

OUR SERVICE SITES

La Clinica health centers:
Birch Grove Health Center
Central Point Health Center
East Medford Dental Clinic
Family and Women's Health Center
Mobile Health Center
Phoenix Health Center
Wellness Center
West Medford Health Center

School-based centers:
Central Point, Jackson, Jewett,
Oak Grove, Mae Richardson,
Phoenix, and Washington
elementary schools; Hanby and
Scenic middle schools; Crater High
School

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AUGUST 2018
LA CLINICA
AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

Serving a community need

La Clinica will shift staff, create space for 5,500 new patients

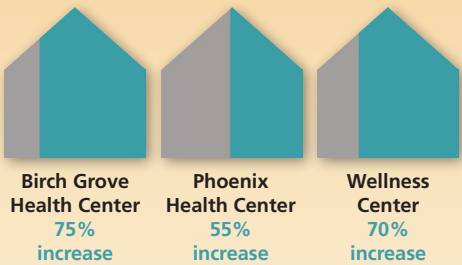
La Clinica will make room for an additional 5,500 patients at three health centers by 2020 by shifting support services out of the centers.

The project is coming as the organization reaches its 30th year of providing health services to Jackson County residents in need in 2019.

Support staff will move from prime clinical space at three centers—Birch Grove and Phoenix health centers and the Wellness Center—to make room for new patients. The move will allow La Clinica to create

focused space for education, innovation, and collaboration of behind-the-scenes employees, increasing efficiency and focus, said CEO Brenda Johnson. She expects to have more detail about the plan later this year.

"We are thrilled and grateful to have the opportunity to take this on," said Johnson. "This series of moves will allow us to accommodate demand, grow where it's logical, and make sure we can be effective in supporting our clinical teams and patients' health."



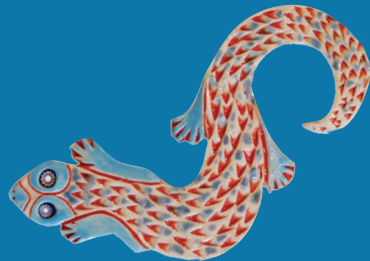
2017 patient capacity
Added capacity by 2020



Two health centers will move to new locations as part of project: Page 3

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Ida Saito departs at year's end
Operations chief led during major growth

Chief Operations Officer **Ida Saito**, who helped guide 13 years of vigorous growth for La Clinica, will retire at the end of 2018, closing her second career serving people in southern Oregon.

She had worked for the state Department of Human Services for nearly 30 years before taking a new operational leadership post at La Clinica in 2005, promising to spend three years at it.

"I wanted to know that the work I did was meaningful and had an impact on people and the community," Saito said.

And that's exactly what she found and enjoyed most at La Clinica: being part of a dynamic organization with the ability to steer its destiny and create what the community needs. During Saito's tenure, patient visits rose to more than 147,000 in 2017 from about 46,200 in 2005 and employees climbed to 374 from around 106.

"What warms my heart is knowing what a great group of leaders we have," she said, pointing out that many La Clinica managers started as medical assistants or wellness coaches. Jillian Robinette was among them.

"She saw every early challenge and hurdle in my leadership as an opportunity, never losing focus and always supporting what could be potential learning and leadership opportunities," said Robinette, who now manages the Wellness Center. "Ida has an approach that informs and educates, and a wonderful supportive and nurturing way that makes you feel empowered and engaged to lead to our mission. She is truly remarkable."

The search is underway for Saito's replacement.



Ida Saito



School is coming soon and so is a new health center at Kids Unlimited Academy in Medford, where brothers Ezequiel, left, and David Garduño are students. (Photo by Jim Craven)

Kids Unlimited Academy
With fall, a new health center

Kids Unlimited Academy students Ezequiel Garduño, 10, and his 9-year-old brother David have picked up their fair share of playground injuries. Both active soccer players, Ezequiel broke his wrist while blocking a shot as goalie and David hurt his wrist when he crashed into a fence completing a play.

A fifth-grader who has attended Kids Unlimited Academy since he was in second grade, Ezequiel, previously attended Jackson Elementary. He remembers going to La Clinica's school-based health center there when he was injured.

"It was better to have a clinic right there," he said.

This fall, the Garduños and the other roughly 450 Kids Unlimited Academy students will have a new La Clinica school-based health center at the Medford charter school.

See Schools, Page 3

La Clinica recognizes donors in inaugural event

Join in on holiday donation

Longtime donors Jerry and Jeanne Taylor are challenging other La Clinica supporters to join them in helping struggling families in December this year.

