



COUNTY OF MONTEREY

CAO Weekly Report

SPECIALREPORT

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Hundreds gather in Salinas for the 11th Annual Breastfeeding Awareness Walk and Health Fair.

County Notes

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Walk, Health Fair Celebrate Breastfeeding

The County, Health Department and its WIC (Women, Infants and Children) program continue to lead community awareness and support for breastfeeding.

The Health Department's 11th Annual Breastfeeding Awareness Walk and Health Fair was held earlier this month, drawing more than 300 participants from around the county.

This community event in Monterey County coincides with World Breastfeeding Week. This year's theme was "Sustaining Breastfeeding Together/Apoyar La Lactancia Materna, Juntos," calling on the community to work together to protect, promote and support breastfeeding.



Kudos to Marcela Arelis (left), who pumped enough extra milk to share over 1000 ounces with the San Jose Mother's Milk Bank which collects, processes and distributes breast milk to high risk infants (<https://www.mothersmilk.org>).

County officials began that effort this year in July when the Board of Supervisors proclaimed the month of August as Breastfeeding Awareness Month, a tradition since 2000.

The awareness event includes a walk around the neighborhood near the WIC Offices at 632 East Alisal Street where the event is held, the Alisal Certified Farmers Market and information booths from 20 local health and social service agencies.

Among the highlights of the day were testimonials shared by mothers who were given the support they needed to meet their breastfeeding goals. This event was very personal for two Health Department employees, who are both organizers of the walk portion of the day as well as mothers. Jazmin Medina and Marcela Arelis shared their breastfeeding experiences with the crowd.

For those who do not know about WIC, this program is dedicated to improving the well-being of the community through improving the health of mothers and babies. Because of the tremendous benefits of breast milk, WIC promotes and supports breastfeeding practices.

Are You Ready to Give? Annual Giving Campaign Begins

It only happens once a year, but the donations county employees choose during the giving campaign opportunity are gifts that keeps on giving!

The annual Monterey County Employee Giving Campaign will launch next week and run **August 28th through September 15th**. Each year, employees have the opportunity to give back to the community through this program which allows staff to set up payroll deductions to charities they select.



This year's theme is "Everyone can be a SUPERHERO," and for all those who give and support these charities, you really are their superheroes.

Everything you need to know about the Monterey County Employee Giving Campaign: what organizations are involved, how to donate and what fun activities departments are organizing for this effort can be located at the [Employee Giving Campaign 2017 website](#).

Some very important people in this effort you need to know about are the Department Coordinators. They will be keeping you informed about events and answer your questions about the program. To find the coordinator for your department, check this list:

DEPARTMENT COORDINATORS	
Ag Commissioner's—Loudez Vigil-Ramirez & Juanita Adame	Emergency Communications – Patty Eddings
Assessor – Marcela Ramirez & Darlene Bagwell	Equal Opportunity – Cynthia Juarez
Auditor/Controller – Alejandra Estey & Monica Arroyo	Health – Susie McKee
Child Support – Dawn Yonemitsu & Shelly Gales	Human Resources – Anna Marie Olds
Clerk of the Board – Sally Kidalov	ITD – Mike Gross and Veronica Serrano
County Administrative Office – Ebbby Johnson	Libraries – Jayanti Addleman
County Clerk/Recorder – Melissa Rico	NMC – Debbie Gray, Chrissy Garza, Kaitlin Schoch
County Counsel – Sandra Ontiveros	Office of Emergency Svs – Teresa Meister
District Attorney – Michelle Bacon	Office of Employment Training – Rod Powell
DSS – Admin – Arlene Boyd & Teresa Pureco	Probation – Elizabeth Balcazar and Wendi Reed
DSS – ACES – Sharon Kachadoorian	Public Defender – Rebecca Avila & Laura Henderson
DSS – CWES – Palma Chesshire	Resource Management Agency – Lisa Harris
DSS-FCS—Polly Young, Melanie Tetreault, Brenda Cuevas	Sheriff – Myrna Morales
Economic Development – Debbie Bradshaw	Treasure/Tax Collector – Jackie Goetz and Joy Willett
Elections – Greta Arevalo	

NMC Expands Hospitalist Service

Hospitalist is a term which describes doctors who specialize in the care of patients in the hospital. Hospitalist programs are shown to reduce hospital stays, help prevent medical complications and lower healthcare costs.

Natividad Medical Center (NMC) has expanded its Pediatric Hospitalist Services to include round-the-clock care for infants, children and teens.

Pediatric hospitalists are pediatricians who work in hospitals caring for children in many areas, including the emergency department, pediatric ward, labor and delivery and the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). Offering round-the-clock pediatric hospitalist care allows NMC to treat patients promptly, modify treatment plans, provide follow-up care and tests, coordinate discharges, and obtain medications and resources for families after discharge.



Dr. Christopher Carpenter.

This expanded program is affiliated with the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) Benioff Children's Hospital, one of the largest children's healthcare providers in the country.

“Adding 24/7 pediatric hospitalists will make Natividad the only hospital in the county to offer this level of specialized care,” said Christopher Carpenter, MD, MPH, director of NMC’s Pediatrics Services and inpatient hospitalist at UCSF. “Not only will we have round-the-clock pediatric providers, but our affiliation with UCSF provides access to specialists within a network of eight hospitals. Sick or injured children can stay and be treated here rather than transferred to another hospital in the Bay Area.”

NMC’s pediatric hospitalist staff include Dr. Sarah Smith, Dr. Matthew Calzetta, Dr. Raul Lara, Dr. Rachel Lusk and Dr. Nathan Uchtmann.