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Loma Linda University Health

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TODAY

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August 2017

Volume 30, No. 6

Mission trip to Northern Nigeria supports local Adventist hospital, regional outreach

By James Ponder

While students from four Seventh-day Adventist universities and local medical volunteers treated more than 10,000 people, Richard H. Hart, MD, DrPH, president of Loma Linda University Health, took time out to give antibiotic injections to 60 cows belonging to the local Fulani people, on the outskirts of Jos, Nigeria, a city of nearly 1 million people in Plateau state.

Cattle form the backbone of the culture and economy of this nomadic people found throughout Northwest Africa. "Keeping them healthy is extremely important to the Fulani and a great way to help this largely Muslim minority," Hart said after assisting a volunteer veterinarian who treated more than 2,000 cattle and goats.

The June 12 to 29 trip advanced Loma Linda University Health's continuing commitment to supporting health outreach in the region and in other parts of the world. Last month's trip is one of approximately 10 such mission trips each year that are coordinated by the university's Students for International Mission Service (SIMS). Many of the trips support rural Seventh-day Adventist medical centers and clinics affiliated with Adventist Health International, which is based in Loma Linda. The Nigeria trip supported Jengre Adventist Hospital and established the Eto Baba and Buken clinics in Jos.

Thirty Loma Linda University students, six students from Middle East University in Lebanon, one student



Dr. Richard Hart, president of Loma Linda University Health, injects antibiotics into one of 60 cows he treated during a mission trip to Nigeria. The health of cow herds plays an important role in the culture and economy of Northern Nigeria.

from Montemorelos University in Mexico, and a number from Babcock University in Nigeria, joined with some 200 local Adventist medical volunteers in the region.

Danjuma Daniel, MBA, MPH, the trip's coordinator,

says an influx of local volunteer cooks, drivers and church members pushed the total volunteer count to more than 400.

Continued on page 2

A Vision Coming into 2020 Focus

By Larry Becker

Loma Linda University Health's philanthropic effort Vision 2020 – The Campaign for a Whole Tomorrow, passed a significant milestone with the announcement that less than \$100 million of the \$360 million goal remains to be raised. More than \$265.6 million had been raised as of July 5.

Rachelle Bussell, Loma Linda University Health's senior vice president for advancement, said reaching the milestone demonstrates that community and individuals have gotten involved in the effort in amazing ways.

"We are so grateful to all who have donated to the campaign," Bussell said. "Our community friends and university alumni who believe in our mission to continue the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ have played key roles in helping us reach this point. But we know that we still have much work to do. We can't let up."

More than 17,400 donors have made more than 94,800 gifts to the Vision 2020 campaign since its launch in 2013. Vision 2020 is the largest philanthropic effort ever undertaken by Loma Linda University Health and is intended to support:

- Clinical care: funds to complete construction of a new adult hospital and expanded Children's Hospital, designed to meet California's stringent seismic building codes for health care facilities;
- Education and research: support the training of the next generation of health care professionals and challenge the boundaries of scientific research at Loma Linda University Health;
- Wholeness: enhanced community programs, seminars and publishing, and additional focus into how people around the world can enjoy lives of wholeness and health.

"There have been many instances of God's clear leading as we have undertaken the challenge of Vision 2020," said Richard Hart, MD, DrPH, Loma Linda University



Loma Linda University Health philanthropy team members celebrate reaching a significant milestone in the Vision 2020 campaign. Less than \$100 million remains to be raised to achieve the campaign's goal of \$360 million.

Health's president. "It is tremendously gratifying to be at this point in the campaign. Vision 2020 plays a key role in achieving our goal of a transformed Loma Linda. The resulting new facilities and resources will build on our reputation and extend our mission and influence for decades to come."

"This last \$100 million is less than one-third of our campaign goal," Bussell said. "Now we look to people who have not been involved, who have been waiting to be involved, or who have not had a chance to be involved. Each gift to Vision 2020 will make a real difference in the lives and health of people in the Inland Empire and around the world."

Many Strengths. One Mission.

LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY HEALTH : LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY | SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS | SCHOOL OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH | SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY | SCHOOL OF MEDICINE | SCHOOL OF NURSING | SCHOOL OF PHARMACY | SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH | SCHOOL OF RELIGION | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER | UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL/ADULT SERVICES | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER EAST CAMPUS | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE CENTER | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY SURGICAL HOSPITAL | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER MURRIETA | HIGHLAND SPRINGS MEDICAL PLAZA



A



B



C



D

- A. Government officials and dignitaries met with Dr. Richard Hart and some of the team.**
- B. Volunteers enjoyed interacting with Nigerian children.**
- C. More than 500 patients per day were evaluated for treatment.**
- D. The mission team performed more than 170 surgeries during their time in Nigeria.**
- E. The beauty of the Nigerian countryside serves as a dramatic backdrop for one of the volunteers and her new friends.**



E

Welcomed upon arrival

Many participants said their arrival seemed somewhat surreal. When the bus full of tired volunteers fighting jet lag arrived late in Jengre, noise in the area caused several to wonder about the commotion. It turned out a large crowd of locals, along with a contingent of law enforcement and security officers, was on hand to greet the group with a marching band.

“Dr. Hart stepped off the bus while it was still moving to join the parade,” recalled Ian Walker, the group’s videographer.

The rest of the volunteers followed suit, lining up behind Hart to march through the streets to the tune of “When the Saints Go Marching In.”

School of Public Health student Sarah Snyder dodged puddles as locals danced and sang. “There was a little bit of lightning and it started to rain, which made it even more magical,” she recalled.

The work begins

Over the next two weeks, volunteers provided surgical, dental, eye and primary care, as well as physical therapy, public health education and chaplaincy care.

Blair Luchs, a senior at the university’s School of Nursing, joined two experienced triage nurses in evaluating approximately 500 patients a day.

The work consisted of checking blood pressures, asking if patients had kidney or liver disease, and deciding if they needed surgery. Since there was a limited number of surgeons, they also determined which patients needed it most. Luchs said he treasured the gratefulness of the people.

“Even though we couldn’t resolve all their situations, they were really happy we were there,” he said.

Snyder, the public health student, also learned about the poignant realities of providing care on such a large scale in an area of great need. She had to turn away one patient because it wasn’t possible for him to be seen that day. Roughly 2,000 people were in line ahead of him and only 200 could be treated that day.

“I hated telling him that,” Snyder said. “The fact that there were lots of other people ahead of him didn’t make his needs any less valid.”

Later, a teenage girl pulled Snyder aside to ask her name, where she was from, and if they might become friends. “That was all she wanted,” Snyder said. “Just to say ‘hi’ and become friends. It was a good reminder that sometimes even a few words can make someone’s day better.”

Many of the patients came from long distances. One boy walked, hitched rides and rode buses to get to the clinic. He had experienced hearing loss for more than a year, which was interfering with his performance in school. Keri Genstler, MD, a resident pediatrician at Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital, said the boy’s ears were heavily impacted with cerumen, commonly known as ear wax. She soaked his ears in water and spent an hour disimpacting the wax and removing a foreign body in his ear canal.

