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• 13 technologically-advanced operating suites, including a hybrid robotic suite for cardiovascular surgery
• An enhanced Emergency Department, better able to serve nearly twice the patients currently
• A new, five-story patient care tower with all-private patient rooms

For more information about all the Planned Giving options, please contact Joe Ward, Executive Director, Planned Giving, Providence St. Joseph Health Foundations, Southern California Region, at 310-793-0117 or joseph.ward@providence.org.

BRUSHING YOUR TEETH CAN HELP YOUR HEART

We all know that a healthy diet and exercise can help prevent heart problems such as heart attacks or strokes. But there’s another healthy habit that may play a role in lowering your risk of heart disease, and it starts with brushing your teeth.

Studies have shown that poor dental health can also be a sign of poor heart health. The opposite is also true: a healthy smile and good dental hygiene may translate to a healthy body. Gum (periodontal) disease causes bacterial infections that inflames your gums and tissue around your teeth. Research shows that these bacteria can also cause your blood vessels and arteries to become inflamed or narrowed — a risk factor for heart disease.

Although researchers are still looking for a direct connection between dental bacteria, inflammation and heart disease, maintaining healthy habits like flossing, brushing regularly and visiting your dentist twice each year can help lower your risk of other heart complications.

Doctors believe if you take care of your teeth, you’re more likely to have other healthy habits like not smoking, eating a well-balanced diet and exercising — all of which can lower your risk for heart disease. That’s something to smile about!

To learn more about the connection between dental and heart health and other health tips, visit blog.providence.org.

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Sincerely,

Ann W. Braun
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In Focus: PROVIDENCE AND CEDARS-SINAI CREATE JOINT VENTURE OF TARZANA MEDICAL CENTER

“By 2022, the Greater San Fernando Valley community will see the completion of a best-in-class medical center campus,” said Dale Surowitz, Chief Executive of Providence Tarzana Medical Center. “This is an exciting time as we usher in a new era in healthcare for the communities we serve.”

Two of Southern California’s leading nonprofit healthcare organizations recently agreed to create a joint venture that will own and operate Providence Tarzana Medical Center. Providence St. Joseph Health and Cedars-Sinai will work together to enhance access to highly skilled medical care, specialized services and advanced health programs for the Tarzana community.

The medical center’s new name will be Providence Cedars-Sinai Tarzana Medical Center. Providence will retain controlling interest in the medical center, which will retain its Catholic identity while embracing the diversity of all faiths.

Providence and Cedars-Sinai will jointly continue the construction and redevelopment of the Tarzana campus, including a new patient care tower with all private rooms, an expanded Emergency Department, new diagnostic and treatment services and enhanced outpatient and ambulatory services. When complete in 2022, the new facility will be a destination medical center for the area.

“This unique partnership brings together two mission-focused organizations that will work together to build the hospital of the future on the Providence Tarzana campus and provide high-quality care close to home,” said Erik G. Wexler, Chief Executive, Providence St. Joseph Health Southern California.

The joint venture will expand primary and specialty care services and enhance other programs that include heart, cancer and women’s services. For specialized treatments such as those for transplant patients, the partnership will provide a continuum of care that ensures access to high-quality services during every phase of the healing process.

During the coming year, patients will begin to see the expanded benefits of the new Providence Cedars-Sinai Tarzana Medical Center as both organizations consult on offering a broader range of services for patients in the San Fernando Valley.

PROVIDENCE TARZANA REIMAGINED CAMPAIGN TRANSFORMS HEALTHCARE IN THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

For 45 years, Providence Tarzana Medical Center has been serving the healthcare needs of those who live and work in the San Fernando Valley. Nationally renowned for cardiovascular care, orthopedics, Women’s and Children’s services, oncology, pulmonology and robotic surgery, Providence Tarzana is ranked among the nation’s top 100 hospitals.

In the past year, our hospital has seen a 35 percent increase in patient admissions. Our Emergency Department serves up to 200 patients a day – well over the 40-50 patients the facility was designed to accommodate. With steadily increasing demand, we are committed to providing patients with a state-of-the-art medical center that reflects the outstanding care our physicians provide.

In the single largest healthcare construction project ever undertaken in the San Fernando Valley, Providence is investing $540 million in the Tarzana Medical Center, with $75 million coming from community support. The Providence Tarzana Reimagined project includes an architecturally innovative, five-story patient care tower featuring all private patient rooms; 13 technologically advanced operating suites, with a hybrid robotic suite for cardiovascular surgery; and a nearly doubled, 32-bed Emergency Department.

The project also includes improvements to the existing 33-bed Women’s Pavilion, a new Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), an enhanced lobby and visitor reception area and an additional parking structure. Our new medical center will use gardens and natural light to promote healing and provide a comfortable environment for all visitors.

Providence Tarzana Medical Center has long been a cornerstone of the West San Fernando Valley community through our focus on excellence and our mission of providing service to the poor and vulnerable. As we look to the future, we are committed to having the facilities and technology to match the high quality of care for which we’ve been known.

A CONVERSATION WITH PROVIDENCE TARZANA FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBER CLAIRE MARKS

How did you come to be involved on the Providence Tarzana Foundation Board?

Giving back to the community has always been a vital component of my life, and I’ve always been interested in healthcare. My daughter and son were born at Tarzana Medical Center when the hospital was fairly new. Now they’re grown with children of their own. When I learned about Tarzana Reimagined, I was so excited for the opportunity to help build a new, high-tech hospital for my family and our community.

How did you get involved as the Chair of the Providence Tarzana Reimagined campaign?

The hospital has been my community hospital for 40 years. When I learned about the plans for a new patient tower and a new larger ER, I was eager to join the campaign. Seeing the renderings was also very inspiring! I believe it is important that we have a state-of-the-art hospital in our community. When I believe in something, I put all I have into it.

How has your experience been inspiring others to help with the campaign?

It’s been wonderful — people have been very receptive. They want to be educated and understand what is happening. The more we can get the word out to the community about the incredible developments at Tarzana Medical Center, the more people will want to participate.

Why should people contribute to Providence Tarzana Reimagined?

I am helping to educate people and raise awareness about the project. Many have seen the construction, but they don’t know all the details — that there will be a new patient tower, ER, etc. — and that it will be a state-of-the-art medical center for the entire community.

How did you get involved as the Chair of the Providence Tarzana Reimagined campaign?

I am involved because I want to help my community have access to better healthcare and live longer, healthier lives. We need the community’s help to achieve our vision for the new Providence Tarzana Medical Center, and there are many ways to get involved. Naming opportunities are available throughout the new patient tower and ER, and donors can honor or memorialize a loved one. I hope people will consider a contribution to our medical center to improve access to care and help meet the growing needs of our community.