

Gratitude



St. Mary Medical Center
Foundation™

A Dignity Health Member

Winter 2024



Message from the Hospital President & CEO

As we conclude St. Mary Medical Center's remarkable centennial celebrations, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to each member of our community for making this milestone truly special.

Your dedication, commitment, and passion have been the driving force behind a century of compassionate care and innovation. Together, we have built a legacy that reflects the strength and inspiration of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, who established the first Catholic hospital south of Los Angeles, as well as our unwavering commitment to the well-being of our patients and the Greater Long Beach area.

The events and festivities throughout the centennial year showcased the strength of our unity and the profound impact we've had on countless lives. From the historical displays to the heartwarming stories shared, every moment reminded us of the exceptional journey we've undertaken.

I am immensely proud to lead such an extraordinary team and be part of a community that values excellence in healthcare. The centennial celebrations have been a testament to our shared values, resilience, and the enduring spirit that defines St. Mary Medical Center.

As we embark on the next chapter of our journey, let us carry the pride of our centennial legacy forward. Together, we will continue to provide exceptional care, advance medical breakthroughs, and strengthen our bonds with the community.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication, and here's to the next century of excellence in healthcare at St. Mary Medical Center.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Carolyn Caldwell". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Carolyn Caldwell, FACHE

Hospital President & CEO

Dignity Health - St. Mary Medical Center



Tim Aldrete
Chair
Foundation Board of Trustees

Message from the Foundation Chair

Dear Friends of St. Mary,
When planning for the St. Mary centennial began back in February of 2022, our President / CEO Carolyn Caldwell said, “I want the Centennial to be about St. Mary saying ‘thank you’ to Long Beach. We will thank them for the privilege of being their hospital, and we also let people know how grateful we are for their support over the decades.”

I echo her sentiments completely!!

It has been my great honor to serve as Chair of the St. Mary Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees for the past two years, including the entire Centennial observance. And from the bottom of my heart, I say, “Thank you” to all who support St. Mary.

St. Mary Medical Center was founded in 1923, but the Foundation did not have its beginning until 1970, when funds were being raised for the new Bauer Tower. Since that time, YOU have helped the Foundation raise about \$180 million!!! And all your gifts have been re-invested to make St. Mary the best it can possibly be.

I am told that when Mother Placidus – our foundress – was asked, “Why are the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word” coming here?, she replied, “St. Mary is going to make Long Beach a better community for everyone.” That was how we began, and that is what – with your support – we continue to do.

With deep gratitude,

Tim Aldrete
Chair, St. Mary Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees

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Your Health - Our Mission 100 Years

The celebration of St. Mary Medical Center's centennial year has taken the form of various events from March 2023 through March 2024. St. Mary is honored to have had the opportunity over the past 12 months to say thank you to the Long Beach and surrounding communities for their support of our ministry.

As the St. Mary Medical Center began planning a host of celebratory activities in anticipation of our centennial year, we held a friendly contest amongst St. Mary staff. We asked for volunteers to give their best suggestions for a centennial tagline. The tagline selected was created by St. Mary's employee, Alexander Ortega.

Centennial Tagline: Your Health – Our Mission 100 Years





St. Mary Medical Center Centennial Ball

To close out the year, St. Mary Medical Center hosted an evening of festive dining and dancing as we celebrated our 100th anniversary!

This beautiful event brought together over 300 physicians, board members, donors, and community friends whose attendance made for a fun-filled night of celebration.





Leadership Long Beach Alumni.

The Spirit of St. Mary Awards 2023

On April 4th, 2023, Dignity Health - St. Mary Medical Center (SMMC) kicked off its centennial celebration by hosting a luncheon at the Museum of Latin American Art (MOLAA). SMMC had the opportunity to thank board members, donors, staff and community members who have contributed to our mission of serving greater Long Beach over the years. It also had the pleasure of presenting two Spirit of St. Mary awards, an honor bestowed on those who live humankindness - a concept created by Dignity Health that says every person has the power to heal and can have a real impact on the health of the people around us.

Carolyn Caldwell, Hospital President, presented the awards to Arline and Dr. Mike Walter, as well as Leadership Long Beach, for their philanthropy and contributions to the city of Long Beach and surrounding communities. Congratulations to our winners!



Arline and Mike Walter holding their Spirit of St. Mary award.



Sean Devereaux, Executive Director and Sheryl Bender, Board President, Leadership Long Beach.