Ed Drachenberg, director of SIMS, said the team performed more than 170 surgeries, treated more than 700 dental patients, treated more than 2,500 eye patients, and distributed more than 3,000 pairs of glasses.

Government officials took notice. The group was hosted by Jacob Gyang Buba, king of the City of Jos, and Simon Lalong, governor of Plateau state.

Long-term support

The trip also helped further solidify Loma Linda’s ongoing support of medical outreach in the region. Peter Baker, JD, MBA, administrator of Loma Linda University Medical Center – Murrieta, was appointed chair of the AHI-Northern Nigeria Board of Directors during the trip, taking over the post for Hart.

The board, comprising local Adventist Church officials, other AHI representatives and selected lay members, oversees seven clinics and one hospital in Nigeria’s central and northern rural areas. It intends to establish more facilities in urban centers and turn a clinic into a regional diagnostic center.

Hart will continue serving on the board, and he and Baker will travel to Nigeria twice a year for meetings and participate in two others each year by teleconference.

On the trip, Baker pointed out the warm, welcoming spirit of the locals and the enthusiasm of student volunteers. “It was great to see how active the students were in trying to treat and heal as many people as possible,” he said.

Hart said mission trips reaffirm the organizer’s commitment to global mission and reinforce its traditional emphasis on service. “This speaks to both alumni and other friends of Loma Linda University Health who watch our activities and believe in our commitments,” he said.

Hart insisted that even though locals benefited from the service provided, Nigerians were not the sole beneficiaries.

“The biggest impact will be on those of us who served,” he said.

—additional reporting by Ansel Oliver

Loma Linda University named a '2017 Great College to Work For' by Chronicle of Higher Education

By James Ponder

A leading trade publication for colleges and universities says Loma Linda University is a great college to work for.

The results, released July 17 in The Chronicle of Higher Education's 10th annual report on The Academic Workplace, are based on a survey of more than 45,000 people from 232 colleges and universities. Of that number, 79 institutions made the list as one of the "Great Colleges to Work For." Results are categorized by small, medium and large institutions, and LLU was included among the medium-sized schools with 3,000 to 9,999 students.

LLU was honored in five categories this year:

- Confidence in senior leadership
- Job satisfaction
- Professional/career development programs
- Supervisor/department chair relationship, and
- Work/life balance.

In acknowledging the honor, Richard Hart, MD, DrPH, president of Loma Linda University Health, said the faculty and staff offer outstanding teaching and dedicated service to the approximately 4,500 students in the university's eight schools.

"Our entire university team shares a strong commitment to extending the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ," Hart said. "I am so grateful for the passion, excellence and the commitment to our values each of them exhibits. Their devotion to sharing their knowledge and expertise with our students inspires me."

In addition to attractive medical and dental benefits, Loma Linda University Health — the parent organization of Loma Linda University — offers employees a retirement plan, paid leave and sick leave, educational and adoption benefits, an onsite free gym and a variety of services through the Living Whole wellness program. The program fosters health and wellbeing by providing free services and resources to aid employees and their families in the journey toward optimal health and wellness. The program includes health screening and programs for weight loss, smoking cessation, nutritional support, exercise, personal health coaching and financial wellness. Free counseling services are also available through the employee assistance program.

Lizette Norton, MBA, vice president for human resource management, said the mission and values of Loma Linda University form the core of why employees choose to work for the organization.

"We are committed to continually providing an



Loma Linda University employees are the reason the organization was recently named a great college to work for.

environment where our employees can thrive and live their passion every day," she said.

In addition to offering competitive benefits and compensation, the University maintains a connection with employees so they feel their opinions matter. "Each one of our employees knows that they make a difference in the lives of our students," Norton added.

Two employees of the University — one a faculty member, the other a professional support staff member — recently shared their thoughts on the campus work environment.

Aaron Moesser, MOT, OTR/L, assistant professor and academic coordinator of occupational therapy at the School of Allied Health Professions, says the role of senior leadership cannot be overstated in making the university a great place to work. Moesser graduated from the school in 2010 and, since then, has observed senior leaders working to improve cooperation between schools and departments.

"I think that's important because it demonstrates to students that once they graduate, they should be able to work together as a team of medical professionals," Moesser said. "Recently, I've also seen how responsive they are to concerns of employees and faculty members."

Moesser plans to take advantage of the university's generous program of educational benefits by pursuing a doctoral degree in occupational therapy. He described his department chair as "phenomenal."

"She's very supportive of my opinions and of our field work program," Moesser said. "She is also concerned with my overall wellbeing, and I really appreciate that."

Ann Bradshaw, office manager of the Center for Health Disparities and Molecular Medicine, exemplifies the way many professional support staff members feel about working for LLU.

Bradshaw, who started working at the University 30 years ago, identified three factors that contribute to her very high level of job satisfaction: great educational opportunities for employees to pursue professional growth; a safe and positive work environment; and a faith-based culture that attracts students, faculty and staff who want to make the world a better place.

"I could never see myself working anywhere else!" Bradshaw said, adding that she has had numerous opportunities to work elsewhere.

Because of a passion to help people overcome substance abuse, Bradshaw seeks balance in her life by volunteering an average of two hours a week at Drug Alternative Program, a Christian recovery program for men, where she facilitates a monthly support group and provides counseling services. She has volunteered for the program as long as she has worked at the university.

Her favorite thing about working at LLU is the people. "Oh, my goodness, I love the people I work with!" she exclaimed. "I love my boss, I love my coworkers, I love the students. And this is amazing to me, I actually feel that they love me."

The Chronicle's survey results are based on a two-part assessment process: an institutional audit that captures demographics, benefits, communication, and workplace policies, and a survey administered to faculty, administrators, and professional support staff. A primary factor in deciding whether an institution receives recognition is the employee feedback.

Ronald Carter, PhD, provost of Loma Linda University, said "We appreciate the dedication of each and every one of our more than 3,200 employees. Visitors, particularly the many accreditation teams that visit our campus, remark on the palpable sense of unity — a family of faculty, staff, and students who are glued together by whole person care, academic excellence, and service to the world. We are small enough to know each other and large enough to impact our community — both regionally and globally."

—additional reporting by Briana Pastorino

Darryl VandenBosch joins LLU Medical Center administrative team

By Heather Reifsnyder

Loma Linda University Health welcomed a new administrator June 19. Darryl VandenBosch, CPA, is now vice president for adult hospital services at Loma Linda University Medical Center.

VandenBosch came from Dignity Health, where he was president of St. Bernardine Medical Center in San Bernardino. The Southern California native has lived and worked in the Inland Empire for more than 25 years.

During his 18-year tenure at Dignity Health, VandenBosch also served as St. Bernardine's vice president/CFO, CFO for Community Hospital of San Bernardino, and vice president/CFO for Dignity Health hospitals in Southern California. He also has additional CFO experience in multiple other Southern California hospital facilities.

