Let’s make Silicon Valley the healthiest region in America!

New Children’s Dental Center bringing smiles to North County

With a colorful ceremony featuring local dignitaries and dancing lions, The Health Trust opened its newest Children’s Dental Center this summer, bringing much-needed affordable dental care to Northern Santa Clara County.

The Health Trust’s Children’s Dental Center of Sunnyvale, 897 West El Camino Real, could not have been built and equipped without a $1.1 million grant from FIRST 5 Santa Clara County and $300,000 from El Camino Hospital.

The new clinic, with state-of-the-art equipment and top-notch pediatric dentists, will make it possible for thousands more children, from infants through middle school, to receive the high quality dental care they need regardless of insurance.

“Oral health is one of the most common unmet health needs, especially among young children.”

Jolene Smith
FIRST 5 Santa Clara County

The center accepts all forms of insurance, including government insurance like Denti-Cal.

“Before we opened this center, there were only five dentists in northern Santa Clara County who would take low-income pediatric patients covered by state insurance,” said Health Trust CEO Frederick Ferrer. “So parents had no way to get their children the preventive dental care they desperately needed.”

The 4,800-square-foot, kid-friendly center makes visiting the dentist a

Dining Out For Life 2011 is best year yet For AIDS fundraiser

Indian flavors and New York style spiced up Silicon Valley’s Dining Out for Life 2011.

On April 28, thousands of people and more than 40 restaurants across Silicon Valley participated in Dining Out for Life, a fundraiser for The Health Trust AIDS Services. Restaurants donated a portion of the evening’s receipts and diners gathered their friends and families to enjoy a meal and support the largest provider of non-medical HIV/AIDS services in Santa Clara County.

The Health Trust’s third Dining Out for Life extravaganza featured

Learn how seniors are looking out for one another.

See DINING, page 9
See DENTAL CENTER, page 6

See -Page 4
Healthy Living

Family Resource Center gardens teach children the joys of healthy foods

It’s fall planting season, and at five Family Resource Center gardens across Silicon Valley, families are sowing the seeds of healthy eating habits – along with carrots, beets, broccoli, onions and Chinese cabbage.

The Family Resource Gardens project, part of The Health Trust’s Healthy Living Initiative, aims to increase access to healthy fruits and vegetables for low-income families. It also introduces children to the wonders of nature and the satisfaction of growing their own food.

Beginning in May, families and Health Trust volunteers under the direction of Silicon Valley HealthCorps members built gardens at Northwood and Luther Burbank elementary schools in San Jose, New World Learning Center in Sunnyvale, Trinity United Methodist Church in Mountain View and MACSA in Gilroy. The gardens project is part of FIRST 5 Santa Clara County’s Learning Together Initiative.

The summer gardens flourished under the attentive care of FRC staff and volunteers, producing a bounty of tomatoes, eggplant, squash, beans, corn, strawberries, artichokes, and peppers. At each garden, HealthCorps workers set up a worm bin for vermiculture composting – much to the delight of the children – and taught the FRC staff how to use food and garden scraps to produce compost.

After the summer harvest, the fall planting began. Local master gardeners donated seeds and organic fertilizer, and HealthCorps worker Otilia Cross helped the families decide which winter crops to plant.

“Most of the families at the FRCs are immigrant families new to the Santa Clara County microclimate,” Cross said. “They come from Latin America, Asia, India and Africa. Cool season crops such as kale, collards, kohlrabi are not common in their traditional cuisines, so the gardens will help them to get familiar with how to grow and cook these vegetables.”

Learn more about The Health Trust’s Healthy Living Initiative at www.healthtrust.org/living.
‘Seeds of Wonder’

The garden can be a wonderful place for young children to discover their environment, the cycle of life and the joy of eating fresh fruits and veggies. The Health Trust is turning the Family Resource Center gardens into playgrounds and laboratories, using a curriculum developed by Life Lab, a non-profit organization in Santa Cruz.

Silicon Valley HealthCorps workers have developed a toolkit around the Life Lab course, “Sowing Seeds of Wonder.” It includes information about garden maintenance, planting, harvesting and composting, as well as a year’s worth of educational children’s activities tailored specifically to the season and garden cycles. FRC staffers will be trained on how to use the complete toolkit and will be introducing it to the children and their families this fall.

