$75 Million Capital Campaign Launched

Leaders of the most ambitious campaign ever launched by Torrance Memorial Medical Center – to shape the future of healthcare for the South Bay – made a stunning announcement on December 1: The “Growing for Our Community” campaign already has attracted gifts and pledges totaling more than $42 million.

At the Holiday Festival black-tie gala, Craig Leach, president and CEO, and Thomas Sunako, M.D., president of the Torrance Memorial Foundation, publicly launched this $75 million fundraising drive with a grand salute to current donors of $1 million or more. Melanie Lundquist, who provided the largest gift in the history of the medical center.

In an enormous tent converted into a winter wonderland, more than 600 of Torrance Memorial’s most distinguished friends, physicians and community leaders enrolled among 40 professionally decorated Christmas trees and a wide variety of silent auction items. A five-course dinner, energetic live auction and dancing rounded out the festivities.

“Our purpose this evening is, first, to celebrate Torrance Memorial – its 81-year history, its prestigious accolades, and its bright future,” Leach told guests. “The Growing for Our Community campaign is an opportunity to make the ‘hospital of the future’ a reality in our own backyard. We are off to a fantastic start.”

Torrance Memorial Offers Award-Winning Care

This fully accredited, community-based, nonprofit medical center is:

- Ranked #1 hospital for overall quality for more than 10 years (National Research Corporation)
- Named Top 100 Hospital for Patient Satisfaction (Sesthetic Institute)
- Voted “South Bay’s Best Hospital” in the Daily Breeze newspaper’s 2006 readers poll, and
- Conducts business consistent with the values of Service, Excellence, Knowledge, Community and Stability.

$13 Million Gift Establishes Lundquist Cardiovascular Institute and Supports Emergency Care Expansion

Melanie and Richard Lundquist Fund Largest Donation in History of Medical Center

Melanie and Richard Lundquist, set a noble example we hope others will follow.

Donation in History of Medical Center

Torrance Memorial Medical Center’s

If you would like to make a contribution to Torrance Memorial Medical Center’s "Growing for Our Community" Capital Campaign, please call (310) 517-4703, or visit www.TorranceMemorial.org. Thank you!
Vasek Polak Gifts Support Healthcare Excellence

Vasek Polak: A Legacy of Giving

Born in 1914 in Prague, in what is now the Czech Republic, Vasek Polak was a member of the Czech antifascist underground during World War II. He was wounded in the Prague uprising in May 1945. Forced to leave Prague permission in 1946, by 1995 Polak had become one of the South Bay’s most successful businessmen, with gross revenues of $1 million from a series of auto dealerships. In 1993, Anna Maria Polak, Vasek’s wife, was diagnosed with breast cancer, and her treatment was funded by the Polak Breast Diagnostic Center, named after his late wife. Karl B. McMillen, Jr., former owner of Hawthorne-based Todd Pipe and Supply, Inc., donated $5.3 million to Torrance Memorial Medical Center, one of the largest gifts in the medical center’s 81-year history. His generous gift funded the Thelma McMillen Center for Chemical Dependency Treatment recently received two separate independent audits that reviewed operations and provided critiques. The following are excerpts from their reviews:

Support for Philanthropy

The Vasek and Anna Maria Polak Charitable Foundation continues the legacy of philanthropy begun by its namesake, Vasek Polak. In honor of Vasek and Anna Maria Polak, the Vasek and Anna Maria Polak Charitable Foundation has provided significant support for the medical center. The Vasek Polak Institute, Inc., provides generous funding for the Vasek Polak Research Program.

Generous Donation from Karl B. McMillen, Jr.

Gift Funds Thelma McMillen Center for Chemical Dependency Treatment

Karl B. McMillen, Jr., former owner of Hawthorne-based Todd Pipe and Supply, Inc., donated $5.3 million to support the establishment of the Vasek Polak Research Program at Torrance Memorial Medical Center, one of the largest gifts in the medical center’s 81-year history. His generous gift funded the Thelma McMillen Center for Chemical Dependency Treatment. The center features a comprehensive outpatient treatment program to treat adults and adolescents who struggle with drug and alcohol addictions. The Thelma McMillen Center for Chemical Dependency Treatment is a fitting memorial for Karl McMillen’s late wife. When she passed away in 1998, Thelma left a lasting legacy of care and compassion…a legacy that is carried on in her name through the center.