VandenBosch graduated magna cum laude from Biola University with a bachelor's degree in business and accounting, and he is a certified public accountant. He and his wife, Kimberly, live in Redlands with their three young daughters.

"Darryl's leadership experience in hospital



Darryl VandenBosch, CPA

administration and finance will be a great asset to our operations," said Lyndon Edwards, MBA, MHS, senior vice president of adult hospital services. "Please join me in welcoming and supporting Darryl in his new role at Loma Linda University Health."

Loma Linda University Health fellow wins \$50,000 Amgen Young Investigator Award

By James Ponder

Earlier this year, Huynh Cao, MD, then a third-year hematology/oncology fellow at Loma Linda University Health Education Consortium, was named recipient of the prestigious 2017 Amgen Young Investigator Award from the Conquer Cancer Foundation of the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

The \$50,000 stipend that accompanies the award will help finance Cao's study of a novel mechanism for killing leukemia cells by delivering high doses of Vitamin D to the bone marrow of patients with the fast-growing cancer.

Cao says that in high oral doses, Vitamin D can produce serious, unwanted side effects. The goal of his intervention is to deliver a gene specifically to the bone marrow where it will activate inactive Vitamin D to target leukemia cells without producing systemic negative side effects.

"If you can deliver high-dose Vitamin D to the bone marrow alone, you can convert immature leukemia cells to mature cells and they will eventually die off," Cao said.

Cao joins an elite group of 66 emerging scientists from Cornell, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Stanford, Yale and other American universities in winning the 2017 award.

David Baylink, MD, head of regenerative medicine division and distinguished professor at Loma Linda University School of Medicine, was the translational science mentor on the study. He said Cao's award is quite unique and represents an accomplishment that should be an inspiration to other fellows throughout the hospital.

"He deserves a lot of credit because of his initiative," Baylink said of Cao. "He doesn't stop trying to discover therapies to help cancer patients. He's competitive, gracious and focused; a good role model. We need more fellows to follow in his footsteps."

In addition to Baylink, Cao cited two other faculty mentors who encouraged him to proceed with the study: C.S. Chen, MD, PhD, professor of medical oncology; and Kimberly Payne, PhD, director of translational research.

Chen said Cao dedicated more than two years to brainstorming, setbacks, revisions, and hands-on laboratory work to bring the study to fruition. Chen said Baylink's mentorship was of pivotal importance, and underscored the support Cao received from Mark Reeves, MD, director of the Cancer Center, and his staff.

"Without collaborating across campus, we would not be effective as physician/scientists," Chen said.

Cao emigrated to the United States from Vietnam in 1995. He completed his MD degree at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and received his residency training at St. Mary's Hospital and Medical Center in San Francisco before coming to Loma Linda University for the fellowship program in 2014. He completed it in June of this year and joined the faculty in the Division of Hematology and Oncology. Looking ahead, Cao is planning to write proposals for a number of related studies targeting leukemia.

Payne, the director of translational research, said she was immediately impressed by Cao's energy, enthusiasm and passion for research from the moment she first met him at a translational research training class for graduate and medical students.

"Dr. Cao was presenting the very same ideas that would earn the American Society for Clinical Oncology Young Investigator Award," she recalled. "It has been a pleasure working with him as he has turned this initial seed of an idea into a full-fledged, externally supported research project. This is inspiring for other young investigators at Loma Linda University and I am certain there will be more exciting things to come."



Huynh Cao, MD, won the 2017 Amgen Young Investigator Award from the American Society of Clinical Oncology.



Loma Linda University researchers find links between meal frequency, BMI

Researchers determine timing and frequency of meals play an important role in predicting weight gain or loss.

By James Ponder

A study by researchers from the Loma Linda University School of Public Health and the Czech Republic has found that the timing and frequency of meals play a role in predicting weight loss or gain.

Using information gleaned from more than 50,000 participants in the Adventist Health Study-2 (AHS-2), the researchers discovered four factors associated with a decrease in body mass index: eating only one or two meals per day; maintaining an overnight fast of up to 18 hours; eating breakfast instead of skipping it; and making breakfast or lunch the largest meal of the day. Making breakfast the largest meal yielded a more significant decrease in BMI than did lunch.

The two factors associated with higher BMI were eating more than three meals per day — snacks were counted as extra meals — and making supper the largest meal of the day.

As a practical weight-management strategy, Hana Kahleova, MD, PhD, recommends eating breakfast and lunch, skipping supper, avoiding snacks, making breakfast the largest meal of the day and fasting overnight for up to 18 hours. A postdoctoral research fellow at Loma Linda University School of Public Health when the study was conducted, Kahleova is director of clinical research for the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine in Washington, DC, and is currently on sabbatical from the Institute for Clinical and Experimental Medicine in Prague, Czech Republic, as a postdoctoral research fellow and diabetes consultant physician.

Kahleova says the findings confirm an ancient nutritional maxim: "Eat breakfast like a king, lunch like a prince, and dinner like a pauper."

Titled "Meal frequency and timing are associated with Body Mass Index in the Adventist Health Study-2," the study was co-written by Gary Fraser, MBChB, PhD, a professor at Loma Linda University schools of Medicine and Public Health, and director of AHS-2. It was published as an online advance on July 12, 2017, and will appear in the Sept. 2017 edition of the *Journal of Nutrition*.

In addition to Fraser and Kahleova, the research team included Jan Irene Lloren, MPH, Andrew Mashchak, MS, and Martin Hill, DrSc. Lloren and Mashchak are biostatisticians at Linda University School of Public Health and Hill is a researcher at the Institute of Endocrinology in Prague, Czech Republic.

Fraser said that irrespective of meal pattern, there was, on average, an increase in weight gain year by year until participants reached the age of 60. After age 60, most participants experienced a weight loss each year.

"Before age 60 years, those eating calories earlier in the day had less weight gain," Fraser said, adding that after age 60, the same behavior tended to produce a larger rate of weight loss than average. "Over decades, the total effect would be very important."

The team employed a technique called linear regression analysis and adjusted their findings to exclude demographic and lifestyle factors that might skew the results.

The full text of the study — which was supported by grants from the National Cancer Institute, the World Cancer Research Fund, and the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic — is available online at <https://doi.org/10.3945/jn.116.244749>.

Cardiac patient honors nurse with 500th Healing Hands award

By Nancy Yuen

Darren Moon, a staff nurse at the Loma Linda University Medical Center emergency department, recently reunited with a patient whose life he helped save.

The reunion came 12 months after patient David Colwell was admitted the morning of May 13 after experiencing the symptoms of a heart attack. Surrounded by emergency department colleagues, Moon was recognized for his actions as the 500th Healing Hands Grateful Patient Program recipient.

During the presentation, Colwell addressed Moon. "Thank you for your expertise and quick action to address my situation," he said. "I understand you were also part of the team in the cardiac cath lab who attended to me. I'm glad you are part of the Loma Linda family."

The presentation came as a surprise, Moon said. "It was an honor to receive the 500th Healing Hands pin," he said.