For more information about “Sowing Seeds of Wonder” and other Life Lab curriculum publications, go to www.lifelab.org.

Federal health reform grant bolsters local efforts

As a result of the new emphasis on wellness and prevention in the federal Affordable Care Act passed in 2010, The Health Trust has received a grant for $350,000 to lead a multi-agency, year-long policy education campaign to increase support for and adoption of policies that improve access to healthy food in low-income communities in San Jose.

The funding for this project is provided by the Department of Health and Human Services, and was awarded through the Santa Clara County Public Health Department as part of its Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) obesity prevention project.

In partnership with the City of San Jose, Working Partnerships USA, Pacific Coast Farmers’ Market Association, and FIRST 5 Santa Clara County, The Health Trust will investigate the feasibility of a sugar-sweetened beverage tax and advance policies that reduce barriers to the establishment of community gardens, farmers markets and mobile produce vending in low-income neighborhoods where residents don’t have access to affordable fruits and vegetables. This exciting project provides the opportunity to change many of the core policies that make it time-consuming and expensive for both public and private agencies to bring healthy food into high-need communities.

A productive year for Silicon Valley HealthCorps class

On September 30, the second class of Silicon Valley HealthCorps members finished their year of service, as part of a partnership of The Health Trust, AmeriCorps and 11 local organizations that bring fresh fruits and vegetables to local residents.

The class of 36 Corps members accumulated an impressive list of accomplishments including:

- 155 farm field trips attended by 3,916 youth and adults
- 85 community workshops attended by 1,461 youth and adults
- At least 8 hours of garden-based education delivered to 3,350 youth
- Over 30,500 volunteer hours provided by more than 5,200 volunteers
- Nine new school and community gardens
- Nearly 100 new backyard gardens
- More than 47,000 pounds of fresh produce harvested

The Health Trust is recruiting its next class of 34 full- and part-time HealthCorps members. Visit www.healthtrust.org/svhealthcorps for information or to apply.
Healthy Aging

Seniors respond to service cutbacks by becoming advocates for their peers

Where can an older adult turn to get answers to questions about applying for Social Security benefits or to find a safe place to live?

There was a time when senior centers and community organizations had staff members who could help seniors and their families find the answers and the resources they needed. But with recent budget cutbacks, those experts just aren’t around.

That’s why The Health Trust has launched the Senior Peer Advocate (SPA) program as part of its Healthy Aging Initiative.

The SPA program is part of the larger effort of The Health Trust and its partners, including the Aging Services Collaborative (ASC) and the Center on Healthy Aging in Multicultural Populations (CHAMP) at San José State University. It is funded through a grant from the Council on Aging Silicon Valley.

The program grew out of a recommendation from the ASC Best Practices Committee and is modeled after a successful program in Fremont. Volunteers connect seniors with agencies that can help them, whether they need a ride to the doctor, a safe place to socialize with other seniors or someone to help them make sense of their medical bills. Studies have shown that many older adults, particularly those with language and cultural challenges, need and benefit from peer-to-peer assistance.

The first class of SPA volunteers completed a comprehensive 20-hour training program in October, and will have additional training sessions monthly. The curriculum includes extensive learning about community resources and services available to seniors in the areas of transportation, housing, healthy aging issues, health benefits and more. SPA volunteers will be prepared to share this information with seniors, their caregivers and families.

“Seniors should not be going without the services they need to lead healthy lives just because they don’t know how to navigate the bureaucracy,” said Lori Andersen, Director of Healthy Aging for The Health Trust. “Peer Advocates understand their problems and how the help.”

To meet with a Senior Peer Advocate or sign up to become one, contact the following partner sites:

- John XXIII Senior Center
- Eastside Community Center
- Seven Trees Community Center
- Mayfair Community Center
- City of Sunnyvale Senior Center
- Community Service Agency of Mountain View
- India Community Center, Milpitas
- Self-Help for the Elderly
- Centennial Recreation Center, Morgan Hill

Labor Day Run raises money for Meals On Wheels

The third annual Labor Day Run for a Healthy World, which benefits The Health Trust’s Meals on Wheels program, was a huge success.

