



**Community Benefit Report**  
*Fiscal Year 2011/2012*

15107 Vanowen Street  
Van Nuys, CA 91405

*OSHPD Facility ID #106190812*

# Valley Presbyterian Hospital

Community Benefit Report  
Fiscal Year 2011/2012

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# **Valley Presbyterian Hospital**

Community Benefit Report  
Fiscal Year 2011/2012

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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

*Gustavo Valdespino*

### **Chairman of the Board of Directors – FY 2011/2012**

*David Fleming*

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### **Facility Location**

*15107 Vanowen Street  
Van Nuys, CA 91405  
[www.valleypres.org](http://www.valleypres.org)*

## **VISION, MISSION AND VALUES**

**Mission** To improve the quality of health in the San Fernando Valley

**Vision** Excellence in all we do

### **Core Values**

- *Demonstrate dignity and respect for all individuals*
- *Deliver compassionate and patient-centric care that addresses diverse cultural needs*
- *Create and maintain a quality environment that allows physicians and employees to succeed*
- *Show pride in providing community-based health care*
- *Promote trust and transparency*
- *Encourage collaboration in the work place*

## **FACILITY HISTORY AND BACKGROUND**

Valley Presbyterian Hospital (“VPH”) traces its origins to an event that took place in post-World War II Los Angeles. In 1947, a countrywide study projecting population trends singled out the San Fernando Valley region as an area that would experience significant growth—and one whose medical needs were in risk of being under-served unless new resources were created. At that time, there was no full-service hospital in the San Fernando Valley region.

Today, VPH is an innovative, full-service, non-sectarian, not-for-profit community hospital that serves multi-ethnic, multi-lingual families from Palmdale to Burbank to West Hills. VPH offers leading-edge technology and medical expertise in maternal and child health, cardiac care, orthopedics and critical care services.

VPH remains one of the Valley region’s only independent, locally controlled medical institutions. Every decision the hospital makes, whether in the boardroom or in a patient room, is intended to be in the best interest of our community. The investments the hospital is making in new technologies and expanded services will serve the community with enhanced and more responsive care.

## PRIMARY SERVICE AREA

Valley Presbyterian Hospital's total service area is comprised of almost 1.7 million persons with a forecasted increase of 3.0 percent by 2016. Valley Presbyterian Hospital's primary service area (the area that generates 75% of VPH discharges) has a population of approximately 1 million and is made up of 19 zip codes that have some of the lowest median household income levels – and highest population densities – in the San Fernando Valley region. It includes the communities of: Van Nuys, Pacoima, Reseda, Sun Valley, Canoga Park, Granada Hills, Panorama City, San Fernando, Sylmar, North Hills, North Hollywood, Sherman Oaks and Winnetka.

### Primary Service Area Population by Age and Gender \*

Age	2011 Population	2016 Population	% Change
Under 18	297,161	306,165	3.0%
18-59	590,823	608,725	3.0%
60-64	28,201	28,870	2.4%
65-74	44,488	45,836	3.0%
75+	39,077	40,189	2.8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>999,750</b>	<b>1,029,785</b>	<b>3.0%</b>

With the exception of the city of San Fernando, the PSA is part of the city of Los Angeles. The 2011 racial/ethnic distribution is \*:

Race/Ethnicity	% Population
Hispanic	57%
Caucasian	22%
Asian/Pacific Islander	13%
African-American	4%
Other	4%

In the PSA, approximately 27% of the residents are on Medi-Cal and approximately 28% are uninsured.

*\*Source: 2011: [www.city-data.com/zip](http://www.city-data.com/zip)*

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Valley Presbyterian Hospital ("VPH") participates in the triennial San Fernando/Santa Clarita Valley community needs assessment process that began in 1997. This large consortium of health care and social service providers is currently conducting research and will release its sixth triennial report by late summer 2013.

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

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

These four steps include:

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

## COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Through the 2010 Community Needs Assessment referenced on the previous page, numerous community priority needs were identified. These needs were identified through collaboration by more than 100 health care leaders in the greater San Fernando Valley region. This consortium was led by the *Valley Community Care Consortium* who ultimately compiled the findings from numerous health care leaders and published the 5<sup>th</sup> triennial community needs assessment. The current 2010 report is being updated and will publish again in mid 2013. VPH is actively participating in the current report process and design and has requested additional analysis to ensure community programs meet and exceed community expectations.