The Loma Linda University Health Healing Hands Program provides patients a way to recognize staff members who have provided exceptional care. Through the program, patients and their families can give a gift of any amount and direct it anywhere they would like to support on campus along with a note to the caregiver.

After returning to work, Colwell, who is the advancement operations officer at Loma Linda University Health, wanted to recognize the person whose actions saved his life. While he was unable to recall many of the details of his experience due to the symptoms he was experiencing that morning, Colwell's search led to Moon.

Moon speaks highly of his department. "Emergency department leadership has created and continues to foster a culture of teamwork that leads to better patient outcomes," he said. "When David was a patient, it wasn't just me caring for him — there was a team of MDs, RNs, and techs who jumped in to assist."

Connie Cunningham, executive director of emergency services at Loma Linda University Health, lauded Moon for his ability. "Darren is an amazing nurse, skilled and well-rounded. When David arrived in the emergency department, Darren was focused and calm as he sifted through all of the symptoms," she said.

Loma Linda University Medical Center's certification as a STEMI (ST elevated myocardial infarction or heart attack) receiving center helps every patient who arrives at the hospital experiencing cardiac-related indicators. "When a patient presents with David's



Darren Moon, RN, left, a staff nurse at the Loma Linda University Medical Center emergency department, was recently reunited with David Colwell, a patient whose life he was instrumental in saving.

symptoms, time is of the essence. We strive to have patients in the cardiac catheterization lab in under 30 minutes," Cunningham said.

Within 10 minutes Colwell was transferred to the lab, and his doctors completed a life-saving procedure less than 90 minutes after he first arrived in the emergency department.

Nursing was a natural progression for Moon, who retired from the Downey Fire Department as a fire captain after 25 years, with 11 years spent working as a paramedic. While he wanted to work for a Level 1 Trauma Center after earning his RN degree, there was a special reason he wanted to work at Loma Linda University Medical Center.

"I was the medical center's first 'Mini Maze' patient to correct an abnormal heart rhythm in 2012," he said. "Dr. Rosario Floridaia performed the procedure and the results have been fantastic. This is my opportunity to pay back for the tremendous care I received."

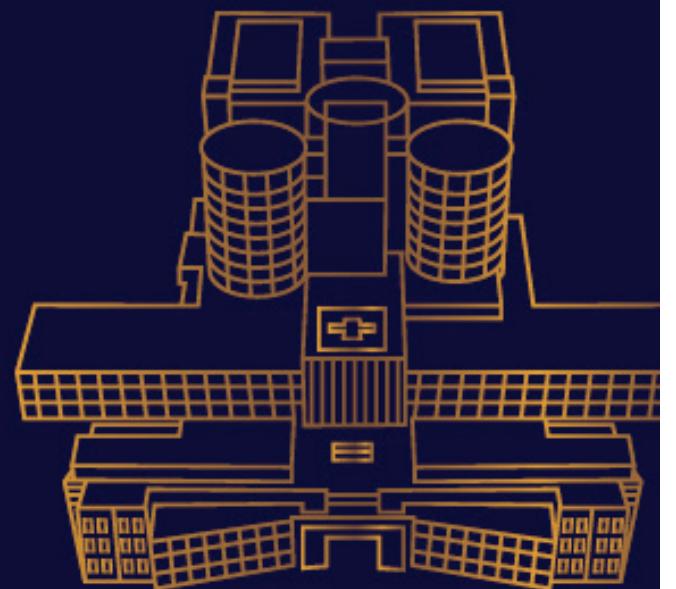
Information about the Healing Hands Grateful Patient Program may be found at <http://bit.ly/2tcUzRG>.

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LOMA LINDA
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Loma Linda University program enhances K-12 science, technology, engineering and math programs

Conference features robots, venomous snakes, drones, puzzles, and problem-based learning

By Nancy Yuen

More than 200 kindergarten through 12th grade teachers recently attended the seventh annual EXSEED Conference at Loma Linda University where they had the opportunity to dissect sharks, catch rainbows with pizza boxes and interact with a Loma Linda University sea turtle researcher in Honduras via Skype, among dozens of other workshops and experiences.

EXSEED, which stands for Excellence in STEM Experiential Education, was developed to qualify more teachers to effectively teach in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math.

More than 40 hands-on workshops took place during the conference, each offering mission-focused, integrative activities that could be implemented in the educators' own classrooms. The conference was held June 19 to 23, followed by a second session June 26 to 30 for teachers and pastors from the Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Retired high school biology teacher Nikki Gonzalez, MA, taught workshops during both sessions. During a workshop titled "By design; science labs debugged!" Gonzalez used everyday items such as eggs and yarn to show participants how to teach science on a budget. She also led the teachers as they completed a lab that is in a science textbook used by many of the participants — dissecting a sheep brain.

After completing the workshop a teacher told Gonzalez that she had never dissected a brain in her classroom. "She felt unprepared," Gonzalez said, "but after watching the demonstration, dissecting a brain herself in the workshop and taking it home to show her own daughter, she knew she could complete the lab."

Research shows that if children haven't developed a foundation in math and science while in elementary school, it is unlikely that they will be successful in graduate or professional health science programs, according to Marilyn Eggers, PhD, co-executive director of EXSEED.

Faculty from the university's School of Medicine have shared findings from research studies with Eggers revealing that students need to have a firm understanding of math and science by the sixth grade to be successful in medical school, while School of Dentistry faculty cite study findings that show dental students must have the same strong grasp of math and science by grade five.

Richard Hart, MD, DrPH, president of Loma Linda University Health, said EXSEED was launched as a contribution to the development of outstanding science educators for the Adventist K-12 education program.

"We are continuing to build the program with the goal of contributing to a functional kindergarten through graduate Adventist educational system that connects teachers and students in small, rural schools to their nearest Adventist academy and higher education partners depending on their needs," Hart said.

This is the second year that a separate EXSEED Conference was held for teachers and pastors from the Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. There are 31 K-12 schools in the conference, serving 2,350 students.

In 2015, Adventist schools in Oregon were losing 100 students every year, and Adventist churches in the state had become stagnant in growth, according to Gale Crosby, MS, vice president of education for the Oregon Conference.

In response, the conference held a summit for Adventist pastors and educators at the Sunriver Resort near Bend, Oregon.

Crosby invited Hart and Ronald Carter, PhD, Linda University's provost, to address the 400 attendees. "During the summit, Drs. Hart and Carter caught the vision of the conference's theme 'Together as One' and invited the Adventist pastors and teachers from throughout Oregon to attend EXSEED," Crosby said.

Thirty Adventist pastors and all 175 elementary and high school teachers from Adventist schools in Oregon traveled to Loma Linda in 2016 and 2017 to attend the EXSEED Conference. Their participation not only helped to fulfill the desire of Oregon Conference leadership to train Adventist young people to meet the medical needs of our world, the conference is also helping more of Oregon's Adventist students become prepared to enter medical training at Loma Linda University, Crosby said.

The impact is already visible, Crosby said. "Following our conference participation in EXSEED, enrollment has stabilized in our schools and our churches are showing signs of growth," he said.

