

# *We Own the Health of Our Community*

## **Glendale's Collective Impact Initiative**

Glendale leaders are invited to participate in the *We Own the Health of Our Community* project kickoff for community-wide engagement to improve health in Glendale and reduce the risk of chronic disease. The event will be held on November 12, 2015, in the Regency Room of the Glendale YWCA and will begin with a 5:30 p.m. tapas reception.

**Introducing a Collective Impact Initiative:** Glendale's Collective Impact Initiative will help us come together as a community to accomplish what individual organizations can't achieve by themselves. In doing so, we will form a broad-based collaborative. For Glendale, this means working together to address the growing health risks that faces our community. To support the effort, Glendale Healthier Community Coalition (Coalition) members recently received several major grants to address chronic disease in the greater Glendale community. Preliminary findings confirm our fears. Among 700 people screened so far, 50% show high risk for diabetes and over 20% are at high risk for cardiovascular disease. This is cause for significant concern, because diabetes is frequently interrelated with heart disease and cancer.

**What happens at the kickoff:** At the *We Own the Health of Our Community* event, community leaders and individuals will learn how they can participate in the Collective Impact Initiative; specifically, what we can each do to own the health of our community. Through this Initiative, we will explore a creative approach that engages all sectors of the Glendale community by *working together to accelerate change*. At the event, we will:

- Hear a thought-provoking presentation about the health status of our community
- Explore a first-ever local strategy that engages and coordinates community-wide efforts
- Discuss how community leaders can raise health awareness among staff and members
- Find out how some local organizations are developing models that can be widely adopted
- Learn about preparations for a Comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment

**The Kickoff will begin with a Tapas Reception** as an opportunity for the project team to brief key community leaders in anticipation of their accepting a role in Glendale's Collective Impact Initiative. Participants will include leaders from the City of Glendale, Glendale Adventist Medical Center, Glendale Memorial Medical Hospital and Health Center, USC Verdugo Hills Hospital, Glendale Unified School District, chambers of commerce and businesses, Glendale Community College, Los Angeles County DHHS, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, service clubs, and other sectors. The reception features a multicultural tapas buffet by a celebrity chef known for crafting healthy and delicious cuisine.

**How did this event come about?** Working together to promote community health is a Glendale tradition. Past collaborations between the non-profit, municipal, healthcare, educational, and faith sectors have been highly successful. For example, Glendale Healthy Kids (GHK) was one of the first projects created by the Coalition. Twenty years later, through its collaborative efforts, GHK coordinates in-kind medical, dental, and mental health care for 700 children annually. Also, the Coalition continues to organize the triennial Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), which guides the annual community health plan in each of our hospitals. The last CHNA identified diabetes risk as the primary driver of poor health in Glendale and a top priority for prevention efforts. The data shows an increase in diabetes health risk among school-aged children and dramatic increases in diabetes among hospital patients. This trend significantly raises risk for heart disease and cancer. The emerging health risk is larger than any one organization can address; that's why Glendale is working together to establish a Collective Impact Initiative.

**Benefits to us, our families, employees, and the future of Glendale:** This is our community. We live, work, and play here, and collectively, we can make Glendale a healthy community. Glendale's Collective Impact Initiative will help us coordinate our efforts. The result will be a healthier future for all of us. Together, we will demonstrate what a community that works together can do.

**Highlights and endorsements:** The *We Own the Health of Our Community* event on November 12 is chaired by Glendale City Manager Scott Ochoa with announcer Tom Lorenz, the City's Public Information Officer. The event is endorsed by Congressman Adam Schiff, Senator Carol Liu, Assembly member Mike Gatto, Supervisor Mike Antonovich, and the Glendale City Council. It is also supported by the leadership of Glendale Adventist Medical Center, Glendale Memorial Hospital and Healthcare Center and USC Verdugo Hills Hospital.

The event is coordinated by the Glendale Healthier Community Coalition; planned by Glendale Healthy Kids Executive Director, Sharon Townsend, GAMC's Bruce Nelson and the planning committee; and, sponsored by the Healthcare Foundation at GAMC.

On behalf of the planning committee, we thank you for your careful consideration.

**Planning Committee members:**

Sharon Townsend, CEO, Glendale Healthy Kids – Chair

Bruce Nelson, Director of Community Services, Glendale Adventist Medical Center – Co-Chair

Irene Bourdon, President, The Healthcare Foundation at GAMC

Lynda Burlison, Director of Health Services, Glendale Unified School District

Cassie McCarty, Director of Mission Integration & Spiritual Care, Dignity Health Glendale Memorial Hospital and Health Center

Andaye Hill, Project Lead & Health Education Manager, Glendale Adventist Medical Center

Judi Kendall, CEO, Chamber of Commerce

Sirvard Khanoyan, MD, Co-Director Family Practice Residency Program

Tom Lorenz, Director of Communications & Community Relations, City of Glendale

Denise Miller, Live Well Senior Center Director, Glendale Adventist Medical Center

Vince Rifino, Battalion Chief, Glendale Fire Department