World Runners, a organization dedicated to “Ending Hunger step by step”, staged the charity event at Sunnyvale Baylands Park on Monday, Sept. 5. More than 300 runners, walkers and babies in strollers completed the 10K and 5K courses through the baylands.

Dozens of Health Trust staffers, families and friends joined in the healthy holiday fun, as racers and volunteers.

Meals on Wheels needs your help. To make a donation, go to www.healthtrust.org/donate.
Health Trust forms partnership to promote active living for seniors

In March, The Health Trust launched the Silicon Valley Partnership for Healthy Aging (SVHAP) to ensure that older adults in Santa Clara and northern San Benito counties have opportunities to stay fit and prevent common health problems.

The San Jose State University Department of Kinesiology and the Center for Healthy Aging in Multicultural Populations are leading the SVHAP effort through a two-year grant from The Health Trust.

After a successful launch meeting, the partnership zeroed in on two widely respected programs that have been proven successful in helping seniors stay fit and active. Enhance Fitness focuses on stretching, flexibility, balance, low impact aerobics, and strength training exercises — everything health professionals say people need to maintain health and function as they grow older. Matter of Balance is a series of classes aimed at preventing falls, a major cause of injury for older adults.

SVHAP is hosting trainings in both programs this fall. For more information, go to www.svhap.org or contact Jennifer Schachner at jennifer.schachner@sjsu.edu.

YWCA honors Lori Andersen

Congratulations to Lori Andersen, Director of Healthy Aging for The Health Trust, who received a 2011 YMCA Silicon Valley Tribute to Women Award in May.

Lori was honored for her leadership of The Health Trust’s Healthy Aging Initiative and her commitment to the health and well-being of Silicon Valley seniors.

Before joining The Health Trust, Lori held leadership positions with the Council on Aging Silicon Valley and the Alzheimer’s Association of Northern California and Northern Nevada.

The YWCA TWIN Awards Program is in its 27th year and long has been considered one of Silicon Valley’s most prestigious awards. The program honors women who exemplify excellence in executive-level positions.

Become an AGEnt for Change

Do you want to make a difference for older adults in communities throughout Silicon Valley? Then AGEnts for Change wants you.

AGEnts for Change is a new, two-year program created under The Health Trust’s Healthy Aging Initiative and supported by a grant from The SCAN Foundation. The purpose of AGEnts is to bring together people to advocate for programs, services and policies that will improve the quality of life for older adults in our community.

You may have come of age during the civil rights and peace movements of the 1950s and 1960s. Today, with so many programs that benefit seniors threatened at the local, state and federal level, it’s time to freshen up those advocacy skills and get to work.

The Health Trust, partnering with Catholic Charities, will train volunteers and coordinate advocacy efforts.

If you would like to join a team of committed people working together to strengthen our community’s support for older adults, bring your ideas, talents and passion to the work of advocating for the needs of older adults and their families in our community.

For more information, contact Beverly DeKoven at beverlyd@healthtrust.org or 408.879.4103.
Smiles all around at Sunnyvale dental center opening

Dental Center

fun experience, with a movie theater, video games and kid-sized furniture and instruments. It is operated by Children’s Dental Group, the largest provider of children’s dental services in California, which also runs The Health Trust’s Children’s Dental Center at the Tropicana Shopping Center in East San Jose. The San Jose center, which opened in 2008, has been so successful that The Health Trust expanded it in June, thanks to a grant from FIRST 5, and added two treatment chairs.

The grand opening festivities featured public tours, games for kids, free dental screenings and a lively troupe of dancers from the Far East Dragon Lion Dance Association. Santa Clara County Supervisor Liz Kniss, Sunnyvale Mayor Melinda Hamilton and representatives from FIRST 5, El Camino Hospital and The Health Trust helped cut the ribbon.

By September, the center was seeing 175 patients a week, mostly from northern Santa Clara and southern San Mateo County.