Laura Bowlby, MA, teaches up to 20 students in a one-room school at Madrone Adventist Elementary in Cave Junction, Oregon. "EXSEED opened up my world and gave me tools to teach my students relevant information they can use in real-world situations," she said.

Doug Havens, MS, director of EXSEED, transports conference attendees to and from the airport, and he is often the first person from Loma Linda University they meet. During the ride to Loma Linda, Havens said he listens as the educators wonder aloud if they will find the conference useful.

"Then, on Friday after EXSEED ends, one of my great rewards comes as I hear



(TOP) More than 40 hands-on workshops took place during the EXSEED Conference.

(ABOVE) Ronald Carter, PhD, university provost, welcomes attendees to EXSEED, which has conceptually expanded from enhancing STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education to include "A" for the arts (humanities), "R" for religion or spirituality and "S" for service (STREAMS).

them describe how the sessions and workshops they attended will change the way they teach," Havens said.

Historically, EXSEED has no program parallels in supporting and mentoring K-12 teachers in the Adventist Church educational system. "With the involvement of Loma Linda University and multiple other Adventist institutions of higher education and their STEM and other faculties, EXSEED has provided teachers the latest and best in scientific information and STEM teaching methodologies to engender critical and analytical thinking and to be innovators and problem solvers" said Carter, Loma Linda University's provost.

EXSEED would not have been created without the significant philanthropic commitment from Tom and Vi Zapara, according to Rachelle Bussell, CFRE, Loma Linda University Health's senior vice president for advancement.

"The Zaparas have had a lifelong concern for nurturing and encouraging K-12 teachers," Bussell said. "Their philanthropic support has created a teacher support program that is a model for the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and by extension, can be such to many school systems."

Hyperbaric Medicine Service receives accreditation

By James Ponder

The Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society recently awarded full accreditation to Loma Linda University Medical Center's Hyperbaric Medicine Service, signaling that the facility meets or exceeds the highest standards of care and patient safety within the medical specialty.

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy involves the use of medical oxygen administered in a sealed chamber at levels higher than atmospheric pressure, enabling oxygen to dissolve more rapidly into the blood. It's used as part of a multi-disciplinary approach to the management of wounds and other conditions, such as pressure-related scuba diving injuries, arterial obstructions due to blood clots or air bubbles, and carbon monoxide poisoning.

Participation in Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society accreditation is voluntary. Laren Tan, MD, medical director for hyperbaric medicine at Loma Linda University Medical Center, said the accreditation demonstrates the organization's commitment to the highest standards of practice and patient safety.

"We are proud of our team members for achieving this significant milestone and for their commitment to our patients," Tan said. "It could not have been achieved without the concerted effort of our physicians, respiratory care practitioners, critical care nursing staff, technicians and management team working together."

Tan said Loma Linda University Medical Center is one of only two accredited academic hyperbaric oxygen centers in all of California. Roughly 200 of the approximately 1,500 hospitals in the United States offering hyperbaric oxygen therapy have earned the right to display the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society accreditation seal.

Hyperbaric treatment has become more user-friendly in recent years. Instead of the claustrophobia-inducing metal chambers of the past, the clear acrylic chambers of today allow patients to look outside, recline in comfort, watch their favorite TV shows or movies on a large, flat-screen TV with its own DVD player, or take a nap throughout the two-hour



Laren Tan, MD, center, and members of the Hyperbaric Medicine Service staff celebrate accreditation. Tan says that the accreditation milestone signals Loma Linda University Medical Center's commitment to the highest standards of practice and patient safety. [photo by Ansel Oliver]

treatment. A specially trained chamber operator is present at all times throughout the procedure.

Hyperbaric medicine first came to the medical center in 1981 under the vision and supervision of the late Valerie Molzahn, MD. In the ensuing years, Drs. Dick Sheldon, Takkin Lo and now Tan expanded the program from a single chamber to four chambers today, including one that can accommodate patients up to seven feet in height and 400 pounds in weight.

Tan said Loma Linda University Health is the only regional center in the Inland Empire that performs routine and critical care hyperbaric treatments.

The Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society is

an international nonprofit association serving health professionals in the fields of hyperbaric and dive medicine in more than 50 countries. Accreditation certifies that all aspects of a hyperbaric medicine program have been certified to ensure the utmost quality within the medical specialty.

Lori Scott, MBA, RCP, RRT, executive director of the department of respiratory care, says the goal of the accreditation process is for patients to have the highest confidence in the safety of the program as well as the care offered to them.

"The accreditation is our way of telling patients that we take our responsibilities as their care providers seriously," Scott said.

International Heart Institute welcomes new director Jon Gardner

By Heather Reifsnyder

Veteran cardiovascular healthcare executive Jon Gardner became director of Loma Linda University International Heart Institute in June, bringing to the job more than 30 years of leadership experience in growing cardiovascular programs to greater prominence and excellence.

Gardner previously served as vice president for heart and vascular at Centura Health in Denver, where he managed cardiovascular services for 17 nonprofit and 12 affiliate hospitals across Colorado and Kansas.

During Gardner's four-year term at Centura, the heart and vascular program became Colorado's No. 1 adult cardiovascular surgery and adult arrhythmia program, and the health system became Colorado's largest and fastest growing for cardiovascular care.

He has led cardiovascular programs at Duke University Health System, Geisinger/Penn State University Health System and Texas Health Resources Health System, taking each one to regional prominence.

"We are fortunate to have been able to recruit Jon to join the Loma Linda University Health team, not only because of his significant experience and achievements in leading large cardiovascular services operations, but also because of his commitment and dedication to our mission and whole person approach to patient care," said Trevor Wright, MHA, chief operating officer for hospitals at Loma Linda University Health.

Gardner said he sees the opportunity at LLU International Heart Institute to do what he relished at each of his previous jobs: raising a top cardiovascular program to the prominence it deserves. At Loma Linda University Health, this includes his plan to bolster the institute's international outreach.

"The team at LLU International Heart Institute provides the best, most comprehensive cardiovascular care to our community while incorporating the faith component of continuing the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ," he said.

Gardner said numerous factors convinced him to join Loma Linda



University Health, including the caliber of physicians, a strong executive leadership team, quality of staff and the academics and research across campus. He also said he appreciates the organization's Seventh-day Adventist Christian faith and values, as well as the healthy lifestyle that is modeled and promoted.

Gardner began his career as a practitioner, working in a heart catheter lab as a registered cardiovascular invasive specialist. He holds a bachelor of science degree in health service

management from La Salle University and has completed leadership training at Duke University Hospital and Cornell University. He is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in global community health from Liverpool University.

Gardner and his wife, Sue, have five adult children. He enjoys mission trips, outdoor activities and entrepreneurial ventures.

For more than 50 years, LLU International Heart Institute has served as a trusted leader and provider of cardiovascular services in the Inland Empire.

These services include adult and pediatric cardiology care, interventional cardiology, adult congenital heart disease treatment, cardiothoracic surgery, heart transplantation, vascular surgery, cardiac imaging, pacemaker clinic, cardiac and pulmonary rehab, cardiac diagnostics and transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR).