The current community needs assessment covered a geographic area known as Service Planning Area 2 (SPA 2) – VPH is located within SPA 2. SPA 2 includes 36 communities, ten of which are incorporated cities.

In the San Fernando Valley region, SPA 2 includes Sylmar/Tujunga in the north, Agoura Hills/Calabasas to the west, Glendale/Burbank to the east and Studio City/Sherman Oaks/Encino/Tarzana to the south. SPA 2 is the largest of the eight planning areas in the County of Los Angeles. The population of SPA 2 is 2.2 million and encompasses almost 100 square miles. Within SPA 2, there are four health districts including East Valley, Glendale, San Fernando and West Valley.

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

The most important factors for *creating a healthy community*:

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

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

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



Important Health Issues facing the Community (continued from previous page)

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

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

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

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

- Access to health care
- Supporting the creation of good jobs and a strong economy
- Health care issues such as:
  - Diabetes
  - Childhood obesity
  - Heart disease and stroke
  - Women's services
  - Aging

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

## **MEDICAL CARE SERVICES**

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

Emergency Services – VPH’s emergency services team provided emergency care to almost 60,000 patients in FY 2011/2012. The emergency services team is designated as a STEMI receiving center and is able to provide critical care within the first 90 minutes from experiencing heart attack symptoms. VPH also provides “fast track” services for patients with urgent, but not life threatening needs such as cuts or sports injuries, colds, fever and earaches, to name a few.

Women’s Services – VPH’s women’s services program is one of the busiest in the region with more than 4,200 babies born in FY 2011/2012.

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

In addition to opening up the new unit, a variety of education and community workshops were introduced to support women and their families through the birthing process. These community activities were all branded under a new program called “Little Treasures” or “Pequenos Tesoros” and are specially prepared for Spanish speaking patients.

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

Amputation Prevention Center – Preserving a limb at risk for amputation is the singular focus of the Amputation Prevention Center (APC). The APC offers an innovative, integrated approach and is one of only a handful of facilities, nationwide and the only facility in southern California.

Amputation Prevention Center (continued from previous page)

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

Valley Hip and Knee Institute – This facility is home to an outstanding team of nationally recognized orthopedic experts. Continually innovating and advancing joint replacement and repair procedures, the Valley Hip and Knee Institute surgeons have performed thousands of successful procedures. In addition to the high quality medical services Valley Presbyterian Hospital also offers free community education workshops to help patients understand joint replacement options, recovery process and how to select the right procedures. These community education workshops were held twice last year and attracted more than 150 attendees in FY 2011/2012.

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

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

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

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

## **COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

### **Women's Services**

A number of free community education programs are offered to women and their families to help them through a safe and happy pregnancy and childbirth. In FY 2011/2012, more than **2,700** individuals attended women and maternity services community education programs. All women's services program were held at the hospital.

Education programs offered in FY 2011/2012 include:

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

This is a fun way to learn more about the hospital's labor, delivery and recovery programs. Participants can take a tour of the facility, meet the hospital staff and sign up for MediCal coverage. This program was offered once each month (12 workshops) and will continue into the next fiscal year. Total attendance at the 12 workshops last year was 2,470.

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

Both parents learn the latest in labor and delivery comfort measures and how to promote healthy birthing. This program was offered 15 times in FY 2011/2012 and was attended by 266 individuals or approximately 133 couples (two or more attendees per registration).

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

This is a "parents to be" workshop to help navigate your first weeks at home with a new baby. Participants learn what to expect from a newborn, how to care for a newborn including diapering, swaddling techniques, bathing tips, feeding options, infant safety, newborn sleeping patterns and much more. This program was offered three times last year and attracted 25 attendees. Plans to include the program in Spanish will be implemented next year.

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

Participants learn basic breastfeeding techniques and where to get assistance, if needed. A total of three workshops were held last year and attracted 25 attendees. Plans are under consideration to promote this program to a broader audience next year.

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

### Women's Services

*(continued from previous page)*

#### **Baby Car Seat Awareness**

In FY 2011/2012, VPH distributed more than 4,000 infant car seats to new mothers, free of charge. The car seat program was implemented because 95% of all maternity patients come from poverty-level circumstances and 85% of all maternity patients come from the local Latino community.

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, minority children are less likely to be restrained in a motor vehicle. Additionally, when poor families provide infant restraints, they are more likely to use a second-hand car seat because they lack the financial resources to purchase a new car seat (New Economics for Women).

