly specialized medical and rehabilitative care.



#### **RESEARCH PROJECTS**

#### Biomarkers Shed Light on TBI Outcomes

Biomarkers are measurable indicators of physiological conditions like disease or injury, and their use to predict recovery outcomes has become commonplace in many patient populations. However, there remains a substantial need for further research regarding complex conditions like traumatic brain injury (TBI). To this end, the Casa Colina Research Institute (CCRI) is conducting research to identify biomarkers that will help us better understand the diverse recovery outcomes of patients with TBI and improve their treatment. Funded by the Norris Foundation, the ongoing study recently received a \$60,000 continuation grant.

#### **Innovative Approach for Aphasia**

Encountered in an estimated 25% to 40% of stroke survivors, aphasia is an acquired communication disorder that impairs language processing.\* With a significant population of patients recovering from stroke, Casa Colina is continually exploring innovative treatment methods to maximize speech and language recovery for these individuals. Thanks to a two-year, \$150,000 grant from the Disability Communications Fund, CCRI has launched a promising study examining the use of transcranial direct-current stimulation to motivate functional recovery and improve quality of life for patients with post-stroke aphasia.

\*National Aphasia Association

#### **Mindful Movements for Patients with SCI**

Now in its third year, a collaborative effort between Casa Colina, Caltech, and UCLA is testing neural prosthetic applications in patients with severe paralysis from spinal cord injury (SCI). Through "brain chips" implanted in the motor cortex and posterior parietal cortex, researchers are studying the neural activity of these individuals in an attempt to let them manipulate a computer interface using thought alone. The ability to control such devices using brain signals could represent an important step forward in providing some functional independence. The project is made possible by a generous five-year, \$378,470 grant from the National Institutes of Health.

#### Relearning to Walk with ReWalk™

Exoskeleton devices like the ReWalk Personal Device<sup>TM</sup> offer patients with SCIs the opportunity to improve mobility and enhance participation in activities of daily living. CCRI and ReWalk have teamed on an industry-sponsored research study to monitor safety and training for patients with the ReWalk Personal Device. Exoskeleton technology is just one of many innovative approaches Casa Colina uses to maximize the recovery of clients undergoing neurological and orthopedic rehabilitation.

#### **Navigating Successful Outcomes**

Thanks to a three-year, \$859,862 grant from the UniHealth Foundation, CCRI continues to examine the benefits of patient navigation services for high-risk, medically vulnerable patients who are discharged from

Casa Colina's Medical-Surgical and Acute Rehabilitation wings. A multidisciplinary team of nurses, social workers, and community health representatives provides coordination of care, psychosocial and medical support, and referrals to community resources for a range of services, including therapies, financial assistance, transportation, family needs, educational sessions, and community activities.

#### **Program Support**

Casa Colina continually seeks to improve programs and expand access to its Continuum of Care—and does so thanks to abundant support from several foundations and organizations.

#### Support for the Casa Colina Audiology Center

Ludwick Family Foundation \$100,000

#### Promoting Success with Families and Children with Physical and Developmental Disabilities through a Continuum of Care

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians \$100,000

## TBI Supportive Services to Improve Patient Quality of Life for Residents in the Transitional Living Center and Apple Valley and Lucerne Valley Programs

California Community Foundation/ Sharon Keith Family Fund \$60.000

#### Children's Services Center Adventure Together Program

The Hoag Foundation \$50,000

#### **Support for Land Meets Sea Sports Camp**

The Munzer Foundation \$15,000

#### Transitional-Age Youth: Life after Individualized Education Plans

Tri-City Mental Health Services \$10,000

#### Support for Daily Activities at Adult Day Healthcare Center

Carl E. Wynn Foundation \$4,000

## following the leader



Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare carries a strong tradition of engaged and innovative leadership, from its board and chief executives to medical directors, lead therapists, and charge nurses. It's a culture that benefits our staff and patients alike, and it starts at the top.