To contact LLU International Heart Institute, call 909-558-4200 for adult services and 909-558-4207 for pediatric services.

San Manuel Gateway College to expand certification programs in San Bernardino

By Heather Reifsnnyder

San Manuel Gateway College is growing its academic offerings as it prepares for its second year of service. Beginning this fall, the college will add programs for certified nurse assistants and pharmacy technicians to its current certification for medical assistants. Additionally, the college offers training for community health workers/promotores.

The college is accepting applications for fall 2017 for these four programs. Applications received before July 31 will be processed in time for the start of classes in early September.

Additionally, interested individuals can apply for two more programs coming in 2018: dialysis technician and surgery technician.

San Manuel Gateway College offers certificates from Loma Linda University at its San Bernardino campus. The college was established in 2016 to give young people in San Bernardino and the Inland Empire a future beyond high school that



During commencement June 7, Executive Director Arwyn Wild, MA, awards a certificate to a graduate of the community health worker/promotores program.

also empowers them to serve their underserved communities.

For more established adult learners who are active in community work,

the college's community health worker/promotores training provides academic-based workforce capacity building to reduce health disparities. Individuals who

complete this training can help area residents better plug in with local healthcare systems, enabling patients to more successfully follow through with their care plans.

The unique didactic environment at Loma Linda University Health – San Bernardino brings together San Manuel Gateway College entry-level learners with Loma Linda University graduate students and medical residents all training together to gain clinical skills in the SAC Health System clinic at the San Bernardino campus.

The college held its first commencement June 7, graduating 12 medical assistants and 22 community health workers. Neery Velazquez, one of the medical assistant graduates, said the “Gateway” part of the college’s name aptly describes the way it helps them: opening a passage to opportunities they couldn’t have encountered any other way.

To learn more about San Manuel Gateway College, call 855-558-1100 or email sanmanuelgatewaycollege@llu.edu.

Mini grants enable Loma Linda University Health to strengthen initiatives that are improving community health

By Nancy Yuen

Children, families and communities in the Inland Empire and the High Desert will soon benefit as five community programs are implemented and strengthened through a partnership with Loma Linda University Health. A series of \$5,000 mini grants have been awarded in support of programs that, for example, will help individuals who are or were incarcerated to build a stable future. The programs will also provide mental health services to children and families. A complete list of the programs appears below.

The 2017 Community Health Development Initiative Awards were offered by the Community Health Development Department, which is under the umbrella of the Loma Linda University Institute for Community Partnerships (ICP).

Organizations from San Bernardino and Riverside Counties were eligible to apply for the grants. This initial year of the awards program had 22 submissions from a wide variety of community-based organizations. Five programs were selected following an application submission and independent review process. The grants and evaluations were for a one-year time period.

On June 22, representatives from the five programs met with staff from the Community Health Development Department at their offices. Over the coming months they will participate in an ongoing collaborative process that will include design and implementation of systems that will measure the effectiveness of each program through the life of each grant.

Robin Smith, PhD, assistant professor of public health and medicine and director of Community Health Development/Community Benefits, said he was very encouraged by the meeting.

“Our goal, and our hope, is that we learn from each other about what can be strategic community investments beyond the monetary, and that Loma Linda University Health can be a true resource working with these and other partners in enhancing the health and quality of life in our community,” Smith said.

Smith said he is optimistic about the opportunities that the new partnerships will bring.

“Our Community Health Development Initiatives 2017 give us an opportunity not only to learn about the numerous community programs that are going on, but to support them and collaborate in a meaningful and sustainable way,” he said.

The collaboration includes assistance from Nellie Leon, DrPH, MPH, director of the IPC evaluation unit and assistant clinical professor at the School of Public Health, who reassured the participants that Loma Linda University Health’s participation will not be restricted to quarterly meetings. “We will be pleased to make presentations to your staff to assist with program design with a focus on evaluation and outcome,” she said.

Leon reassured the grantees that successful outcomes are not measured by simple numerical metrics alone, as results from grants of \$5,000 can be reported through a mixed method approach—telling stories from individuals in the communities whose lives were impacted as a result of the program.”



Nellie Leon, DrPH, MPH, assistant clinical professor at the School of Public Health, spoke to the 2017 Community Health Development Initiative awardees at Loma Linda University Health on June 22.

The Community Health Development Initiatives 2017 recipients and projects are:

- **Bing Wong Elementary School:** the purchase of equipment for a new iCARE Career Exploration Lab where students in primary grades will explore a variety of healthcare careers.
- **Restaurando Vadas:** “Anxiety in school age children,” a program offering counseling, support groups and workshops to parents of children who are experiencing anxiety about immigration issues.
- **Voice in the Desert Community Agency:** “The Strong Me Program,” providing mental health and community services related to parenting, co-parenting, substance abuse and mental health.
- **Path of Life Ministries:** “Mobile connections — Peer Support for the Homeless Project,” providing a portal for the homeless to receive responsive behavioral health care in support of their obtaining and maintaining stable housing — creating communities of wellness in the Inland Empire.
- **Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO):** Supporting the organization’s work in San Bernardino to provide employment services to 170 residents from regional correctional institutes who are under parole or on probation in fiscal 2018.

Loma Linda University strengthens healthcare leadership in Latin America with new certificate

By James Ponder

Educators at the Loma Linda University School of Public Health are working to strengthen the management of Seventh-day Adventist hospitals in Latin America through a healthcare leadership development program that was created to strengthen administrative oversight in the region.

A certificate program — which is also sponsored by Adventist Health International, the denomination's Inter-American Division, and Montemorelos University in Mexico — is focused on healthcare leaders in the region who have backgrounds in business, education, finance or ministry, but lack formal education in healthcare administration.

The certificate program brings professional educators and health care leaders from Loma Linda University and Adventist Health International together with participants from hospitals for three, week-long training sessions in Cancun, Mexico — one each in May, July and November.

Elisa Blethen, MBA, program director for the MBA in healthcare administration at the Loma Linda University's School of Public Health and project leader for the certificate program, said leaders are gaining key skills and knowledge that will strengthen the delivery of healthcare in their region.

"It's exciting to see people learning, growing and applying the concepts to themselves and their organizations," Blethen said.

Elie Honore, MD, MPH, MHA, healthcare ministries director for the Inter-American Division, said the program was conceived as part of the Institutional Development program of the division's Adventist Healthcare Services. He also cited its value as a pilot program.

"One very important expectation of this training program is the plan to initiate immediately an undergraduate healthcare management program at Montemorelos University," Honore said.

Honore said the Adventist Church in the division operates 14 hospitals and that administrators, finance managers, and medical and nursing directors from each are attending the classes. There are also 24 additional medical and dental clinics.

The Adventist Church's Inter-American Division includes Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean and the five northernmost countries of South America.

Blethen says Montemorelos University is providing English-Spanish translation services, the division is handling logistics and funding, and Loma Linda University and Adventist Health International are preparing and presenting the curriculum, which is based on a competency model.