The Taylors give a sizable holiday donation to La Clinica, and the organization distributes the money to patients so they may purchase food and gifts for holiday celebrations.

Anyone may join in the effort by sending a donation in the enclosed envelope and marking the contribution "for holiday gifts."

Donors Jerry and Jeanne Taylor and S+B James Construction Management have helped La Clinica bring health services to the community many times over in recent years—and this spring they accepted official recognition of the organization's gratitude.

La Clinica thanked both and everyone else who has given to improve services during An Evening of Gratitude, its first donor recognition event, in May. The Taylors and S+B James were singled out because of their long and consistent generosity.

The Taylors have been involved in several capital campaigns, are big boosters at La Clinica's annual fundraiser, and support struggling La Clinica families with a holiday donation each year. S+B James has helped La Clinica with numerous remodeling projects and gives annually at the fundraiser.

"We are grateful for every single donation that comes our way, and we can't thank our friends enough," said Maria Ramos Underwood, La Clinica's chief development officer. "This will be an annual event, and our deepest hope is that our supporters all will join us so we can say thank you face to face."

Watch for a date for the second annual event in fall 2019.



Jeanne and Jerry Taylor, above, and Terry Mackey and Allen Purdy of S+B James, top, with La Clinica's Brenda Johnson, in orange, and Danette Moss.

Two health centers will move as part of plan

As it makes way for more patients in coming months, La Clinica will move two health centers that are key to the effort.

Birch Grove Health Center, now located in 1,575 square feet inside Jackson County's Health and Human Services building, will move to 910 S. Central Ave., now the home of the 12,000-square-foot La Clinica Family and Women's Health Center. That center's staff will move to a new location to be announced this fall.

La Clinica and several community partners serve many mental health and addictions patients at Birch Grove, and space for the operation has been tight in the county building almost since the center opened in 2015, said Chief Operations Officer Ida Saito. "This will finally give Birch Grove the room it needs to thrive."

The moves are expected to be complete by early 2019.



La Clinica's Birch Grove Health Center will move into the Central Avenue building now occupied by the Family and Women's Health Center, above, while that center's staff will move to a new location.

Our annual fundraiser Event targets deepest needs in community



La Clinica's annual party to benefit services will raise money this year to help some of the community's most vulnerable residents—those who use mobile health, school, and dental outreach services.

Raise Your Heart for Health is coming Sunday, Oct. 7, at Ashland Hills Hotel & Suites.

La Clinica is once again partnering with the Oregon Shakespeare Festival for an evening of exceptional entertainment that includes dinner and wine, fun with friends, games and prizes, the ever-popular desert auction, and more.

Raise Your Heart for Health

When: Sunday, Oct. 7, 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Where: Ashland Hills Hotel & Suites, 2525 Ashland St., Ashland
Tickets: \$100. Learn more or buy tickets now at lacinicahealth.org/raiseyourheart.

Simple messages for sharing hope

Can one wellness journey help launch another?

A group of La Clinica patients and staff thinks maybe so. The group, which meets weekly to do crafts, exercise, and talk wellness at Birch Grove Health Center next to Alba Park downtown, has begun sharing its creations with people who frequent the park.

Within an hour of the group placing painted rocks with inspirational messages at the bases of trees, all had been carried away. Brightly colored folded-paper flowers and butterflies bearing messages also went quickly.

Creating art can help patients reduce stress and anxiety, decrease negative emotions, and distract thoughts of illness, studies have shown. But the group has felt the benefits of reaching out to support others as well.

"I myself have held onto little things that somebody gave me," said patient Anne Johnson, who credits the art group with helping her manage her anxiety and who was among the rock painters. "You put your hope in that. It's something you hang onto that's meaningful."

"Maybe this will put a smile on somebody's face."



Thank you!

As always, we appreciate you and your generous support of programs that help our community.



Schools Continued from the cover

The center will be the 11th in La Clinica's network of school-based health centers, which in 2017 served 2,776 children who made 12,936 visits for services that ranged from immunizations and treatment of minor childhood ailments to well child/adolescent visits and mental health counseling.

The center at Kids Unlimited Academy will serve students first, then expand care to all family members, with the goal of eventually serving 500 patients, La Clinica Outreach Director Ed Smith-Burns said. It will have two medical exam rooms and two mental health therapy rooms and be staffed with a full-time nurse, a part-time primary care provider, a mental health provider, and an office specialist.

La Clinica is grateful for major contributors to the project including these foundations: Carpenter, Chaney Family, Cow Creek Umpqua Indian, West Family, Gordon Elwood, and Anna May Family.



2017 Raise Your Heart for Health