On October 18, 2018, that leadership was recognized. For his decades of influential work in healthcare, Casa Colina CEO and President Felice Loverso, PhD, received the prestigious Luminary Award from the UCLA Department of Neurosurgery. The award honors leaders in medicine, technology, and more for outstanding professional accomplishments that give back to the community.

Loverso was honored at UCLA's Visionary Ball 2018, a star-studded fundraising gala that welcomed around 500 prominent representatives of healthcare, business, and entertainment. Loverso spoke eloquently to an audience that included industry colleagues, Casa Colina board members and staff, philanthropists, and celebrities like Chris Pratt and Rob Lowe, a fellow award recipient.

"Though different in size and scope, both Casa Colina and UCLA Health are world-class entities," Loverso told the audience, reflecting on a partnership that has resulted in improved care for the region's rehabilitation patients, a joint fellowship in clinical training, and several collaborative research grants. "Each is devoted to the highest levels of clinical excellence, education, and research."

Regionally and nationally, Loverso has been an influencer and catalyst for growth in rehabilitative medicine and post-acute care. Joining Casa Colina in 1998, he refocused the institution back to its core business of acute hospital-based rehabilitation and re-established it as a nationally

renowned Center of Excellence. He is a former chairman of the board of the American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association and currently chairs the Fund for Access to Inpatient Rehabilitation, a national organization supporting increased access to inpatient hospital rehabilitation. With a wealth of expertise in rehabilitation healthcare policy and delivery, he has even gone before the U.S. Congress to represent the interests of patients at this level of care.

Rather than reflect on career accolades, Loverso took the opportunity to recognize UCLA Health in return, acknowledging its status as an elite care provider and praising its focus on patient-centered care.

"Though I'm truly honored to be recognized as such, if I am a luminary, then so are many here tonight," Loverso told a roomful of other prominent healthcare leaders. "So is anyone who enters medicine to serve the needs of the patient, first and always foremost. We are part of a collective group—united for a common purpose to provide care to those in need."



Top left: Linda M. Liau, MD, PhD, MBA, Chair of UCLA Department of Neurosurgery and Casa Colina Board Member, with Felice L. Loverso, PhD, Casa Colina CEO and President

Bottom right: Felice Loverso accepts the 2018 Luminary Award



#### AN ENDURING FOUNDATION

At the Casa Colina Foundation, there is no donation or hour of volunteer work that goes unappreciated. We are truly grateful to the individuals, families, foundations, and corporations who help Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare carry out its mission, and we strive to make the most of your generosity.

It is our commitment to enhance the quality of life of every person we serve. Your support helps us fulfill that goal. From estate planning and direct donations to foundation grants and employee contributions, our dynamic donor base makes a transformative impact on patient outcomes. And we continue to be inspired by the selfless dedication of our many volunteers, who embody Casa Colina's spirit of service. In 2018, 458 volunteers gave 28,108 hours in support of Casa Colina programs, further enriching the lives of our patients and the surrounding community.

All of this allows us to expand programs and services and provide specialized, affordable, exceptional care to even more people in need, regardless of their ability to pay. On behalf of all patients served, and yet to be served, we thank you for your generosity.

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#### IN MEMORIAM: DALE EAZELL

With heavy hearts, the Casa Colina family mourns the passing of former President and CEO Dale Eazell, PhD. Dale passed away peacefully at home August 30, 2018, surrounded by his family. He was 81.

Dale joined Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare in 1973 and over his 25-year tenure helped earn us regional and national distinction in rehabilitation. Under his leadership. Casa Colina launched the Children's Services Center, Transitional Living Center, Padua Village residential program, Adult Day Healthcare Center, Outdoor Adventures program, and many more services and programs that have become hallmarks of our celebrated Continuum of Care.

In addition, Dale oversaw Casa Colina's first accreditation by the Commission for the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities—a critical step in our institution's rise to prominence. He also distinguished himself and Casa Colina when he became the first Chairman of the Board of the American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association.

