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La Clinica will shift centers, staff to create room for more patients

La Clinica will create space for an estimated 5,500 new patients by moving two health centers and consolidating support staff from several buildings into a single new location.

On Tuesday, Dec. 18, the Women’s Health Center will open in leased space at 221 W. Stewart Ave., Suite 101. On Tuesday, Jan. 22, Birch Grove Health Center, now in the county health services building, will move into a space several times as large at 910 S. Central Ave., the former site for women’s services.

Over several months starting in January, La Clinica will move support staff from the Central Avenue building, as well as Phoenix Health Center and La Clinica Wellness Center, to a 44,000-square-foot building it has purchased at 931 Chevy Way, near Medford’s airport, freeing up space in all those health centers for more patient care.

The Chevy Way building, which will be known as the La Clinica Center for Learning and Innovation, will be home to employee teams responsible for ensuring that La Clinica meets clinical quality measures and coordinates care well with other community organizations. It also will house administrative support staff and provide training space for the roughly 400 employees spread across La Clinica’s 21 service sites.

“We spend an incredible amount of time behind the scenes innovating so that our patients receive exceptional care and so we are able to stay financially viable,” said CEO Brenda Johnson. “Right now, these staff members are spread across several buildings. This will make efficient use of our time and addresses the need we see to be able to serve more patients as well.”

La Clinica serves about 30,000 patients in about 150,000 visits each year now. Another 55,000 low-income Jackson County residents lack consistent access to affordable health services, and La Clinica’s mission is to ensure exceptional, affordable, and compassionate care is available for all.

About the centers that are moving

Women’s Health Center: This center is moving into leased space at 221 W. Stewart Ave., Suite 101, on Dec. 18. The care team, which includes certified nurse midwives, an OB-GYN, nurses, a lactation consultant, and a behavioral health clinician, provides comprehensive women’s health care. The center is home to La Clinica’s conventional prenatal care services and CenteringPregnancy®, an innovative group approach to prenatal care.

Birch Grove Health Center: This center, now inside the Jackson County Health & Human Services building, is moving to 910 S. Central Ave. on Jan. 22. Birch Grove provides primary health care open to everyone and has a focus on people with mental illness and substance use disorders. Its team-based approach includes healthcare providers, counselors, nurses, wellness coaches, and recovery mentors.

About La Clinica

La Clinica offers medical and dental care at 21 sites: six primary health centers, East Medford Dental Clinic, 13 school-based centers, and in a mobile center. Although its mission focuses on providing access to low-income people, La Clinica is open to everyone.

La Clinica was founded in 1989 to serve the primary and preventive needs of the migrant and seasonal farm workers in Jackson County. In 2001, in response to an increasing need for affordable primary health, La Clinica expanded its scope to serve every member of the community. All services are offered regardless of a patient's ability to pay, and on a sliding-scale basis for the uninsured and low income.