We’re building a healthier future for our children.

OUR NEWEST CLINIC IS OPENING IN 2020!
News

Brooks Fellow – Miani Giron

The Clinic is proud to welcome Miani Giron as the first, Diane & Dorothy Brooks Foundation Fellow for Community Medicine. This unique, yearlong program is a partnership between the Clinic and UCLA, providing a 4th year UCLA medical student with extensive and diverse training in community healthcare, with a special emphasis on behavioral health.

Miani grew up in foster care and overcame many obstacles to get to where she is today. She received a full scholarship to Syracuse University and subsequently got into the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Her passion lies in community health and she is thrilled at the opportunity to receive hands-on training at the Clinic.

In addition to shadowing medical staff, Miani will complete a research project aimed to improve care and health outcomes in a community clinic setting. “The experience I am getting here is paramount to my future career, as I have the opportunity to see multiple psychiatrists practice in real time while gaining an intimate understanding of patient struggles and life experiences. Through this fellowship, I am learning exactly what it means to work in behavioral health and what it means to serve socioeconomically vulnerable communities,” says Miani.

Acupuncture – Needling Pain Away

Chronic pain is an ailment we see often in the Clinic. However, prescribing pain medication often leads to dependency. Alternative forms of pain management like acupuncture can be just what the doctor ordered.

In January, the Clinic began offering acupuncture at our Beverly Health Center lead by Dr. Tinh Vuong, who shared that the majority of the referrals she receives are due to pain. Her first appointment was with Mark, a Clinic patient for nearly 15 years.

In 2005 Mark broke his hip after a bad fall. Even after surgery, his hip was never right. He was always in pain, which subsequently extended to his knee. When Dr. Vuong told Mark the benefits that acupuncture could have on his condition, he immediately made an appointment. The treatment was transformative. “I could barely walk when I came in, and I left dancing. I am so blessed to be here,” says Mark.

A Fresh Start

After nearly 30 years, the shower at our Beverly Health Center underwent a complete renovation. Thanks to a group of very generous individuals, we were able to transform the space and provide our patients experiencing homelessness with a beautiful, “spa-like” environment where they can feel refreshed. Eugene Bell, our first patient to use the newly renovated shower excitedly exclaimed, “It’s like the Bellagio in here!”

With more than 7,000 showers a year, it is the biggest point of entry into the Clinic for individuals experiencing homelessness and often, the first step into a new life. Not only does the program provide a way for our homeless neighbors to stay clean, it also restores dignity and provides hope.

30th Annual Patient Holiday Party

Tuesday, December 10, 2019 • 12 Noon • First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood

More than 500 patients will receive clothing, blankets, toiletries, books, toys and a hot lunch. Please help us by making the holidays happier for our patients in need!

Ways to get involved

Give: You can make a monetary contribution or purchase needed items from our Amazon wish list. Additional details and the link to the wish list can be found here: www.sabancommunityclinic.org/patientholidayparty

Volunteer: On the day of the event volunteers are needed to set up, distribute items to patients, serve lunch and help with clean up.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Audrey at events@sabancommunityclinic.org or 323-330-1653.

Items Needed

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth and Adults:</th>
<th>Baby Items (newborn-3 years):</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Body Wash/ Soap</td>
<td>• Diapers and Wipes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Deodorant</td>
<td>• Baby Shampoo and Wash</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Shampoo and Conditioner</td>
<td>• Blankets</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Socks and Underwear</td>
<td>• Bottles</td>
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<td>• Blankets</td>
<td>• Clothes</td>
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<td>• Books and Toys</td>
<td>• Books and Toys</td>
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HONORARY DINNER CHAIRS:
Mark Pedowitz and Peter Roth

DINNER CO-CHAIRS:
Bob Greenblatt, Ellen Hoberman, David Nevins, Ted Sarandos

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS LEAD UNDERWRITERS!
City National Bank
Cheryl and Haim Saban
WarnerMedia

MUSICAL GUEST
Death Cab for Cutie
Our newest clinic will provide care for entire families in one location, specializing in pediatric medical, dental and behavioral healthcare. Located in Rampart Village, one of the most underserved neighborhoods in Los Angeles, the site will provide an additional 15,000 patient visits a year.

Tooth decay, unhealthy eating habits, juvenile diabetes, low immunization rates and unmet mental health needs are common among the population the Clinic serves. Our new Family Health Center will play a vital role in combating these health disparities by providing cutting-edge, high quality care to anyone in need.

To learn more please visit www.sabancommunityclinic.org/virgil

SABAN KIDS is the Clinic’s newest pediatric program, focused on improving the health of our communities’ most vulnerable and youngest residents. In order to meet the growing need for medical and dental care and provide families with a fun and exciting way to be more proactive with their health, we have created an exclusive and free club for our pediatric patients (ages 0-18) called SABAN KIDS Club.