Curriculum topics include strategic planning, financial management, human resource management, conflict resolution, communication, cross-cultural leadership and a strengths-deployment tool designed to foster self-awareness and reflection.

In addition to the theory, skills and knowledge integrated into the curriculum, Blethen says the self-awareness and spiritual aspects of leadership have had a profound impact on each participant and team. She also noted that participants engage in online discussion groups and



meetings and complete homework assignments between sessions.

Besides Blethen, presenters have included:

- Kevin Carrington, MBA, administrative director of the Neuropathic Therapy Center at Loma Linda University Medical Center
- Peter Gleason, PhD, a psychologist and assistant professor at LLU School of Public Health

Peter Gleason, PhD, assistant professor at the School of Public Health, answers a question during the certificate in healthcare administration program. [photo by Rafael Molina]

- Rafael Molina, MEd, assistant professor and chair of the digital learning committee at the School
- Shaunielle Abreu, MA, Human

Resource Director for Loma Linda University Health, and

- Andrew Hibbert, MBA, manager of business development at Loma Linda University Medical Center.

Blethen says feedback from participants has been positive. Several of them have expressed satisfaction that lessons learned in class are applicable to situations they encounter in their careers. Others have applauded the formation of support networks formed during the classes, which they believe will become increasingly important once the program comes to an end in November. One participant said a session on succession planning was useful in protecting institutions from the void that can occur when a leader unexpectedly leaves.

Blethen said it has been gratifying to see how willing presenters have been to help students work to resolve problems. She cited the example of psychologist Peter Gleason who held an intervention session for a participant dealing with a difficult situation at her hospital. "It was amazing to see how well it worked," Blethen said.

As she looks forward to the final week of classes in November, Blethen says she is happy to be part of the program.

"It is a privilege to make this come to life and become a reality in order to strengthen the healthcare work in the Inter-American Division," she said.

Blankets and craft kits donated to patients at LLUCH clinic

By Briana Pastorino

Members from the Orange County Inland Empire Chapter of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) and Palm Springs Subaru dealership stopped by the Loma Linda University Children's Hospital (LLUCH) Hematology/Oncology Clinic Friday, July 7, to brighten the kids' day. They delivered blankets and craft kits to the clinic.

Although over 100 degrees outside, kids were able to find comfort in the blankets and use them while receiving treatment.

Gaven Hamrick, 9, of San Bernardino, was just one patient at the LLUCH clinic to receive a blanket and craft kit from the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and Subaru San Bernardino.

"I can definitely use this stuff with my sister," the fourth grader said of the crayons, markers and clay found in the craft kit. Hamrick was extremely appreciative of his new blanket saying he likes it cold in his room so he can get cozy under blankets.

The blanket donation is part of the LLS of Orange County Inland Empire Chapter and Palm Springs Subaru participation in the national Subaru Loves to Care Campaign. Through the campaign, LLS and Subaru intend to spread hope, love and warmth to cancer patients through small gestures by donating over 38,000 blankets across the country.

The LLUCH Hematology/Oncology clinic cares for patients with childhood cancers and blood disorders such as aplastic anemia.



LLUCH patient Gaven Hamrick, 9, of San Bernardino, happily inspects the contents of his new craft kit that was given to him through the Subaru Loves to Care campaign.

Loma Linda University Health program aims to prevent prediabetes from becoming type 2 diabetes

By James Ponder

A Loma Linda University Health program is helping patients diagnosed with prediabetes use lifestyle change to prevent the condition from developing into the more harmful type 2 diabetes mellitus.

The diabetes prevention program introduces patients to lifestyle changes designed to help them lose weight, reduce blood glucose levels and control triglycerides and cholesterol in a regimen approved by the Centers for Disease Control.

In the program, health facilitators from two Loma Linda University Health entities — the Office of Preventive Care, affiliated with the School of Public Health, and the Diabetes Treatment Center, sponsored by the Medical Center — assist patients in exploring nutritional and exercise options and even new ways of thinking that have proven helpful in slowing or even arresting the progress of prediabetes.

“Renewed health is possible every day by improving the way we move, eat, think and believe,” said Brenda Rea, MD, DrPH, MPT, RD, a preventive medicine specialist and physician lead for the diabetes prevention program. “At Loma Linda University Health, our emphasis on lifestyle and prevention motivated us to move forward with the program.”

Rea says evidence from a 2002 NIH study published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* suggested lifestyle change can delay or prevent the progression of prediabetes to diabetes.

The study tested three methods of prediabetes management — lifestyle change, metformin medication and placebo — and found that lifestyle change lowered the incidence of diabetes by 58 percent over the placebo group. That was significantly better than metformin, which lowered the incidence by 31 percent over the placebo group.

Since then, other studies have confirmed the results of the NIH study, and in 2015, the American Medical Association published a two-page consumer article titled, “What is the evidence for the prevention of diabetes through lifestyle change interventions?” The article summarized the NIH study and eight subsequent studies, conducted between 2008 and 2014, which yielded similar findings.

Rea said she is grateful to the American Medical Association for providing invaluable support, including paying for the facilitators to be trained.

Prediabetes prevalence

Rea said she considers prediabetes a serious public health concern. More than 1 out of 3 Americans has prediabetes, and of the 86 million who do, nine out of 10 don't know they have it, she said.

The situation is worse in California, where more than half the adult population is estimated to have prediabetes or diabetes (either diagnosed or undiagnosed), according to a March 2016 study by the National Center for Biotechnology Information.

Rea said she saw the numbers as a call to action. In October, she and her colleagues worked to establish the program by drafting plans and mobilizing a task force. They secured funding four months later and applied to the Centers for Disease Control in March to establish a diabetes prevention program here. Classes began April 26.

The recognition period, which lasts 24 months, is divided into two stages. Twelve months after the start of the application approval, the DPP team will submit their first data set to the CDC for approval. At 24 months, they will submit the second set. If the program meets the requirements, it will become one of the first in the Inland Empire to gain official recognition as a CDC provider. That, of course, would open the door for Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement.

To identify and recruit participants, members of the DPP team contacted four clinical departments — Family Medicine, General Medicine, the Center for Health Promotion, and Medicine Pediatrics — and asked them to provide names and contact



Lifestyle change is the most effective method for preventing prediabetes from developing into type 2 diabetes mellitus. Nine out of 10 Americans with prediabetes don't know they have the disease.

information of patients who met the clinical definition of prediabetes and might be interested in testing lifestyle change as a means of delaying or preventing diabetes.

In order to qualify, patients were required to be at least 18 years of age, have a hemoglobin A1c level of between 5.7 and 6.4 percent, and be considered overweight or obese with a body mass index greater than 25.

As the care management team in primary care called the identified employees, they explained that the program takes 12 months to complete, that there are 20 classes in the first six months (phase 1), and nine in the second six months (phase 2). “It definitely requires a commitment,” Rea said.