Left to Right: Arline Walter, Long Beach Mayor Rex Richardson, St. Mary President & CEO, Carolyn Caldwell and Mike Walter.



J. David Shlemmer - A Lifetime Supporter of

Dignity Health – St. Mary Medical Center is 100 years old, and Dave Shlemmer has had a deep and personal relationship with St. Mary for 93 of those years.

Born in the original St. Mary on October 31, 1931, Dave's birth came two years before the earthquake that destroyed St. Mary and caused catastrophic damage throughout the city.

The hospital remained the medical center of choice for the Shlemmer family over the decades. Dave's brother was born there a few years after him, and four of Dave's children were born at St. Mary. Over the years, Jenny had two hip replacements, and went through physical rehabilitation at the hospital. When Dave developed cardiac issues which required surgery, he chose to have his operation - and the rehab to strengthen his heart and restore his health - at St. Mary.

About five years after his heart surgery, Dave recalls another incident that brought him back to St. Mary as a patient. "I tripped and fell in Belmont Shore and broke my left leg," he said. "I had surgery here at the hospital and it was terrific, even though they had to put two steel plates and 18 screws in my left leg. Every experience I've ever had here has been wonderful for me and my wife Jenny."

After 42-years of marriage and a ten-year battle with Parkinson's disease, Dave's beloved wife Jenny's life on earth ended at St. Mary.

The Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word of Houston, Texas founded St. Mary in August of 1923. One of the nuns from that order, Sister Alphonsus Talon, served the medical center for more than 70 years! Dave knew her well and had great appreciation and admiration for her service. "Sister Alphonsus was very caring," he recalls. "She and the rest of the staff always went out of their way to make sure we had whatever we needed." Dave believes that dedication extends to all the employees at St. Mary, and it is what sets the hospital apart from other medical facilities.

The St. Mary commitment to excellent service delivered with compassion has inspired him to support the hospital with his time, talents, and monetary gifts.

Dave retired from Western Gear Company after 35 years of service and a three-year posting as Vice President of Government Relations in Washington D.C. When he returned to California, his friend and attorney, Bob Waestman, was Chairman of the St. Mary Medical Center Board of Trustees. Bob invited Dave to join the Foundation Board, and his "yes" was pivotal for both St. Mary and the Foundation.



St. Mary

“Dave was Chairman of the Foundation Board for two years going into and during our 75th anniversary year,” says Michael J. Neils, Foundation President and Chief Philanthropy Officer. “Our goal was to raise \$26 million during our anniversary celebration and under Dave’s leadership, we raised \$30 million.”

Dave remembers that time well. “We had quite a few activities during our 75th anniversary,” he says. That was during the time that he and three other community members started the annual St. Mary Charity Golf Classic at Virginia Country Club. The golf event will mark its 39th year in 2024. Last year, Dave was given a Lifetime Achievement Award for his service to the Golf Classic.

Though he is now a Trustee Emeritus, Dave continues to chair the Grants Committee, which allocates funds from the Foundation for medical innovations, equipment and programs for the medical center. “My Dad has always been passionate about St. Mary,” says his daughter, Pam Parkin. “The Foundation Board has been a big part of his life, and he has worked tirelessly to raise funds that help support the doctors, nurses and Sisters to fulfill the St. Mary mission.

Of course, Dave has seen many changes since he was born at St. Mary so many decades ago. The Shlemmer family

has grown over the years to include 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren, with another on the way.

“I was born in the original hospital, the small one on 10th Street,” said Dave. “It’s really grown to serve our community since then.”

St. Mary was recently named by ***U.S. News & World Report*** as a “High Performing Hospital” for Heart Attack and Pneumonia. In addition, for the past two years, Healthgrades named St. Mary among the top 10% in the nation for Critical Care.

Last year St. Mary celebrated 100-years of service to the Long Beach community with various activities throughout the year. “I think it’s fantastic to be celebrating 100 years,” Dave said. “To think that the Sisters who moved here from Houston, Texas and started this hospital with a small number of sisters and doctors have grown it to the size it is now is a fantastic accomplishment!”

Of course, community supporters like Dave Shlemmer have helped make St. Mary what it is today. “I chose to donate my time and money because it was my way of giving back,” he declares. “I enjoyed every minute of it.”

100TH ANNIVERSARY

ST. MARY MEDICAL CENTER 1923 - 2023

St. Mary Centennial Birthday Card

St. Mary: Your Health – Our Mission – 100 Years

Our Mission

As Common Spirit Health we make the healing presence of God known in our world by improving the health of the people we serve, especially those who are vulnerable, while we advance social justice.