In addition to providing free car seats, VPH referred patients to a free car seat safety workshop provided by New Economics for Women. And, VPH provided free resources to inform patients where to obtain a free card seat inspection.

## **COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

### **Diabetes Education and Awareness**

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

Although the hospital offers several community education programs at the facility, hospital administration also identified numerous community programs. VPH formed relationships with other organizations to help promote disease awareness and education.

In FY 2011/2012, 12 workshops on diabetes education and management were held in both English and Spanish. Nurse/educators help workshop attendees manage their diabetes through healthy lifestyle, eating and exercise techniques. Eighty individuals attended these workshops in FY2011/2012. Plans are underway to promote this program to a broader audience in the future.

VPH partnered with several external partners to communicate diabetes education and awareness. Some external programs included:

#### **American Diabetes Association (ADA) - Stop Diabetes at Work**

The ADA created this program primarily targeted to large employers throughout Los Angeles County. The program was focused on diabetes prevention and awareness. VPH attended five (5) workshops and reached more than 700 individuals to promote diabetes prevention.

#### **American Diabetes Association (ADA) - Diabetes Expo**

In another partnership with the ADA, VPH attended the ADA's annual diabetes prevention and education health fair. Attending this health fair provided numerous opportunities to distribute diabetes prevention and education materials to almost 5,000 attendees.

## **COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

### **Stroke Education and Awareness**

Valley Presbyterian Hospital hosted its second annual Community Health Fair with more than 200 attendees. At the health fair, VPH clinicians administered free flu vaccinations, carotid artery screenings, cholesterol, glucose (blood sugar), blood pressure screenings, and body fat (BMI) analyses.

Attendees also enjoyed healthy cooking demonstrations and obtained tips from clinical dieticians on living a healthy lifestyle. Physicians associated with VPH conducted presentations on stroke and diabetes awareness. Representatives from VPH were on hand to distribute information on community health along with representatives from several health services community organizations.

## **COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

### **Joint Replacement**

In FY 2011/2012, Valley Presbyterian Hospital hosted two (2) free community workshops to help community residents understand joint replacement options, treatment processes and how to select a qualified physician. The two seminars, one held in April and a second held in October, were well attended and attracted more than 150 participants.

## **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS AND SUPPORT**

VPH acknowledges the importance of supporting community programs and organizations that further the wellness and economic interests of the communities we serve. In FY 2011/2012, VPH supported the following organizations through leadership and through collaborative community engagement to improve the health of the community.

- Alzheimer's Association
- American Cancer Society
- American Diabetes Association (ADA)
  - Diabetes Expo
  - Stop Diabetes at Work
  - Feria de la Salud
- Arthritis Foundation
- Boys and Girls Club of San Fernando Valley
- Children's Community School Health and Wellness Fair
- Encino Chamber of Commerce
- Haven Hills
- Juvenile Diabetes Association
- Los Angeles City Fire Department
- Los Angeles County Business Federation
- Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation
- Los Angeles Mission
- Mid Valley YMCA Health Kids Day
- National Health Foundation
- Northeast Valley Health Center
- One Generation
- Partners in Care
- Pregnancy Counseling Center
- Taste of Soul Festival
- Tri Valley Indian Medical Association
- United Chambers of Commerce
- Valley Breast Cancer Foundation
- Valley Community Care Consortium
- Valley Community Clinic
- Valley Economic Alliance
- Valley Economic Development Center
- Valley Industry and Commerce Association



## **SUPPORTING THE ECONOMIC VITALITY OF THE COMMUNITY**

In addition to supporting a number of social and community causes, VPH also supports programs that help the local economy. The programs VPH implemented and or supported in FY 2011/2012 includes the following:

### **Student Healthcare Program**

Valley Presbyterian Hospital partners with Los Angeles Valley College (LAVC) to bring low and no cost quality healthcare to community college students. Through this unique collaboration, the hospital provides physicians and physician assistants for LAVC's student health center, where enrolled students benefit from an array of healthcare services, including physical exams, screenings, immunizations and referrals.

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

The hospital is taking a proactive approach to develop a sustainable pipeline of skilled health care professionals. This six-month program connects new nurse graduates with preceptors, or experienced nursing professionals. This early start to a successful nursing career, provides these new graduates an opportunity to learn the nursing profession from those already skilled in the profession. New graduates receive training in a specialty area such as emergency care, operating room, obstetrics/maternity, children's services or telemetry and receive regular evaluations on their progress. In FY 2011/2012, VPH filled 21 nursing positions with new graduates.

