Guided by a philosophy to provide personalized, top quality health care, Community Hospital Long Beach has been a trusted health care resource for more than 90 years. As the newest hospital member of the MemorialCare family, Community Hospital Long Beach creates new value not only with its leadership in mental health care, but also with many other important programs that help keep members of the local community happy and healthy.

GROWING WISELY TO DELIVER VALUE

Residency Program Expands
Developing future providers of care who understand the needs of our patients is an important part of Community Hospital Long Beach’s commitment to delivering value and helping the community connect to better health. We joined our sister hospitals, Long Beach Memorial and Miller Children’s & Women’s Hospital Long Beach, for an exciting expansion of a new residency program in the Center for Medical Education, launching a psychiatric residency program for the first time in our history. This new initiative leverages our long-standing expertise in providing comprehensive mental health care for adults through our MemorialCare Center for Mental Health & Wellness. The education program also is planning expansions in urology, pediatric surgery, sports and family medicine, and internal medicine.

Introducing MemorialCare Center for Mental Health & Wellness
Members of the community joined us for a special ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house for the MemorialCare Center for Mental Health & Wellness at Community Hospital Long Beach. Following the ceremony, guests were treated to a behind-the-scenes tour of the new center, which offers a wide range of treatment options for patients with mental health conditions, including inpatient, outpatient and partial hospitalization/intensive outpatient programs.
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Understanding New Moms and Moms-to-Be
Leveraging Community Hospital Long Beach’s deep expertise in identifying and treating mental illness, we hosted a special physician dinner and lecture with the goal of helping our physicians become even more adept at recognizing patients who may be experiencing the symptoms of these disorders. More than 35 attendees learned how to screen, treat or refer women with psychiatric illness during pregnancy and the postpartum period.

Four-Legged Volunteers Provide the Right Therapy
While volunteers already make a sizable difference during a patient’s stay at Community Hospital Long Beach, our new pet therapy program has taken volunteer support to a new level. Working with BARK (Beach Animals Reading with Kids), Mary Alice McLoughlin, manager, found a resource for certified therapy dogs who are trained for hospital environments. Now, both two- and four-legged volunteers visit patients and staff in waiting areas, as well as in individual rooms, creating smiles as they go and making everyone’s day just a little bit better.

A Powerful Force to Overcome Depression
Sufferers of deep depression often find that traditional medication does not provide the solution for much-needed relief. Community Hospital Long Beach introduced Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) therapy, a gentle outpatient treatment to help severely depressed patients regain wellness. A safe, highly effective, non-invasive and non-narcotic treatment alternative, TMS helps patients achieve remission and turn their lives around. Provided in an office setting during 40-minute sessions, five days a week for up to six weeks, TMS delivers magnetic pulses through a coil. This stimulates an area of the brain that controls mood and is underactive in patients with depression. Following treatment, patients return to their normal daily activities. As one of the few hospitals in Southern California to offer this therapy, Community Hospital Long Beach is proud to be able to offer new hope for those with severe depression.
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MemorialCare Center for Mental Health & Wellness Debuts New Programs

Fulfilling its promise to make mental health care even more accessible, Community Hospital Long Beach debuted new inpatient and outpatient programs at the recently opened MemorialCare Center for Mental Health & Wellness. Now new or expecting mothers have a local resource with the Center’s Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders Program, which provides patient- and family-centered treatment options to help tackle problems that may interfere with a mother’s ability to bond with her baby or function at her maximum level of independence.

The Center also introduced a Geriatric Psychiatric Program tailored to the unique challenges of older adults experiencing severe depression, mild to moderate cognitive impairment and grief or loss. Opening a new Outpatient Psychiatric Clinic, the Center now provides psychiatric evaluation and treatment as well as therapy for individuals, couples and families. The new Partial Hospitalization and Intensive Outpatient Program is specially designed for patients who don’t need to be hospitalized, but need more therapy than what the Outpatient Psychiatric Clinic can offer.

