



HEALTH ALLIANCE UPDATE

A COMMUNITY NEWS BULLETIN ON ACCESSING ENHANCED CLINICAL QUALITY



Saint Alphonbus West Valley Health Alliance Launched

P1

■ Volume 1 ■ July 2007



Idaho's First Surgical Robotic Teaching Session

P2



New Services Coming to West Valley

P3



Welcome to Saint Alphonbus - West Valley Health Alliance

Welcome to the first quarterly news bulletin from the Saint Alphonbus-West Valley Health Alliance. This newsletter is designed to provide updates on the progress we're making to improve access to care and enhance clinical quality for those served by West Valley and Saint Alphonbus. We have committed our efforts to develop a seamless healthcare continuum which aligns primary care, specialty care, community and tertiary hospital services, and which implements protocols and processes to enhance clinical quality and the appropriate and efficient delivery of care. We've already made some exciting progress since we announced our Alliance at the press conference in April, with many more developments underway that we'll share in future updates.

continues on page 2



Sandra Bruce
Saint Alphonbus
President & CEO



Kathy Moore
West Valley
President & CEO



West Valley Medical Staff President, Dr. Samantha Portenier, at Alliance press conference.

continued from page 1

Health Alliance Objectives:

The Health Alliance is organizing its work and efforts to achieve the following:

- Identifying and pursuing opportunities for strategic alignment and development of a seamless continuum of care
- Ensuring a commitment to advanced care allowing patients to stay closer to home for their healthcare needs, and coordinates higher-level specialty care
- Leveraging the benefits of collaboration between a community hospital and a tertiary care network
- Enhancing the scope of and access to clinical services across the care continuum by sharing highly specialized physician services and technology
- Repositioning West Valley and Saint Alphonus from stand alone providers to collaborative partners in a clinical care continuum.

Steering Committee Appointed:

A Steering Committee has been appointed to direct and coordinate the work of the Health Alliance in carrying forward its objectives. Members include:

West Valley Members

- Kathy Moore, President & CEO
- Scott Davis, Chief Financial Officer
- Deanna Martin, Chief Nursing Officer, Chief Operating Officer
- Steven Koga, MD

Saint Alphonus Members

- Sandra Bruce, President & CEO
- Jean Basom, Vice President, Corporate Development
- Carolyn Corbett, Vice President, Patient Care Services
- Doug Hill, MD, Saint Alphonus Medical Group, Chief Medical Officer



Idaho's First Surgical Robotic Teaching Session Held at West Valley

On July 3, Dr. Kent Kreuder became the first surgeon in Idaho to provide West Valley staff a unique operating room learning opportunity using the new RP-7 robotic technology. Dr. Kreuder performed the first in a series of teaching surgeries - a laparoscopic cholecystectomy (gall bladder removal) surgery - in West Valley's OR while staff observed the procedure from another room. The RP-7 remote presence robot was their "eyes and ears" in the OR. During the procedure, staff had the opportunity to ask questions while Dr. Kreuder explained the fine points of the surgery and the associated issues that accompanied the case.

Dr. Kreuder said, "The RP-7 robot gave me a chance to really show off what the surgeons do and assist the nurses to understand their important role. I also feel that these learning sessions will give us a chance to work together in a setting that will hopefully lead to a more connected team."



New Services

Anesthesia Physician Services brought to West Valley

In April, Saint Alphonsus anesthesia physicians brought outpatient surgery and main operating room oversight to West Valley.

On a robotic note, Boise anesthesiologist Donald Fox, MD attended a West Valley medical surgical committee, via teleconference, using the RP-7 robot. This allowed Dr. Fox to cover his surgery schedule at Saint Alphonsus and still “virtually” attend the important meeting.

Wound and Ostomy Care Services To Begin

Starting in August, West Valley will receive wound and ostomy care services from the Wound Ostomy Certified Nurses at Saint Alphonsus. The relationship will include nurse education at Saint Alphonsus for five West Valley nurses, who will bring those skills back to West Valley.

That training will provide the opportunity for Nampa/Caldwell patients that receive care at Saint Alphonsus to follow up in Caldwell with outpatient services. This traditionally has not been done.



Saint Alphonsus and West Valley are now teaming up at various community health and sponsorship opportunities. The following events will showcase combined Alliance efforts:

Community Outreach

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thursday, Aug.16

Buckaroo Breakfast

Albertson College of Idaho

Tickets are \$4/person

Mobile Mammography Van Screening

Thursday, Aug. 16

Caldwell Night Rodeo



Saturday, Sept. 15

Indian Creek Festival



Through a patient's eyes

“...I have had the opportunity to experience the benefits of the new Alliance first hand. I had a kidney removed two weeks ago and my anesthesiologist was from Saint Alphonsus. He administered an epidural before surgery that was very successful in pain management after surgery. Hooray for West Valley's commitment to excellence.”

A satisfied patient,
Jan Batt

COMING NEXT ISSUE

September '07

- Anti-coagulation Clinic Opening
- Center for Advanced Healing
Opening Events
Tour Opportunities
- Radiology Update
- Robotic Nursing Research Project Protocols

Little Al Touts Alliance During Caldwell 4th of July Parade



The Saint Alphonus-West Valley Health Alliance debuted its new logo on Little Al, and a banner held by West Valley junior volunteers as they participated in Caldwell's 4th of July parade. West Valley CEO Kathy Moore was Little Al's Co-Pilot during the parade.

www.saintalphonus.org
www.westvalleymedctr.com



HEALTH ALLIANCE: BRIDGE TO ADVANCED HEALING

Schedule Your Mammogram Today!

Thursday August 16
Buckaroo Breakfast
Albertson College of Idaho
7am - Noon

To schedule your appointment with the Saint Alphonus Mobile Mammography Van, please contact

Felice
208-367-3571



Free mammograms available to qualified patients through Tough Enough for Pink Endowment Funds.