“Oral health is one of the most common unmet health needs, especially among young children,” said FIRST 5 Santa Clara County Executive Director Jolene Smith. “This dental center will have significant, positive impact on the oral health of youngsters throughout the county.”

To schedule an appointment at The Health Trust’s Children’s Dental Center of Sunnyvale, call 408.701.5882. To schedule an appointment at the Tropicana center, call 408.240.0250.
Sunnyvale dental center opening

Cecile Currier, Vice President of Professional Corporate and Community Health Services at El Camino Hospital, spoke at the grand opening.

The Health Trust CEO Frederick Ferrer, left, listens as Santa Clara County Supervisor Liz Kniss stresses the importance of fluoridating drinking water to fight tooth decay.
Healthy Communities

N2MEN.ORG

New Health Trust website promotes gay men’s health in Silicon Valley

San Jose Gay PRIDE was the setting for the launch of N2MEN.ORG, a new web site aimed at preventing HIV/AIDS and helping Silicon Valley gay and bisexual men lead healthier lives.

Created by The Health Trust with support from the Elton John AIDS Foundation, N2MEN.ORG offers frank answers to intimate questions that men may not feel comfortable asking their doctors or their friends. It provides guidelines to safe sex practices and listings of local health resources in a fun, attractive format. It includes a blog by Dr. Frank Spinelli, a gay New York internist and author of “The Advocate Guide to Gay Men’s Health and Wellness”, and features celebrity designer and HIV/AIDS advocate Jack Mackenroth.

Trained Health Trust peer volunteers at San Jose Gay PRIDE, Aug. 20-21, received an enthusiastic response from the local gay community, which until now lacked an online gathering place with lists of STD testing sites, answers to questions about HIV and STD prevention, as well as community events in Silicon Valley. And it didn’t take long for N2MEN.ORG to go global. Perhaps demonstrating the need for accessible authoritative information about AIDS, the site has been getting hits from all over the United States and as far away as China and India.

Check out the site at N2MEN.ORG or to become a peer volunteer, please contact Jon Breen at 408.559.5594 or Jonb@healthtrust.org.

County report highlights health Inequities

Santa Clara County may appear to be one of the healthiest places in America, but a closer look reveals that people who live in low-income neighborhoods or belong to certain racial/ethnic groups suffer higher rates of chronic disease and have shorter life expectancies.

An illuminating report released in May by the Santa Clara County Public Health Department and funded by The Health Trust examines the root causes of health disparities, focusing on the role that inequities in income, education, status and privilege play in determining health outcomes.

Among the findings:
1. County residents with more education and higher incomes report better health and lower rates of chronic disease.
2. Residents with low incomes tend to have higher rates of obesity and smoking.
3. Children in low-income families are more likely to suffer poor health, affecting their ability to do well in school and eventually earn a decent wage.

In August, Assembly member Paul Fong convened a briefing in San Jose on health disparities and social inequities. More than 100 people attended. Health Trust CEO Frederick J. Ferrer was among the panelists who responded to the report in a community dialogue on the sources of and solutions to health inequities.
appearances by Suvir Saran, the renowned executive chef of Michelin-rated Devi Restaurant in Manhattan who was featured on Bravo TV’s “Top Chef Masters.” A passionate AIDS activist, Saran jetted in from New York and greeted diners at some of the more than 40 restaurants that participated in the fundraiser, including The Plumed Horse in Saratoga, Viva in Los Gatos and Reposado in Palo Alto.

While in town, Saran presented a talk and demonstration about healthy cooking for AIDS Services clients at The Health Trust Food Basket. He and noted San Francisco chef and cookbook author Joyce Goldstein prepared scrumptious salads and talked about the importance of proper nutrition for those living with HIV/AIDS.

“It is so important for people with a chronic disease like those living with HIV/AIDS to pay attention to nutrition and eat well,” Saran said. “I have met and cooked for many people living with HIV/AIDS and have seen how much comfort and hope they receive from delicious, healthy meals prepared with love.”

On his whirlwind, two-day visit, Saran also spoke with members of the Silicon Valley HealthCorps about his organic farm in upstate New York and appeared at the India Community Center in Milpitas for a fundraiser and lively conversation with noted food blogger Carolyn Jung.

