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You Create HEALTHIER Communities

NEWSLETTER | Spring 2016



You Create HEALTHIER Communities



You are invited!

The Historic Manning House Grand Opening

Tuesday, April 26th, 2016
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

450 W. Paseo Redondo
Tucson, AZ 85701

RSVP: Foundation@elrio.org

NEW El Rio Administrative Campus

El Rio Foundation's Golf Tournament Raises over \$50K for Children's Immunization Program

The sold-out tournament on April 15th helps El Rio's kids stay healthy! Held at the Sewailo Golf Club thanks to generous underwriting by Casino Del Sol Resort, \$50,000 was raised. We thank our sponsors, players, donors and volunteers especially, our Title Sponsor, Sonora Quest Laboratories of Tucson. Alex Levin, Wade Hamstra and Matt Thrasher, Foundation Board members, chaired this year's successful fund raiser.



Million Hearts Campaign

The Centers for Medicaid and Medicare (CMS) chose El Rio to participate in this national campaign to reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease among Medicare patients. The next phase of this on-going research collaborative is to randomly select each site either as a control or active treatment arm of the protocol. If chosen for the active treatment arm, El Rio's work flow will receive on-going assessment and clinical staff will receive education on evidence-based medical practices in treating hypertension and hyperlipidemia.

Learn more at: <http://millionhearts.hhs.gov/index.html>

Your Donations for Dental Care Change Lives



Have YOU ever had severe dental pain? A woman in a lot of pain came to El Rio's Congress dental team for help. Medicaid covered only her oral exam and one x-ray. Three teeth had to be extracted ASAP. Crying, the patient did not know how she could pay. Thanks to your contributions she was approved for the Dental Partnership Program. That very day, an El Rio dentist extracted her three teeth.

In March El Rio helped a teenager with autism who never had allowed anyone to look at his teeth. The hygienist chatted with him and his mom, building rapport, until the young man allowed the hygienist to do a visual exam and fluoride varnish treatment. The teen is now scheduled for a comprehensive dental care appointment! **Your gifts made it possible to help this young man.**

During Give Kids A Smile Day, a child came with severe abscesses. This single-parent family had no dental insurance. Your support to the emergency pediatric dental fund allowed us to treat the child.

To donate, click "donate" at elrio.org, or mail a check in the enclosed envelope, or call 520-205-4947.

Nancy Johnson, CEO, Shares Thoughts About the Future

As healthcare moves into cost reimbursement, based on outcomes and cost savings, the data we collect on the 92,000 patients we serve can help us better meet their needs. For example, if you're a healthy patient, we'll focus on education, wellness and prevention. If you have a medical condition, such as hypertension, we can provide you information on low-salt diets, track your medical visits and tests. If you are a high-risk patient with multiple needs, we will connect you with the full service patient care team. There are also opportunities for advancements using more technology, such as e-consultations and telemedicine. We already are offering tele-dermatology. One area our Board is considering is creating an Innovation Center where we can share ideas and best practices. This not only provides an opportunity to learn about each other but also can bring us together to improve services in our community.



Providing Integrated On-Site Care for Those with Diabetes Eye Pacs Program

With three newly purchased retinal screening cameras, El Rio staff performed 50 retinal screenings within the first few weeks after deployment. Nine abnormal findings were found and immediately referred for treatment. El Rio helps 17,000+ patients diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes, who receive a wide range of services, empowering them to manage their disease.

El Rio's Birth and Women's Health Center Opens First Human Milk Donation Center in Arizona

Do you know a potential milk donor? El Rio is partnering with the Mothers' Milk Bank (MMB), a Colorado-based nonprofit program benefiting women and babies nationwide. Tucson-area mothers with extra milk can help by donating their excess milk. In 2012, The American Academy of Pediatrics reported that donor human milk is a mom's first choice when her own milk is not available. Human milk provides nutritional, immunological, developmental, social, economic and environmental benefits to infants as well as a decreased risk of illnesses and infections beyond infancy. One ounce of a human milk donation can feed an infant in neonatal intensive care for a full day. Women interested in giving the gift of human milk may fill out the donation screening form on MMB's website, www.milkbankcolorado.org. For more information on El Rio Birth and Women's Health Center visit www.tucsonbirthcenter.org.



Want to take an insider's tour?

Email foundation@elrio.org or call (520) 205-4947 to schedule a tour today. elrio.org



Expanded Hours at Congress and El Pueblo Mean Greater Access for Patients

Do you need a medical visit after hours? Medical, pharmacy and ancillary staff at El Rio's Congress and El Pueblo sites have stepped up to create expanded hours weeknights and Saturdays to greater meet the needs of our patients. For information on site locations and hours or becoming a patient, visit elrio.org or call 520-670-3909.

El Rio Educating the Healthcare Workforce of the Future

El Rio is excited to be teaching residents, interns and students from around the world. While the focus is on acute and preventive care, students also learn the barriers to patient wellness. In 1998, El Rio began partnering with Lutheran Medical Center's Dental Residency program – a "dental institution without walls." Initially, El Rio had two students, but now, five general dental residents and 12 pediatric dental residents work at El Rio each year. "The residency programs have been a win-win situation," said Dr. Greg LaChance, dental director. "Patients get more service, residents gain experience and El Rio can provide services more cost-effectively. It's also a great recruitment tool." Over the past 12 years, LaChance has hired nearly 40 AEGD residents.

One of El Rio's other educational partners is A.T. Still's Arizona School of Osteopathic Medicine's - Family Medicine residency program. The program focuses on public health practice, integrating state-of-the-art training with patient care. Doug Spegman, El Rio's chief clinical officer, shared "Not only do the residents receive valuable training – but they also grow in understanding the impact of other social determinants on healthcare by being in a community health center setting." El Rio currently has more than 125 students and residents placed throughout the organization.



El Rio Named "Leader in LGBT Healthcare Equality" by National Health Survey

The Human Rights Campaign Foundation (HRCF), the educational arm of the country's largest lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) civil rights organization, has recognized El Rio Community Health Center as "Leaders in LGBT Healthcare Equality." El Rio is southern Arizona's only healthcare provider serving the general public to qualify. "El Rio was founded on a commitment to reduce health disparities and remove barriers to care," said Nancy Johnson, chief executive officer. "We are proud to be recognized for leadership in providing a welcoming environment for all LGBT people, staff and patients."

"Changing attitudes and improving understanding takes time and determination," said Andrew Cronyn, MD, chair of El Rio's new employee resource group focused on LGBT issues. "We're still learning, but we're excited to be moving southern Arizona forward." The complete 2016 Healthcare Equality Index report can be found at www.hrc.org/hei.

El Rio Community Health Center at a Glance

Cultural Beliefs

- Honor Patients – "I always put the patient first."
- Create Tomorrow – "I embrace effective change and seek innovative solutions."
- Step Up – "I am accountable for making El Rio a world-class health center."
- Break Boundaries – "I work with others to achieve success."
- I Matter – "I make a difference by voicing my opinion and knowing I am heard."
- Value Health – "I take time for my own health to promote yours."

Key organizational results

- World-class experience for patients and staff
- Healthier patients and employees
- Positive operating margin

By The Numbers

- Patients enrolled – 92,000+
- Annual patient visits – 300,000+
- Babies delivered – 1,850+ annually
- Staff – 1,100
- Annual budget – \$124 million
- Annual charity care – \$12-\$14 million
- Year founded – 1970
- Number of campuses – 11