In perhaps his greatest imprint at Casa Colina, Dale was a consummate fundraiser, reinvigorating the Casa Colina Foundation with a renewed focus on philanthropy, raising millions of dollars to support the institution's continued growth and expansion of services, including free and subsidized care and community benefits.

"There are so many contributions Dale made to his beloved Casa Colina," said Felice Loverso, PhD, current President and CEO of Casa Colina. "His dedication to Casa Colina could only be surpassed by his love for his family."

Dale is survived by his wife, Sharon; sons, Mike and Mark; daughters, Debbie and Kristy; and several grandchildren, among other family.

The Casa Colina family mourns the loss of Dale and celebrates the strong leadership and spirit of kindness he brought to our institution.



## Growth Trogress



#### 1 APPLE VALLEY ADDITION

An expansion project underway at Casa Colina's Apple Valley campus will provide specialized long-term residential care to even more people with traumatic and acquired brain injuries, including 12 new beds, a dining hall, and an ADA-compliant swimming pool. The project will expand the facility to 54 total beds and is scheduled for summer 2019 completion.



With expanded programs and services resulting in more patients, our Facilities Department utilized Casa Colina-owned properties and alley space to create 70 new parking spaces on the southeast end of our 20-acre Pomona campus. The main lot was also restriped and the Facilities trailer moved to a nearby location off campus to help meet Casa Colina's evergrowing parking demand.



#### 3 MEDICAL-SURGICAL WING UPDATES

This year saw some exciting developments to Casa Colina's Medical-Surgical services.
The Casa Colina Revive
Joint Replacement Program began offering robotic-assisted total hip and total knee replacement surgeries in addition to partial knee replacement procedures. Casa Colina continues to offer the most advanced minimally

invasive surgical procedure for the treatment of pituitary and skull base lesions: endoscopic transnasal surgery. In addition, Casa Colina's Gastroenterology Department now offers its Esophageal Motility Study, an outpatient procedure that aids in the diagnosis of patients with swallowing difficulties and gastro-esophageal reflux disease (GERD).

#### 4 NEW HOUSING ACQUIRED

In some cases, Casa Colina offers temporary housing to non-local families whose loved ones are undergoing long-term recovery. To serve more in need, Casa Colina purchased and is renovating property on the east side of campus that will eventually feature two 2-bedroom, 1-bath abodes designed to house visiting families of acute care and Transitional Living Center patients.

#### 5 OUTPATIENT CENTER RENOVATIONS

Each year, Casa Colina's Outpatient Center sees more than 11,000 patients in need of specialized medical and rehabilitation services. representing more than 90,000 appointments. Now, these patients and their families are enjoying a more spacious waiting room, curbside pickup and drop-off, and greater protection from the elements thanks to ongoing renovations in the Dr. S. Jerome & Judith D. Tamkin Outpatient Center. With 1.730 added square feet of lobby space and a new covered porte-cochere entrance, Casa Colina can serve more patients comfortably and efficiently. Future phases of the renovation include expansions to the Audiology, Speech Therapy, Lymphedema, and Hand Therapy suites, as well as upgrades to the Physician Specialty Clinics space and outpatient therapy gyms.

#### 6 PHYSICIAN SPECIALTY CLINICS NEWS

Casa Colina's Physician Specialty Clinics bring in expert doctors from the surrounding community to offer more than 30 medical specialty services on our Pomona campus. Among them is the Casa Colina Cardiology Program, which continues to expand critical cardiology services and now offers several new tests, including echocardiogram, exercise treadmill test (ETT), and outpatient trans-esophageal echocardiogram (TEE).

With a new medical director, our well-regarded Senior Evaluation Program combines a multidisciplinary team of





patients. This state-ofthe-art center provides hemodialysis treatments for patients with kidney disease, six days a week in a comfortable and caring environment.

Casa Colina's Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Residency Program continues to expand, growing from six residents to nine in 2019 and necessitating a move from the downstairs of the MOB to a roomier home on the northwest end of campus.