Dining Out for Life is The Health Trust’s only fundraiser in support of its AIDS Services and has brought in more than $85,000 over the last two years. Plans are already in the works for Dining Out for Life 2012 on Thursday, April 26. If you would like to be a sponsor or if you have a favorite restaurant you’d like to have participate, contact Vandana Pant at vandanap@healthtrust.org.

Chef Suvir paid a visit to the Health Trust’s Silicon Valley HealthCorps team.

Celebrity chefs Joyce Goldstein, left, and Suvir Saran showed Health Trust Food Basket clients how to prepare simple, healthy and tasty salads.

Thanks for your hospitality!
The Health Trust thanks these Silicon Valley restaurants for participating in Dining Out for Life 2011. Please show your appreciation by visiting them throughout the year and letting them know you are supporting Dining Out for Life.

**And special thanks to our sponsors:**

- Subaru
- Silicon Valley/San Jose Business Journal
- Camera Cinemas
- CBS Television Stations
- Cellit
- KBAY 94.5 FM
- Kimpton Hotels and Restaurants
- Lucini Italia
- The Mercury News
- NBC Bay Area
- Open Table
- Park Place Restaurant
- Cypress Hotel
- Yelp
- Wonderful Mini Almonds and Pistachios

---

**Campbell**
- Capers
- Hobee’s - Pruneyard
- Mama Mia Italian

**Cupertino**
- Amici’s
- Cupertino Bakery
- Park Place

**Los Gatos**
- Hobee’s - Los Gatos
- Nick’s on Main
- Tapestry
- Viva Los Gatos

**Menlo Park**
- Amici’s

**Mountain View**
- Amici’s
- Bushido
- Sakoon
- Scratch
- Vive Sol

**Palo Alto**
- Café Calafia
- Gravity Wine Bar
- Hobee’s - El Camino
- Hobee’s - Town & Country

**Redwood Shores**
- Amici’s

**San Jose**
- Amici’s
- Citrus
- Fahrenheit Restaurant & Lounge
- Kaama Lounge
- Las Cazuelas
- Loft Bar and Bistro

**Silicon Valley HealthCorps**
- Morrocco’s
- Paolo’s
- Time Deli

**Sunnyvale**
- Fauotline Brewing Company
- Hobee’s
Thank You!

Corporate Volunteers in Action

Volunteers from Kaiser Permanente Santa Clara spent two days assembling furniture, painting and sorting food at the new Health Trust Food Basket.

On Aug. 24, 25 Symantec employees took time out from their work in the IT Process Improvement Department to make some process improvements at The Health Trust AIDS Services Food Basket and Race Street Family Resource Center. The volunteers organized storage shelves at the Food Basket and assembled racks for toys in the children’s play area in the FRC. What a difference their efforts made!

If your company is interested in becoming a Health Trust Community Partner, contact Leif Christiansen at leifc@healthtrust.org.

Corporate Volunteer Groups (2010-2011)

Community Partner Spotlight: Symantec
M·A·C AIDS Fund donates $25,000 to the Food Basket

M·A·C Cosmetics, which contributes 100 percent of the profits from its VIVA GLAM lipstick to help people living with HIV/AIDS, has invested $25,000 in The Health Trust AIDS Services Food Basket through its M·A·C AIDS Fund. The money will be used to purchase high quality fresh fruit and vegetables to prevent malnutrition and boost the nutritional intake of AIDS Services clients and to implement healthy eating education as a way to fight infection and maintain health.

The M·A·C AIDS Fund has raised more than $224 million over the past 15 years. Too bad VIVA GLAM spokesperson Lady Gaga wasn’t able to present the check in person.

Ryan White funding supports AIDS Services

Building upon its prior success as a leader in AIDS Services, The Health Trust in May successfully secured new multi-year Ryan White contracts through Santa Clara County totaling $2.7 million for its HIV/AIDS work.

The Health Trust’s care management services continue to provide nurse and social work case management services to low-income residents living with HIV/AIDS, along with emergency financial assistance, monthly food/nutrition services, housing subsidies and placement services, transportation and benefits counseling.