They also discussed financial incentives such as a \$25 cash reward for patients who achieve 5 percent weight loss in phase 1 and another \$25 reward for maintaining or improving the weight lost in phase 2. They also told them that attending 15 out of 20 classes during phase 1 enters them in a drawing to win \$250, and attending 7 out of 9 phase 2 classes enters them in a second drawing to win the same amount.

Classes are held at the Drayson Center. Ernie Medina, DrPh, CHFS, assistant professor at the School of Public Health, and Julie Pimentel, BSN, RN, diabetes educator at the Diabetes Treatment Center, are the program facilitators. The classes are held under the supervision of Holly Craig-Buckholtz, MBA, BSN, RN, manager of the Diabetes Treatment Center, and Kevin Codorniz, MD, medical director and chief of endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism.

Rea said the program is made possible by staff members from the Diabetes Treatment Center, the Diabetes Advisory Committee, Drayson Center and Helen Hopp Marshak, PhD, dean of the School of Public Health, for supporting Medina and several students to assist with the program. “This represents the first time we have pulled School of Public Health DrPH Preventive Care faculty and students into clinical preventive care,” she said.

While Rea acknowledges that there may be thousands of employees who fit the clinical definition of prediabetes, she says the program cannot currently accommodate all who may wish to enroll. She hopes to be able to make the classes available to a larger group, including members of the public, in 24 months.

Loma Linda University Eye Institute opens new Retina Center

By Ansel Oliver

The Loma Linda University Eye Institute held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on June 22, 2017, for its new Retina Center, a stand-alone suite in the Faculty Medical Offices that will optimize a patient's experience and wait times when retina services are required.



The new Retina Center can serve approximately 100 patients a day. The center will soon be staffed with five specialists. Additionally, two other subspecialists will serve those needing neuropathology and oculoplastic services, treating an additional 25 patients a day.

The Eye Institute has grown steadily over the past 15 years, and the new Retina Center will help meet the increasing demand for retina services that have stemmed from population growth and increased preference for service at Loma Linda University Health, said Michael Rauser, MD, director of the institute and chair of ophthalmology at Loma Linda University's School of Medicine.

Rauser said he and the staff are pleased for the opportunity to serve the community in a bigger way than ever before.

“It's really an exciting opportunity to serve, and since space at the Loma Linda University Health campus is a premium, it's great to now have a stand-alone suite dedicated to retina here in the Faculty Medical Offices,” Rauser said.

Rauser said the new Retina Center will reduce clinic visit times, and a doubled capacity for testing means patients won't have to wait as long for tests.

The center is located at the Faculty Medical Offices, suite 2900, 11370 Anderson St. in Loma Linda. Appointments may be made by calling 909-558-2154.

Michael Rauser, MD, serves as director of the new Retina Center, which opened in the Faculty Medical Offices building on June 22. [photo by Ansel Oliver]

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Calimesa Community Concerts • 31st Season

'Life on the Line' captures six regional Emmy Awards

Series tells the story of Loma Linda University Health transforming lives

By Nancy Yuen

Loma Linda University Health featured prominently during the 47th annual Emmy Awards presented by the Pacific Southwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Saturday night, June 24, at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina.

"Life on the Line," a documentary TV series that highlights Loma Linda's stories of transforming lives, won Emmy Awards in six of its seven nominated categories.

Mound City Films produces "Life on the Line," contracting with Loma Linda University Health's Department of Advancement Films.

The show tells stories of hope and courage arising from Loma Linda University Health. Cosmin Cosma, MA, director of Advancement Films at Loma Linda University Health, said he is thankful for the talent and dedication the team has put into producing the series. "Receiving television's highest award is a testament to their commitment to professionalism," he said. "It's our privilege to share stories of hope and courage arising from Loma Linda University Health's medical work."

The team has previously received a total of 13 regional Emmys, one of which was for "Life on the Line."

This year "San Bernardino Strong" was nominated in the documentary category, while episodes or a season of "Life on the Line" were nominated and received Emmy Awards in the following categories:

2017 Emmy Awards for "Life on the Line" Season 3

♦ **Sports – Daily or Weekly Program or Special**

Life on the Line: It's About the Journey by Patricia Kelikani, James Pendorf, Erik Edstrom, Michael Wolcott, Cosmin Cosma, Mound City Films

♦ **Director – Non Live (Post Produced)**

Life on the Line: San Bernardino Strong, Patricia Kelikani, Mound City Films

♦ **Editor (No time limit) - Program (Non-news)**

Life on the Line: Season 3, Michael Wolcott, Erik Edstrom, Patricia Kelikani, James Pendorf, Mound City Films

♦ **Photographer – Program (Non-news)**

Life on the Line: Season 3, Erik Edstrom, Michael Wolcott, Cosmin Cosma, Mound City Films

♦ **Editor (No time limit) – Short Form**

Life on the Line: Show Open, Erik Edstrom, Mound City Films

♦ **Graphic Arts – Graphics: Life on the Line: Show Open**

Erik Edstrom, Mound City Films

Cosma said the documentary film form is a lengthy process, with filmmakers often spending a year or more experiencing the journey side by side with the individuals who are sharing their stories.

"Receiving recognition from the members of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences boosts our morale and gives us the energy and drive to tell more stories," Cosma said.

Receiving 2017 Emmy Awards were Cosmin Cosma, Erik Edstrom, Patricia Kelikani, James Pendorf and Michael Wolcott.

"By bringing their artistry and technical skill into the difficult moments of our patients lives, these filmmakers craft powerful stories that hearten all involved and create meaning out of what are some of life's darkest points," said Garrett Caldwell, DMin, executive director of public affairs at Loma Linda University Health. "Their work beautifully illustrates the faithfulness of our employees to fulfill our mission to continue the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ."

The National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences – Pacific Southwest Chapter serves television professionals in San Diego, Bakersfield, Las Vegas, Palm Springs, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Santa Maria.

The chapter received more than 900 entries for the show, 217 of which were nominated. From those, more than 100 Emmy Awards were given.



On the red carpet with their Emmy Awards, from left: Garrett Caldwell, Michael Wolcott, James Pendorf, Keturah Reed, Patricia Kelikani, Cosmin Cosma and Erik Edstrom.

Reportable Crimes

The Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990 requires colleges and universities across the United States to publish interim reports on campus crime activities. Listed below are the crimes reported for Loma Linda University Health for the month of June 2017:

Type of Crime	Number of Crimes	Place of Crime
Motor Vehicle Theft	1	Parking Lot – P3
Burglary Motor Vehicle	1	Patient Business Office
Stolen Vehicle Recovery	1	Daniells Residence
Burglary	1	Power Plant
Threats	1	Meridian Complex – Transplant
Narcotics	1	Re:Live Thrift
Trespass	3	LL Market; Re:Live Thrift; LLUMC Unit 8100
Disturbance	1	Drayson Center
Annoying Phone Calls	1	Welcome Center

You can assist the Loma Linda University Health department of security in maintaining a safe and secure environment by notifying security immediately at extension 9-1-1 if you see or know about a crime taking place.



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Have a newsworthy story? Visit news.llu.edu/news, click on the "Submit a story idea" bar, and complete the submission form.

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