Casa Colina's on-campus urgent care provider,
Mountain View Urgent Care,
has expanded its weekday
hours of service and is
now open Monday through
Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.,
in addition to its standard
weekend hours, 9 a.m. to
5 p.m. Mountain View also
added radiology services
as of March 2019.

clinical specialists to assess functional ability and cognitive and physical health—with the goal of keeping seniors high-functioning for as long as possible.

For individuals dealing with wounds from trauma, injury, or burns, the Casa Colina Hyperbaric Medicine and Wound Care Program offers the most advanced treatment, intervention, and prevention strategies at one convenient location.

#### MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING UPDATES

It's been a busy year in the Medical Office Building (MOB). The Pomona Dialysis Center has begun accepting



#### CASA COLINA'S OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE



#### BALANCE SHEETS Consolidated/Unaudited

#### March 31, 2018 and 2017

ASSETS	2018	2017
Current assets	\$36,498,000	\$36,926,000
Investments	79,870,000	65,991,000
Assets limited as to use	16,028,000	16,604,000
Property and equipment, net	104,121,000	109,986,000
Other assets	914,000	1,223,000
Total Assets	\$237,431,000	\$230,730,000
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current liabilities	\$19,901,000	\$14,458,000
Long-term debt and other liabilities	53,817,000	56,179,000
Unrestricted and restricted net assets	163,713,000	160,093,000
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$237,431,000	\$230,730,000

#### **OPERATING ENTITIES\* FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE** Unaudited

#### Fiscal year ending March 31

Net Income from Operations Prior to Depreciation, Interest and Amortization	\$15,720,000	\$11,850,000
Total Operating Expenses	91,327,000	85,755,000
Other expenses	28,015,000	25,545,000
Salaries and benefits	63,312,000	60,210,000
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Total Revenues	107,047,000	97,605,000
care and community benefits	3,848,000	3,964,000
Transfers from Foundation for uncompensated		
Other operating revenue	3,403,000	3,659,000
Net patient services revenues	\$99,796,000	\$89,982,000
REVENUES	2018	2017

**SPECIALIZED CARE, CLOSE TO HOME** 



Casa Colina opened its doors in 1938 in Chino, California, as an inpatient treatment center for children rehabilitating from polio. Since then, its staff, with the support of the Casa Colina Board of Directors, has continually expanded services to meet the growing needs of the community and beyond.

#### Casa Colina offers the following medical and rehabilitation services:

- ➤ Acute care hospital with 68 rehabilitation beds, six intensive care unit beds, 25 private medical beds, three operating rooms, and a gastroenterology procedure room; accredited by the Joint Commission
- Transitional Living Center with 42 residential rehabilitation beds, day treatment program, and home and community services; accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities
- Long-term residential facilities in Apple Valley and Lucerne Valley with 78 beds for people with brain injuries (12 additional beds opening in Apple Valley summer 2019); 12 beds in Claremont for adults with developmental delay; licensed by the Department of Social Services
- Outpatient rehabilitation centers in Pomona and Azusa
- Physician clinics with more than 30 medical specialties

- ➤ Hyperbaric medicine
- ➤ Diagnostic imaging
- Audiology
- Children's services
- Adult day healthcare
- ➤ Research institute
- ➤ Laboratory
- Support groups
- ➤ Wellness and fitness programs
- Community and professional education programs
- Outdoor Adventures recreational therapy program

#### Also on the Pomona campus:

- Outpatient surgery services
- Medical office building with urgent care, retail pharmacy, private physician practices, and dialysis center
- ➤ Inland Neurosurgery Institute

To learn more about Casa Colina's Continuum of Care, visit casacolina.org.

C P O T A P

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PROVIDE INDIVIDUALS THE
OPPORTUNITY TO MAXIMIZE
THEIR MEDICAL RECOVERY
AND REHABILITATION
POTENTIAL EFFICIENTLY
IN AN ENVIRONMENT
THAT RECOGNIZES THEIR
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CONTINUOUSLY REDEFINING
A PATIENT-CENTERED
APPROACH FOR THOSE
REQUIRING HIGHLY
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IT IS OUR COMMITMENT
TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY
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