“I feel incredibly fortunate to have reached the point in my life where I can give back to the community,” says Karl. “I’m just one man, but I want to make a difference in this world.”

“Karl McMillen’s donation has allowed us to create a premier program that will have a major impact on hundreds of lives throughout our community,” says Laura Schenasi, Torrance Memorial Health Care Foundation executive director. “We hope that this gift will inspire others to realize what their generosity can mean for generations to come.”

“Out goal is to treat the whole person, not just the addiction,” commented Morris Gelbart, Ph.D., Thelma McMillen Center executive director. “We are literally in the business of saving lives.”

Vasek Polak would no doubt be honored by the good work his legacy is carrying on at Torrance Memorial.

Improving the quality of life of members of the community…Current clinical trials include collaborative research with the Radiation Oncology Group and the National Cancer Institute’s Cancer Trials Support Unit, as well as studies in cardiology and medical imaging. Vasek Polak Institute, Inc., has also provided more than $2 million to support the establishment of the Vasek Polak Research Program at Torrance Memorial.

The research program conducts high-quality clinical and health services research aimed at dependency treatment and prevention, focusing on drug and alcohol addiction funded by the Thelma McMillen Center for Chemical Dependency Treatment.

Dependency Treatment recently received two separate independent audits that reviewed operations and provided critiques. The following are excerpts from their reviews:

“Having a strong treatment team is vital in this business. You have one that is strong, compassionate and truly concerned for the welfare of their clients…Present clients and alumni spoke highly of the program, from entrance through recovery.” — Fred Murray, B.S., CATC

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The late George Graziadio, Jr., and his wife Reva. George and Reva were married for 59 years.

More than $1 million for the medical center's "Growing for Our Community" expansion program.

Elaine Potampa, 2005 Auxiliary Gift Shop co-chair, Alice Young, 2006 Auxiliary Gift Shop co-chair, Michele Stratton, 2005 Auxiliary Gift Shop president, and George Graziadio, Jr. and his wife Reva. "George Graziadio was active in many medical center fundraising activities, including the annual winter Holiday Festival and summer Golf Tournament, for which he was a founding sponsor.

When George L. Graziadio, Jr., passed away on June 6, 2002 at age 82, he left behind a legacy that will follow him for generations to come. A visionary businessman and tireless entrepreneur, he is most remembered for his generous philanthropy.

In recognition of their generous $1 million contribution and more than 20 years of volunteer service, Torrance Memorial dedicated the George and Reva Graziadio Radiology Center.

Emergency Department Expansion Underway

More than 62,000 people visited the hospital's Emergency Department in 2005. Alternatively, 10 emergency departments have closed in Los Angeles County since 2003. With many people seeking emergency care and the closures of area hospitals and emergency departments, this service needs to grow to meet the demand.

In honor of their generous support, the 7th floor Critical Care Unit was dedicated to the Torrance Memorial auxiliary.

A long-time supporter of the medical center, Graziadio was a past president and CEO. "Not only for their generous financial support, but also for the hands-on, personal contributions they make throughout the medical center each and every day."
**Generous Guenther Foundation Donation**

The Guenther Foundation was established more than 40 years ago to support organizations that improve social conditions, promote human welfare and alleviate pain and suffering. In 2003, the foundation donated $100,000 to Torrance Memorial in support of the Family Birth Center renovation.

Recently, the Foundation pledged $500,000 for the expansion and renovation of Torrance Memorial’s Emergency Department.

**Bill and Joelene Mertz Embody the Spirit of Giving**

Hard work throughout their lives now affords Bill and Joelene Mertz a luxury they cherish – the ability to help others.

Bill Mertz was born to a farming family and reared in the South Bay. His father taught him and his brother, Dick, the skills they would need to successfully run the family business – growing celery, beans, corn and tomatoes. Working together, the brothers founded American Plains Growers. Among their many accomplishments was the invention of the “pony pack,” the handy six-pack carton we use today to bring flowers home for our gardens.