Our Vision

A healthier future for all, inspired by faith, driven by innovation, and powered by our humanity.

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles • The Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word
• The Dominican Sisters of San Rafael

The Hon. Rex Richardson, Mayor, City of Long Beach • The Hon. Megan Kerr, Fifth District • The Hon. Dr. Suely Saro, Sixth District • The Hon. Al Austin, Eighth District • Dawn McIntosh, City Attorney • Laura L. Doud, City Auditor • Tom Modica, City Manager • Bo Martinez, Director of Economic Development • Brent Dennis, Director of Parks, Recreation & Marine • Los Angeles County Children and Families First • The Hon. Janice Hahn, Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors • Fourth District, Jeffrey Prang • Los Angeles County Assessor • California Legislature Assembly • The Hon. Josh Lowenthal, Assemblymember, California, 69th District • The Hon. Lena Gonzalez, State Senator, California, 33rd District • The Hon. Robert Garcia, United States Congressman, California, 42nd District

Lynn Nagano-Choi and Dr. Chester Choi • Arline and Dr. Mike Walter

AARP • Long Beach Airport • APSI • Maria E. Alarcon • Wilfredo A. Alvarado • Tim Aldrete • Celines Alvarez • Mercedes-Benz of Anaheim • Dr. Charles Anderson • Barbara and Roger Andries • David Arnheite • Bruce Pearson and Cybil Aros • Museum of Latin American Art • Jay Axup • Gemmae Bakery • Mercy Baltazar • Farmers & Merchants Bank • International City Bank • John Barnes • Peter Barrett • Sharifa and Cameron Batts • The LGBTQ Center Long Beach • The Port of Long Beach • Robert C. Bellinger • Dennis Benko • Nancy Berkoff • Donna Betts • Barry L. Blodgett • Valentina Bontuyan • Jennifer and Jules Bourgeois • Brascia Builders • Mike Brascia • Margie E. Brown • Alison Bruesehoff • Diane Burgess • Kathleen Burke • Miguel Cadena • Carolyn P. Caldwell • California Pan-Ethnic Health Network • Eliana S. Campbell • Mary E. Cardarelli • Laura Cargill • Frisco's Carhops • Phillip Carpenter • Gloria G. Carter • Deborah Castro • Rancho Los Cerritos • Dr. Won Ki Chae • Brian D. Chambers • The Rev. Wayne Chaney, Sr. • Sophalla E. Chap • Bay Shore Congregational Church • St. Mark's Baptist Church • City of Long Beach • Caterina's Club • Lida Clyde • Katherine Cofield • Super Center Concepts, Inc. • COORDINEX Worldwide • Rocio Corona • Cynthia Cortez • Marilyn and John Craigie • Dr. Paul Creason • Vicki D. Cunningham • John Curtis • Sophy's Cambodian Town • Food & Dance • Laura David • Sallie Deere • Gary DeLong • Josefa L. De Jesus • Jon Dellaria • Brent Dennis • Rob Doherty, DDS • Sisters of St. Dominic • Dr. Minnie Douglas • Derek S. Drake • Steve Dunn • Dr. and Mrs. Terrance Dushenko • Barbara Ellis • The California Endowment • Joe H. Emory • Leo Lina Escobedo • Marisol Esquivias • Smart & Final Charitable Foundation • Delas E. Evans • The Silver Fox • Linda Francis • The Hon. Christopher J. Frisco • Gary Fultheim • Scott Gallic • Monique De La Garza • Ronald and Marianne Gastelum • The Giving Block • Maria A. Gonzalez • Randy and Nancy Gordon • Kimberly and Steven Grabowski • Superior Grocers • Southern California News Group • Cynthia Guidry • David R. Haberbush, Esq. • Vanessa M. Haberbush, Esq. • Kimberly Hall • Carol Hanna • Rosemary Harks • June Harriman • The Hon. Doug Haubert, City Prosecutor • Norma Hernandez • Maureen Herwood • Victoria Higgins • Sofia Hodjat • Panacea Holistic Institute • Pamela J. Hubert • Sherry Cabebe-Jacolbia • Juliet Jakosalm • Dr. Ali Jamehdor • Dr. John Javien • Jorge Jimenez • Kathleen Johnson • James Junio • Kit Katz • John Keisler • Steffenie S. Keo • Sister Mary Kiefer, OP • Cam Killingsworth • The Rev. Stanley Kim • Kristine Kinaman • Jason Klauk • Matt Knabe • An Lai • Debby and David Lalonde • Jeffrey Levine • Janet Lauro • CSULB Ukleja Center for Ethical Leadership • Cassandra Leeman • Ann Lentzner • Chaplain Jeff Levine • Prany Sananikone and Lillian S. Lew • Dr. Gregory R. Lewis • Mary Z. Loos • Elizabeth H. Lucas • Lindsay Mais • Catalina Maldonado • National Financial Services, LLC. • Noreen Mandel • Northgate Market • Paulette J. Marks • The Martin A. & Clairese Clancy Foundation • Maryland Dietetics In Health Care Communities • Ed and Lisa Mastro • Veronica Mathieson • Matson Navigation Company, Inc. • Chantal Bourgeois McBride • Dawn and Doug McIntosh • Sharon A. McNealy • Cheryl McNulty-Wolczanski • Rosa Mendoza • Mineshaft, Inc. • Long Beach Rescue Mission • Sara O. Gamboa De Morales • Miracle Springs Resort & Spa • Ray and Kathy Monroy • Alejandra Albarran Moses • Alexa Moss • Mr. and Mrs. V. Mottola • National Philanthropic Trust • Nina Munoz • Daniel and Pamela Munzer • George and Joyce Murchison • Jessica Needham • Michael J. Neils and Mary Tabata • Janet Nelson • Khoa Nguyen • The Hon. Dr. Beverly O'Neill, Former Mayor of Long Beach • Orange County Department of Ed • Alexander Ortega • Lydia L. 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Giving by the Numbers

