



## Valley Community Healthcare

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A partnership with VCH is a partnership with your Community  
Judi Rose: 818.301.6321  
jrose@vchcare.org

## Listening with our Hands and Hearts. . .



**Where do you go for medical care when you are deaf,** a single mother of three children under 5 and living at the poverty level? That was the dilemma facing Silvia, a lovely young woman with laughing blue eyes. Silvia was born deaf, and each of her 3 children hear at different levels: her 3- year-old son is deaf, her 4 month old baby is deaf in one ear, and her 5-year-old daughter has normal hearing.

**With** so many challenges in her life, and three small children, Silvia’s work options are limited. Only the help of her aunt, who provides a home, allows Silvia and her children to get by.

**At VCH, OB/GYN Dr. Jill Hughes, managed her last 2 pregnancies where all questions and instructions had to be written out. Says Dr. Hughes, “Silvia was so appreciative of the time I took with her.”** In the pediatrics department, Dr. Stephanie Kamen and pediatric supervisor, Gabi Rubio, have learned how to quickly write clear communications in yes/no form, making it easier for Silvia to respond. Silvia has challenges, but she is doing her best for herself and her children. **Your support of VCH pediatric and women’s health services has created a true lifeline for Silvia’s family.**

## VCH Nurse: “Little boy, it’s really cold out . . . where’s your coat?”



**3-year-old Jerry didn’t have a coat.** His mom told us that there so few cold days, she felt she should buy shoes or food instead. That’s the case with so many of our young pediatric patients. Most live below the Poverty Level (\$24,300/year for a family of 4!) That doesn’t leave much money for ‘luxuries’ like warm coats.

**The VCH community-based Young Professionals got busy.** They reached out to the community, people like you, and collected hundreds of coats, wrapped them and gave them away to over 250 needy children. Jerry and his sister now have new coats for chilly California days. **But our young patients were warm this winter, because you care.** Thank You!



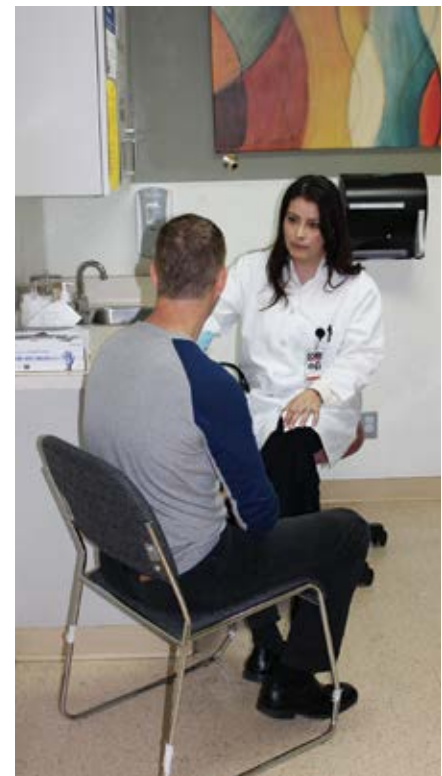
**Help our Patients ~ Join the Young Professionals**  
jrose@vchcare.org

## Your Support of VCH HIV Programs Help Dave Fight his Fear of HIV!



**D**ave was pretty sure he was HIV+, but for years had been afraid to have this horrific news confirmed. Then, a year ago, Dave met a member of the Valley Community Healthcare Outreach team who was providing discrete HIV education at a local bar. After a sensitive conversation, Dave felt he was ready to be tested. He arrived at VCH in North Hollywood and underwent the rapid test, which confirmed his worst fear, Dave was HIV+. Further, his delays in seeking help exacerbated his disease. Immediate, consistent and specialized care was vital to save Dave's life!

Fortunately VCH's HIV/AIDS Care Team was there for Dave.



The Infectious Disease MD with an HIV-focused therapist and the HIV Case Manager, all met with Dave to describe his illness and outline the road ahead for managing his condition. The Care Team works together to ensure that each patient, whether newly diagnosed as Dave was, or simply continuing care he/she began elsewhere, receives appropriate medical care and ancillary health services, emotional support and assistance in accessing and managing outside care and other life issues.

**A**lthough now a relatively manageable chronic disease, without proper care HIV remains a death sentence for the sufferer and his/her partners. Without care and treatment an HIV+ person can contract several different strains, making the disease all the more difficult to manage. With care, management, and medications, the viral load can be reduced to "undetectable", rendering it very unlikely that the patient can transmit the disease.



**A**fter one year of intensive treatment and bi-weekly visits, Dave's HIV is now "undetectable". He works, he plays, he lives a pretty normal life, and most of all, he is no longer afraid.

**Since 1987 ( the first year testing was available), your contributions have made it possible for VCH to provide full HIV/AIDS testing, education and treatment to at-risk populations. Since January 2016, you have been supporting Hep C testing and treatment.**

***Fight the Fear ~ Donate to support VCH's HIV/Hep C services.***

## *Your Attendance At CASINO ROYALE A Fabulous Evening of Fun & Games benefits our Teen Services*



*(l-r) 'M', Erin Klibanow, 'James Bond', Vespa and Sahag Yedalian*

**U**nder the “Spectre” of a “Skyfall”, ‘M’ gave James Bond his assignment: Take Vespa and ensure that all the guests at Valley Community Healthcare’s 2nd Annual Casino Royale Fundraiser have a terrific time. James Bond never fails, and thus a fabulous evening of fun was had by all.



*(l-r) Dr. Charlotte Fletcher, Donna Goodman & Board Member Kirsten Tellez*

**O**ver 170 guests enjoyed free-flowing champagne, a lite and luscious supper, a terrific Silent Auction, and of course, the games! This event raised funds for VCH’s Valley Teen Clinic, with particular emphasis on its Teen Workforce Development Program.



*Valley Teen Clinic Staffer – Justine Evans*



*Rolling the dice for the win!*

**J**ustine Evans, now 22, has worked at Teen Clinic since she was 16. She just graduated CSUN, and is applying to its Masters of Public Health Program. Justine told the guests just how important Valley Teen Clinic had been to her growth and understanding of the needs of the community. That’s how we’ve grown ‘em at Valley Community Healthcare’s Teen Clinic, with your help, for almost 25 years!

**Support VCH’s Nationally Recognized Valley Teen Clinic**

*(l-r) Board Chair Dr. Marilyn Amis w/CEO Paula Wilson*



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**YOU can help . . .**

**Join VCH Young Professionals**



*Cynthia Ceja, Chair-Kailey Crum, Josh Goldberg, Sahag Yedalian, Jen Amis, VCH Young Professionals at the Coats for Kids Give-Away*

*Give back to the community & make some new friends.*

**Call: Judi Rose ~ 818.301.6321**  
**[jrose@vchcare.org](mailto:jrose@vchcare.org)**

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*Councilman  
Paul Krekorian  
bets on VCH*

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- \* 4 hour commitment/ month minimum



**\* Contact Judi Rose 818-301-6321  
jrose@vchcare.org**

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