Charitable giving is a part of their lifestyle. They donate poinsettias every year to brighten the Torrance Memorial Emergency Department. They also have made several generous cash donations to Torrance Memorial throughout the years.

“By giving to Torrance Memorial, we are investing in the future,” says Joelene. She and Bill are investment shareholders of the former Stauffer Chemical Company. The company was created by the late John Stauffer, one of the principal officers and a Charitable Trust trustee. “The leadership there has provided the strength needed to ensure a sound financial future for the hospital,” says Michael Whalen, Stauffer’s son.

The John Stauffer Charitable Trust was created in 1974 to fulfill the legacy of John Stauffer, one of the principal officers and shareholders of the former Stauffer Chemical Company. The foundation that administers the charitable trust focuses on support for hospitals, medical research and education.

**Torrance Memorial Receives Stauffer Charitable Trust Donation**

The John Stauffer Charitable Trust has donated $500,000 to Torrance Memorial Medical Center. This generous donation carries on a tradition of support for Torrance Memorial that began in 1979.

“An excellent administration is the key to a well-run medical center like Torrance Memorial,” says Michael Whalen, Stauffer Charitable Trust trustee. “The leadership there has provided the strength needed to ensure a sound financial future for the hospital.”

**Redischs Give Back with Charitable Gift Donation**

When Alfred Redisch, D.P.M., and his wife Rozelyn told their attorney that they were interested in creating a charitable gift donation, she recommended a retained life estate gift that would benefit Torrance Memorial.

Alfred Redisch, a retired podiatrist, and his wife, a travel consultant, both like the idea immediately. “We have been a part of the community for a long time,” says Rozelyn. “Plus, I have received great care at the medical center that administers the charitable trust focus on support for hospitals, medical research and education.

**UniHealth Grant Awarded**

UniHealth Foundation has awarded Torrance Memorial a $100,000 grant to support the medical center’s “Collaborative to Expand Nursing School Enrollment.” Torrance Memorial piloted this collaborative with five local nursing colleges and supplied nursing instructors and a classroom for academic instruction.

With the support of the UniHealth Foundation grant, Torrance Memorial has developed a clinical skills lab to enhance the student experience.

“With the start-up of this program, the medical center takes an important step in developing its position to recruit nurses, as well as providing training to other clinical areas in the future,” says Peggy Berwald, RN, Torrance Memorial senior vice president, Patient Services.

UniHealth Foundation is a Woodland Hills-based charitable foundation that supports healthcare services and programs. This is the second grant the medical center has received from the foundation, which previously funded the start-up of the Public Access Defibrillation Program.
The new center will offer:
- Location – Homey suites equipped with the latest delivery and recovery will take place in one modern, family-centered philosophy. Labor, delivery, and surgical patients and palliative care.

Torrance Memorial introduces new da Vinci Robotic Surgical System

The future has indeed arrived at Torrance Memorial in the form of the da Vinci Surgical System, the latest advancement in minimally invasive surgical procedures. This high-tech system allows surgeons to use robotics to perform delicate surgeries with unprecedented control and precision.

The center is staffed by a highly-trained multidisciplinary team of surgeons, radiation oncologists, nurses, therapists, social workers, and more, all committed to helping burn patients through every phase of their recovery, healing the whole person – mind, body and spirit.

Stephen R. Lemkin, M.D. Medical and Oncology Pavilion To Offer 25 New Private Rooms

The new Stephen R. Lemkin, M.D. Medical and Oncology Pavilion will offer 25 new private rooms for medical and surgical patients and palliative care. To be relocated on the second floor of the main hospital, the Pavilion is named in honor of Stephen R. Lemkin, M.D., a respected oncologist who was a leader in the development and management of the Cancer Program at Torrance Memorial. Dr. Lemkin passed away in 2003 after a lengthy and courageous battle with cancer.

For prostatectomy patients, for instance, the da Vinci system requires only five or six pinpoint incisions, compared to large, eight-to-10-inch open surgery incisions. Plus, prostate surgeons are better able to avoid muscles and nerves that control sexual function and incontinence, potentially lowering a man’s post-surgical risk of incontinence.