Total dollars raised

This past fiscal year, our donors came together to realize the power of generosity and gratitude in our community. The results have been inspiring.

\$4,422,000



Transfers to Hospital

Transfers made by St. Mary Medical Center Foundation to St. Mary Medical Center show collaboration as monies are transferred only after the obligations of donor intent has been met.

\$4,914,000



Return on Investment (ROI)

For every dollar that was provided to St. Mary Medical Center Foundation, our ministry was able to raise four times as much in support of our mission.

\$4.88 raised for every dollar provided



Your Gifts at Work

In the fiscal year 2023, these areas that were funded through grants made by the Foundation to the Medical Center.



CARE Center
Renovation

\$2,029,538



Patient Room
Upgrade

\$469,654



Vital Sign
Machine

\$101,025



Care for
underinsured patients

\$162,790



Renovate Patient
Bathrooms

\$300,000

Together we heal.



Ultrasound Machine
Upgrades

\$347,345



Cardiac Rehab
Monitoring Device

\$147,730



Nursing Station
Upgrades

\$453,664



Low Vision Center

\$210,000



Senior Wellness

\$150,000



The Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word (CCVI), Houston, TX, were in attendance as St. Mary Medical Center held a special Centennial Mass to celebrate its anniversary. Pictured here (from left to right) are Sister Kathleen Howard, Sister Celeste Trahan, Sister Gerard Earls, Most Reverend José H. Gomez, Archbishop of Los Angeles, Sister Alice Mary Buckley and St. Mary President/CEO, Carolyn Caldwell.

St. Mary Medical Center Centennial Mass

On August 23, 2023, the Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, The Most Rev. José H. Gomez, visited St. Mary to conduct an afternoon Mass. During his visit he blessed the nurses, doctors, and staff of Dignity Health – St. Mary Medical Center in honor of its 100th anniversary.

Representatives from The Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word (CCVI), Houston, TX, were in attendance at this special Centennial Mass for SMMC to celebrate its anniversary.

“On behalf of the leadership of our congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word (CCVI), Houston, TX, I bring greetings and appreciation to everyone in attendance today,” said Sister Celeste Trahan. “Through many trials, hardships, joys and celebrations, the Sisters have continued to lay the foundation for what continues today. We appreciate you all for carrying the torch of our Mission forward into the next century!”

Carolyn Caldwell, President and Chief Executive Officer at St. Mary Medical Center shared “St. Mary Medical Center has a history of serving the poor, disenfranchised, and the most vulnerable individuals in our community, and was proud to receive this mission from Archbishop Cantwell in 1923.

“We appreciate you all for carrying the torch of our Mission forward into the next century!” Sister Celeste Trahan

Now, 100 years later, we are dedicating ourselves once again to this mission in front of the presence of His Excellency, Archbishop Gomez, and all our guests, I would like to thank our St. Mary team, Board Members, Trustees and friends for making this milestone possible.”