Approximately 75% of the Clinic’s patients live at or below the Federal Poverty Level, the average family of 4 often surviving on just $25,000 a year or less. With finite resources, lack of knowledge and often little time, health and dental care are often neglected. Each parent receives a Passport to Health to help them navigate their child’s care. Additionally, all of the families in the program get access to special gifts, events and educational programming. Our goal is for patients and their families to prioritize preventative care ultimately creating a healthier family, community and chance for a better future.

The Clinic will include:

- 6 exam rooms with fun themes
- 4 dental chairs in child friendly rooms
- A tooth brushing station to teach oral care
- Behavioral Health room for individual counseling
- Child friendly waiting room
- Training & Education Room

THANK YOU!

A big thank you to The Ahmanson Foundation and the Johnny Carson Foundation for their generous support of our new Family Health Center. We are so grateful for the pivotal role they play in advancing our vision to provide high quality care to the most underserved members of our community.

Expanding Care

We are thrilled to announce the opening of our Family Health Center in early 2020!
A Helping Hand
Kirby Lester 60, better known to staff as “Lester” is the latest “staff member” to join our pharmacy team. With 52 medications in rotation and the capability to fill prescriptions in a fraction of the time, Lester fills more than 100 prescriptions each day at our Melrose Clinic, allowing staff more time to focus on patient consultations and medication adherence instructions.

Convenience is Key
Sometimes there are just not enough hours in the day to get everything done. To improve our patient experience, the pharmacy now provides free, same-day prescription delivery service to insured patients. Prescriptions are delivered right to the patient’s door.

Above left: Pharmacy Staff Raed Ahmed, Araceli Barrera, Monica Padilla, and Omar Portillo. Above right: Omar Portillo dispenses a prescription from the Kirby Lester 60.

PATIENT STORY
Barbara Mendes
A comic artist, oil painter, book illustrator, muralist and more, Barbara has been making art since she can remember. Today, at 71 years old, she never thought she’d be living hand to mouth. Barbara never lived an easy life, but she and her two daughters, Kerby and Oma (also known as Annie), always managed to get by. Annie was diagnosed with a brain tumor at a young age. When she passed in 2006, Barbara was left mourning her beloved daughter and struggling to provide for her family.

Barbara could always find comfort in her art, it was her therapy, and helped her get through some of the darkest times in her life. She began working on a new mural depicting the entire book of Leviticus – 859 verses, in Hebrew – hoping the sale would bring substantial income. The extraordinary piece titled Vayikra “and he called” took three years to complete but never sold, leaving Barbara without health insurance for over a decade.

In 2017 Barbara began having trouble with her eyes and went to a local LensCrafters. The optometrist diagnosed Barbara with pre-glaucoma and told her she needed to see a doctor. Distraught, Barbara revealed that she did not have a doctor or health insurance. The optometrist referred her to the Clinic where she has been receiving care ever since.

At her first appointment, Dr. Armen Arshakyan conducted a full examination and diagnosed her with pre-diabetes. Barbara took Dr. Arshakyan’s recommendation very seriously and completely changed her diet. “They saved my life from the beginning. I dodged the bullet of diabetes,” says Barbara. Additionally, with a referral to an ophthalmologist and follow up visits, her pre-glaucoma was controlled. “I have never received care with such dignity and kindness, at all levels. They walk me through everything and never leave me in the dark. I feel honored to receive care at the Clinic,” says Barbara.

Barbara is a community treasure. Her Angel Wall, painted in memory of Annie, adorns the side of the building where she lives and works, at the corner of Gibson St. and Robertson Blvd. A few years ago the corner was named “Barbara Mendes Square.” The certificate reads, “Barbara is an invaluable and civic minded asset to the arts, to our community, and to the City of Los Angeles.” We at the Clinic couldn’t agree more.

To learn more about Barbara’s story and see the Vayikra Mural, please visit www.sabancommunityclinic.org/stories/barbara.

Special thank you to Jodi Flynn and Adam Briles for bringing Barbara’s story to life.

When a patient has no insurance, you help us pick up the tab.

45% of the Clinic’s patients are uninsured.
The Clinic provides more than $7 million in free services each year.

Medical Appt. $309
Patient pays $10

Dental Appt. $201
Patient pays $10

Rx (Varies) Patient pays $5

Therapy Session $205
Patient pays $0

Support the Clinic: Text SABAN to 41444 to donate today!
UPCOMING EVENTS

43rd Annual Dinner Gala
Monday, November 18th
6:30 pm
The Beverly Hilton
Beverly Hills

Above: Jennifer Hudson entertains the crowd at last year’s Gala.

30th Annual Patient Holiday Party
Tuesday, December 10th
12:00 Noon
First Presbyterian Church Hollywood

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Audrey Rufe at events@sabancommunityclinic.org

2nd Annual Drag Queen Bingo
Thursday, October 24th
7:00 pm
Hamburger Mary’s West Hollywood

Email events@sabancommunityclinic.org to reserve your spot at this fun event!