SCAN Foundation helps Health Trust engage seniors

The SCAN Foundation has awarded The Health Trust two grants totaling $130,000. AGEnts for Change will use $100,000 to build and engage a group of constituents, caregivers and stakeholders engaged in advocacy and social action to improve supports and services for older adults in Santa Clara County.

As lead agency for the Aging Services Collaborative, The Health Trust will use a $30,000 grant to join a statewide effort to forge a unified voice for reforming California’s system of long-term supports and services. The ASC and The Health Trust will also develop and pursue a policy agenda that engages Silicon Valley stakeholders in building a livable community for all ages.

The SCAN Foundation is dedicated to creating a society in which seniors receive medical treatment and human services that are integrated in the setting most appropriate to their needs. For more information, visit www.TheSCANFoundation.org.

Generous support from our community:

- Cadence Foundation donated $25,000 for the expansion of The AIDS Services Food Basket.
- The Mercury News Wish Book Fund donated $15,000 for Meals On Wheels.
- The Cisco Foundation donated $15,000 to help launch the online Chronic Disease Self-Management program.
- United Way Silicon Valley donated $50,000 to AIDS Services Housing.

Thanks to all our donors!

In brief

Up before dawn to register the homeless

Health Trust employees got up at 4 a.m. to join hundreds of volunteers in Housing 1000’s survey of the chronically homeless in Santa Clara County. Jennifer Loving, executive director of Destination: Home, was one of the leaders of the June registry effort, the first step toward identifying the 1,000 most vulnerable homeless people and moving them into permanent housing.

Destination: Home, a public-private partnership aimed at ending chronic homelessness in the county, became a program of The Health Trust in 2010.

For more information, visit www.destinationhomescc.org. And you will find more information about Housing 1000 at www.housing1000sv.org

Learning and Living Lounge opens

The Health Trust’s AIDS Services clients have a bright, attractive gathering place for support groups and classes now that the Neil A. Christie Learning & Living Lounge has opened at 48A Race St. in San Jose.

The new lounge offers weekly luncheon support groups for all genders, a mindful meditation group, educational workshops and a positive self-management program.

Future programs include a series of workshops on computer competency.

For information, contact Sean Lowry at seanl@healthtrust.org

Kathy Meier McCarthy assumes leadership of Health Trust board

Kathy Meier McCarthy is the new chair of The Health Trust Board of Trustees.

McCarthy, Chief Legal Counsel for EMQ FamiliesFirst, was elected in June to succeed Richard Triolo, who had served as board chair since 2009.

Prior to joining EMQ FamiliesFirst, McCarthy was in private practice for 25 years and is a former president of the Santa Clara County Bar Association.

In the past year, three new trustees have joined The Health Trust board: Dr. Ruma Kumar, Roberta Robins and Karen Danna.
Rebuilding in challenging times

At a recent conference in New Orleans, I heard a great deal about rebuilding efforts on the Gulf coast and in Haiti. It was fascinating to see how the non-profit providers responded to the challenge of rebuilding their devastated communities. Two approaches emerged: rebuild what was there before the storms or build something new.

In this tough economy, non-profits in our community have suffered game-changing cuts to essential services. Government deficits and the polarization in Sacramento and Washington don’t bode well for recovery any time soon. Going forward, I think that we need to adjust our expectations to the new level of government support for our work.

To build something new, we need a new vocabulary, a new perspective, a different framework. In January, The Health Trust will host a summit on Disruptive Innovation, featuring noted Harvard Business School professor Clay Christensen. Christensen coined the term Disruptive Innovation for the theory that the best way to innovate is not to keep improving on what has been done before, but to do something completely different. At this summit, Christensen will present the theory to us and help us – representatives of the non-profit, high-tech, education and health sectors – explore ways to create a new paradigm for achieving our goals.

As The Health Trust celebrates its 15th anniversary this year, we are grateful for the donors, partners, trustees and staff who have improved the health of our community. We take the stewardship of the Trust as an imperative to invest wisely in the most effective means to improve the health of Silicon Valley, and we will continue to strive for this goal. In these challenging times, we need to shake up our way of thinking if we want to claim this is the healthiest region in America.