### **Valley Simulation Laboratory**

The Valley simulation laboratory is one of the region's most technologically advanced. In FY 2011/2012, 350 college students visited the lab to practice skills in a "real world" environment. The lab uses a full line of high fidelity mannequins that are designed to simulate realistic patient situations and responses by allowing instructors to build limitless medical scenarios. The laboratory is designed to model a patient care unit with a labor and delivery section, ICU, three fully equipped medical/surgical bays and a nursing station. VPH partners with California State University Northridge (North San Fernando Valley region), College of the Canyons (Santa Clarita), Mount St. Mary's College (Los Angeles) and Los Angeles Valley College to provide nursing students a link from didactic learning to hands-on medical application in a no-risk environment.

## FISCAL YEAR 2011/2012 KEY INDICATORS

### Key Facility Statistics – FY 2011/2012

Average daily census	189
Total number of admissions	15,827
Total Inpatient Discharges (excluding normal newborns)	15,827
Total Medi-Cal Inpatients (discharges)	9,297
Total number of emergency room visits	59,945
Percent of Emergency Room Patients covered by Medi-Cal	62%
Percent of Emergency Room Patients without Insurance	17%
Total Births	4,264
Total Antepartum/Perinatal Patient Stays (discharges)	4,906
Total Number of Pediatric Patient Stays (discharges)	1,328
Percent of perinatal patients covered by Medi-Cal	93%
Percent of Pediatric patients covered by Medi-Cal	80%
Total number of surgeries	7,897

### 2012 Community Benefit Value

Community Program – Women’s Services	\$275,960
Community Program – Diabetes Education and Awareness	\$26,650
Community Program – Stroke Education and Awareness	\$31,000
Community Program – Joint Replacement	\$76,000
Community Program – Sponsorships with Community Organizations	\$123,000
Workforce Development Program for Nurses	\$368,000
Donated Facility Space for Community Organizations	\$76,000
<b>Total Community Benefit Programs</b>	<b>\$976,610</b>

### Unreimbursed Medical Services – Excludes Provider Fee \*

Type	Charges	Cost Value	Reimbursement	Net Benefit
Medi-Cal	\$424,007,010	\$127,393,006	\$78,715,422	\$48,677,584
Self Pay	\$33,201,211	\$9,975,312	\$1,301,840	\$8,673,472
TOTAL	\$457,208,221	\$137,368,318	\$80,017,262	\$57,351,056

### Unreimbursed Medical Services – Includes Provider Fee \*\*

Type	Charges	Cost Value	Reimbursement	Net Benefit
Medi-Cal	\$424,007,010	\$144,090,781	\$140,265,228	\$3,825,553
Self Pay	\$33,201,211	\$11,282,805	\$1,301,840	\$9,980,965
TOTAL	\$457,208,221	\$155,373,586	\$141,567,068	\$13,806,518