Emergency Department Improves “Door-to-Doctor” Time

With the help of Lean principles and a focus on delivering greater value to our patients with increasing access to quality care, Community Hospital Long Beach’s Emergency Department established new processes in order to see emergency patients even faster. The department has taken important steps to have triage nurses see patients so they can get to doctors for evaluation quickly. In addition, we have redesigned care processes to streamline the number of times a patient’s location needs to be moved.

New Community Healing Project Improves the Care Environment

Knowing how important the patient and family experience is when our patients are hospitalized, Community Hospital Long Beach introduced “Community Healing,” a new initiative that greatly enhances patient satisfaction and improves outcomes by providing a warm and welcoming environment. Embraced by the entire hospital as a part of our culture, this comprehensive patient centered approach to care emphasizes each patient’s mental, emotional, spiritual, social and physical well-being.

QUALITY DEFINES THE VALUE PROPOSITION

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CREATING NEW VALUE IN HEALTH CARE

COMMUNITY HOSPITAL LONG BEACH

Promoting Healthy Lifestyles “On the Roof”
Community Hospital Long Beach hosted the 2nd Annual Stomp on the Roof Festival to promote the many mental health and developmental health care programs that are offered to the community. Developed in partnership with Arts & Services for Disabled, the free event, set on the hospital’s rooftop, provided the public with opportunities to connect with others in the community and learn about the resources available to keep their families healthy. While many adults live with a serious mental illness, about 60 percent of adults and nearly half of children with these disorders do not receive the treatment they need. The festival set out to address that challenge by bringing together more than 30 local organizations that provide mental health resources, support for intellectual and developmental disabilities, resources for older adults, as well as other health and wellness support services. Attendees enjoyed a wellness walk around our campus to kick off the event, followed by a number of music and art workshops. Music therapists from both Arts & Services for Disabled and Community Hospital Long Beach led music workshops and drum circles throughout the day, with the first 1,000 visitors receiving a free commemorative drum.

Celebrating Our Role in the MemorialCare Family
Community Hospital Long Beach employees marked our third anniversary of joining the nonprofit MemorialCare Health System, becoming part of an organization committed to bringing the highest quality care to the community at the greatest value. In addition to expanding the services we offer our patients, we are closely aligned with MemorialCare’s other hospitals in our area, including Long Beach Memorial and Miller Children’s & Women’s Hospital Long Beach. With their support and MemorialCare’s leadership and vision, we have become an even stronger resource to our region, as we celebrate 90 years of serving the community.

LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY TO MAXIMIZE CARE

We’re Live with Electronic Medical Records
Following the lead of all MemorialCare hospitals that led the industry in early integration and use of an electronic medical records (EMR) system, Community Hospital Long Beach is now live with the Epic EMR. Our goal of delivering high quality health care became even more achievable with the implementation of this powerful communications tool. A proven, highly advanced inpatient system first implemented by MemorialCare in 2006, Epic provides our care teams with much improved access to best practice guidelines, decision support tools and other safety checks. With Community Hospital Long Beach now on board with this technology, all MemorialCare hospitals and pediatric outpatient specialty centers have a fully integrated EMR with a common platform.

Annual Gala Supports Technology Investments
As a nonprofit community hospital, Community Hospital Long Beach relies on the support of the Community Hospital Long Beach Foundation to advance our ability to provide the best care possible with the help of the latest medical technologies. This year, our Foundation’s annual fundraiser, the Condit Spirit Gala, “A Magical Evening,” raised $100,000 to purchase an ultrasound/echocardiogram system. Held at the Hyatt Regency Long Beach, the event honored 41 years of the Community Hospital Long Beach Foundation. All proceeds will help ensure that Community Hospital Long Beach continues to provide quality health care by optimizing the latest medical technologies and providing programs to meet the diverse needs of our community.
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