A Festive Dinner Celebrating the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word

On Thursday, August 24th St. Mary Medical Center hosted an evening to celebrate the founding Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate word, thanking them for their 100 years of service.

The room was filled with over 90 attendees, many who have been touched by the sisters and were there to honor them at Parker's Lighthouse. Sister Celeste Trahan received the gift of a crystal cross on behalf of the Sisters based in Houston, TX.

Sister Celeste Trahan, Sister Gerard Earls, and Sister Kathleen Howard traveled from Houston, and Sister Alice Mary Buckley from San Bernardino were all present at the festive evening.



Left to Right: Rev. Stanley Kim, Foundation Board Chair Tim Aldrete, Sister Kathleen Howard, Sister Alice Mary Buckley, St. Mary President & CEO, Carolyn Caldwell, Sister Celeste Trahan, Foundation President & CPO, Michael Neils, Sister Gerard Earls, Dr. Felton Williams.



Sr. Dincy Devassey MSJ



Bonnie Lowenthal



Gina Smith

Health Care Ministry of Excellence Award

St. Mary Medical Center was honored with the Excellence Award at this year's Healthcare Professional Mass held by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The honor recognizes St. Mary for 100 years of outstanding healthcare ministry and compassionate service to the people of Greater Long Beach. This award reminds us of the divine purpose that guides our actions and decisions daily and we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the church and the Most Reverend José H. Gomez for this recognition.

In our pursuit of excellence, we owe this success to our dedicated staff, whose healing hands, compassionate hearts and unwavering spirit drive us to uphold our faith's teachings in the field of medicine. Thank you to every member of our hospital family who dedicates themselves to our mission every day!



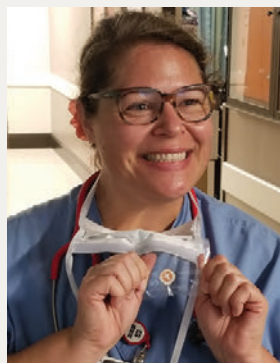
Pictured here from left to right: Michael Neils, SMMC Foundation President, Carolyn Caldwell, SMMC President and CEO, Most Reverend José H. Gomez, Archbishop of Los Angeles and Rev. Stanley Kim, SMMC Director of Mission Integration.

St. Mary Honors Our Guardian Angels

The Guardian Angel program provides grateful patients and their loved ones the opportunity to thank caregivers by making a donation to the hospital in their name. St. Mary Guardian Angels are honored with a certificate and a Guardian Angel pin in front of their peers. They are also recognized in our employee newsletter and on our website.



Catalina Maldonado



Cheryl Buckley



Jayne Smith



Steve Ward



Tammie McCans



St. Mary Centennial Birthday Party!

Rain or shine, the St. Mary Centennial Birthday Party on September 30, 2023 went off without a hitch! It warmed our hearts to see so many familiar faces. Community members and city officials, including Long Beach Mayor Rex Richardson, alongside St. Mary workers and leadership attended the event to ring in this centennial anniversary.

Since opening its doors in August 1923 as a small 70-bed community hospital, St. Mary has since become a cornerstone in the Long Beach. We are so thankful to the Greater Long Beach community for its unwavering support these last 100 years and appreciate all of our wonderful performers who helped make the day extra special. Here's to 100 more!









St. Mary Medical Center Foundation.

A Dignity Health Member

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Healthcare Professionals Education Center

Monday, June 10, 2024
Reserve your spot today at www.supportstmary.org/golf2024

GOLF FORE A GOOD CAUSE



Your gift can pave the way for a healthier Long Beach.

We invite you to commemorate our recent 100th birthday by making a special centennial gift to St. Mary. Your gift will help us continue our extraordinary mission of healing.

When you make a gift of \$100 or more, your support will be commemorated by having your name enshrined on our new Centennial Plaza (2024). Paver(s) can be inscribed in memory of departed loved ones, or to honor living family members, friends or colleagues.

HOW TO GIVE

There are lots of options:

1. Text "STMARY" at 21000.
2. Give online at www.supportstmary.org/birthday
3. Write a check to:
St. Mary Medical Center Foundation
(write "centennial gift" in memo); mail to:
St. Mary Medical Center Foundation
1050 Linden Ave. Long Beach Beach, CA 90813