“This is truly revolutionary technology,” says Craig Leach, Torrance Memorial president and CEO. “With the introduction of the da Vinci Surgical System, Torrance Memorial positions itself at the leading edge of the future of medicine.”

Critical Community Support

“The South Bay community has provided critical support for these important expansion projects through attendance at events such as the Gold Tournament and Halley’s Festival, and financial contributions large and small,” says Leach. “The medical center owes each of our generous donors a tremendous debt of gratitude.”

“Growing for Our Community” Expansion Projects Underway at Torrance Memorial

Emergency Department Expansion

A $600,000 expansion of its Emergency Department is underway at Torrance Memorial, with completion scheduled for 2007. The expanded department will increase efficiency in this busy area through expanding the capacity of the existing facility, adding more patient treatment areas, providing high-tech capabilities and creating a dedicated radiology room. For more information about the Emergency Department expansion, see page 3.

Increasing Capacity, Surgical Services a Priority

The need to build additional operating rooms has been an important initiative in the medical center’s “Growing for Our Community” plan.

“The need to build additional operating rooms has been an important initiative in the medical center’s “Growing for Our Community” plan. To accommodate the growth in surgical services at the medical center, construction is underway on the first floor to add five new high-tech operating rooms,” says surgeon John P. McNamara, M.D., Torrance Memorial chief of staff.

At the same time, an existing Day Surgery suite is being converted into a technologically advanced endoscopy unit. Torrance Memorial will be the first hospital in the South Bay to construct space ideally suited for this specialized area of surgical surgery. Surgeons will have the ability to perform less invasive endosurgery in a more directed mode to meet the technological requirements of this surgery.

A Tradition of Healing

For more than three decades, the Torrance Memorial Burn Center has been caring for burn patients of all ages. One of only three burn centers in Los Angeles County, the Burn Center provides specialized care for hundreds of survivors of residential and industrial fires and accidents every year. The center represents a major commitment on the part of the medical center, the Parson Foundation, and the South Bay community.

The center is staffed by a highly-trained multidisciplinary team of burn and reconstructive surgeons, nurses, therapists, social workers and more, all committed to helping burn patients through every phase of their recovery, healing the whole person – mind, body and spirit.

Stephen R. Lemkin, M.D.

The new Stephen R. Lemkin, M.D. Medical and Oncology Pavilion will offer 25 new private rooms for medical and surgical patients and palliative care. To be relocated on the second floor of the main hospital, the Pavilion is named in honor of Stephen R. Lemkin, M.D., a respected oncologist who was a leader in the development and management of the Cancer Program at Torrance Memorial. Dr. Lemkin passed away in 2003 after a lengthy and courageous battle with cancer.

Endoscopy Center – Expanded gastroenterology capabilities

• 14 Labor/Delivery/Recovery suites
• 28 post-partum suites complete with sleep accommodations for family members
• Newborn nursery to allow newborn mothers to get much-needed rest
• Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
• Family waiting area
• Community kitchenette
• Personal touches such as CD/MP3 players, private baths and complimentary baby blankets

The Family Birth Center Renovation has been supported by a $100,000 donation from the Weingart Foundation and a $150,000 donation from the Parson Foundation.

“The center represents a major commitment on the part of the medical center, the Parson Foundation and the South Bay community,” says Gale Gould, RN, director of Women’s Services.

Family Birth Center Renovation

When the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial Hospital opened in 1925, 72 beds were at the 32-bed facility. In the ensuing 81 years, the hospital has grown along with the community. In 2007 alone, the medical center saw the birth of 2,000 babies.

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Current Torrance Memorial Construction Projects

• Emergency Department Expansion
• Family Birth Center – 25 new private patient rooms
• Surgical Suites – Five new operating rooms
• Endoscopy Suite – Specialty endosurgery center operating room
• Family Birth Center – Beautifully decorated, comfortable family-oriented birth center
• Catheterization Laboratory – Renovated second and third labs
• CT/Scans – PET/CT – Third CT scanner, second PET/CT
• Endoscopy Center – Expanded gastroenterology capabilities

Stephen R. Lemkin, M.D.

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