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

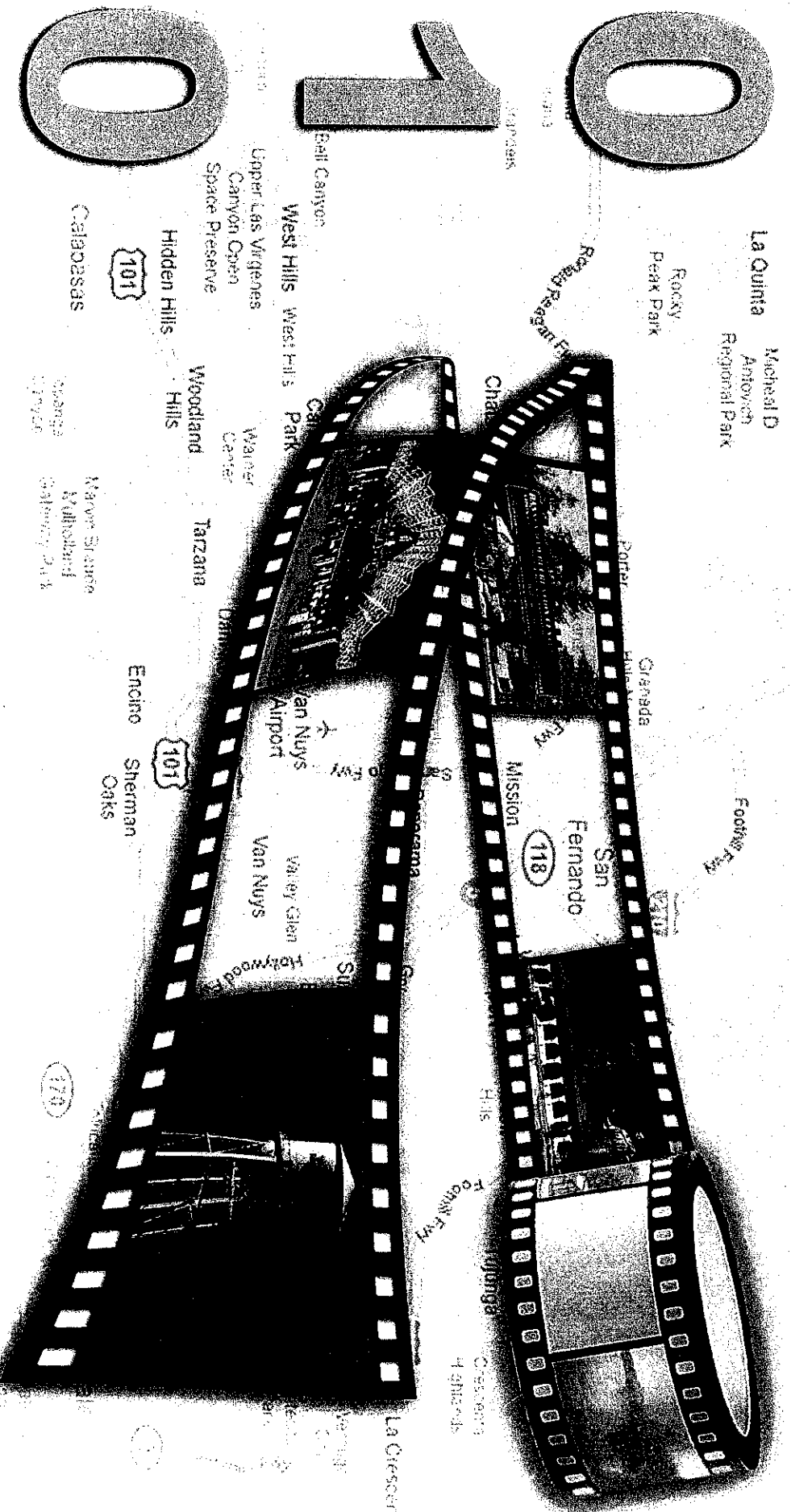
\*\*Includes 21 months of provider tax fee revenue

## **Appendix A – Community Needs Assessment**



VALLEY CARE  
Community Consortium

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



Michael D. Anthony Regional Park  
Rocky Peak Park  
La Quinta  
Canyon  
Clarita

Granada  
Mission San Fernando (118)  
Footwall Fwy

Chico  
Woodland Hills  
Tarzana

Van Nuys Airport  
Van Nuys  
Valley Glen  
Van Nuys  
Hollywood

Encino  
Sherman Oaks  
101

Ball Canyon  
West Hills  
West Hills Park  
Canyon Open  
Space Preserve  
Hidden Hills  
101

Upper Las Virgenes  
Cajalacasas  
101

Marvin Sitrone  
Mullholand  
Catalpa Park  
170

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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

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

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

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

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

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

Robert Steward	Comprehensive Community Health Centers	Data Committee
Surekha Vasant	Valley Care Community Consortium	Editing Committee Chair
Amy Lightstone	Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Office of Health Assessment & Epidemiology	Editing Committee
Barbara Baldwin	Broadus Ready for School	Editing Committee
Bonnie Bailor	Northridge Hospital Medical Center	Editing Committee
Ernest Espinoza	ValleyCare Mid-Valley Comprehensive Health Center	Editing Committee
Sheri Strahl	The Help Group	Editing Committee
Olga Vigdorichik	Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, SPA 1& 2	Editing Committee
Pamela Villaseñor	Puku, Cultural Community Services	Editing Committee
Natalie Vogelsang	Providence Senior Outreach Program	Editing Committee
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Brandon Bruno	Valley Care Community Consortium	Project Staff
Rosalba Cain	Valley Care Community Consortium	Project Staff
Sanaz Adhami	CSUN MPH Student Intern	Project Staff
Hsin-I Chen	Tarzana Treatment Center	Project Staff

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

### *VCCC Community Needs Survey Results*

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

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

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