



Partners in Health



Engaging in the Community

Our Commitment to the Community

To truly improve lives, UCLA faculty, researchers and students must leave the confines of the campus and connect directly with people in their communities. That is the goal of our community engagement initiative: to engage with a diverse group of partners to improve the health of the broader community.

Today, community engagement is, with teaching, patient care and research, among the core missions of UCLA Health System and the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

By partnering with organizations outside of UCLA, we:

- Gain access to venues to train the next generation of healthcare professionals
- Learn about our regional communities and how best to improve the health of the people living in those communities

Our community engagement does not have geographic boundaries. It is all of those people to whom we provide patient care. It involves people working within our service-learning and research partnerships; and it involves our donor community, whose creativity and generosity are essential to helping UCLA maintain excellence and stay nationally competitive.

For more on our community engagement projects visit:

uclahealth.org/community



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Breathmobile®

The Breathmobile® is an asthma clinic on wheels, traveling to schools to provide free asthma diagnosis, education, treatment and medications to children. Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA is one of 11 sponsors of a Breathmobile®, which was developed by the California Chapter of the Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA).

Board-certified allergists and/or nurse practitioners, nurses, respiratory therapists and patient-service workers provide services on each Breathmobile®, including diagnosis, physical exam, patient history, pharmacological therapy, free medicine, spirometry, limited skin testing and peak flow meter testing.

Each Breathmobile® visits approximately 25 school sites, concentrating on low-income, uninsured youngsters who usually only receive medical care in emergency rooms. The clinic returns to the school every six to eight weeks to provide continuous asthma care. Evaluation studies estimate that those who visit the Breathmobile® experience fewer emergency visits, improved pulmonary function, less school absenteeism and improved quality of life. Patients with mild and moderate asthma appear to have control over the ailment after only two or three visits.

For more information, go to: www.breathmobile.org

CARE Center

UCLA Center for Clinical AIDS Research & Education

The UCLA Center for Clinical AIDS Research and Education (CARE), which provides state-of-the-art medical care and conducts clinical trials for people living with HIV and AIDS, reaches out to the community with educational seminars, clinical trials and referrals.

CARE Center faculty and staff go to community centers, support groups and research symposia to present updates and educational sessions on current treatment research and HIV prevention.

The center's clinical trials are open to anyone who meets the enrollment criteria. Study visits are free and upon completion of the study, the CARE Center tries to link participants to ongoing treatment and care.

Director Ronald Mitsuyasu, M.D., founded UCLA's clinical program in HIV in 1981 while working as an oncologist. Since then, the CARE Center has grown from a two-person operation to a full-scale HIV clinic housed off-campus, with about 900 patients a year.

CARE Center physicians are nationally recognized leaders in HIV medicine, infectious diseases, oncology and more. The center is the UCLA base for several national and international HIV-research networks, as well as a site for pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry-sponsored trials and novel, small-scale, investigator-initiated trials.

Besides being a multidisciplinary outpatient clinic, the center conducts clinical investigations and clinical trials in all areas of HIV therapeutic research and co-infections and provides HIV education and training for the UCLA community and others.

For more information, go to: www.uclacarecenter.org

Care Harbor (Formerly CareNow)

Every year since 2009, UCLA physicians, dentists and ophthalmologists provide mammograms, fill cavities, complete cancer screenings, screen patients for glaucoma and cataracts and perform other health exams at the annual Care Harbor free clinic in Los Angeles.

The Department of Family Medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA coordinates the UCLA effort, including the Jules Stein Eye Institute, which in 2011 provided free surgery to 10 patients and screened about 500 eye patients at risk for eye diseases such as cataracts, diabetic retinopathy and macular degeneration.

In 2011, the clinic, saw more than 3,500 patients over a four-day period.

For more information go to www.careharbor.org

Center for HIV Identification, Prevention and Treatment Service Community Initiative (CHIPTS)

The Center for HIV Identification, Prevention and Treatment Service Community Initiative (CHIPTS) aims to create and share knowledge about HIV disease by searching for a better understanding of HIV, disseminating information about the disease and using knowledge to bring about change.

The center, funded by the National Institute of Mental Health and directed by Mary Jane Rotheram, Ph.D, UCLA professor of clinical psychology at the UCLA Semel Institute for Neurosciences and Human Behavior, has three goals: to pursue scientific discovery, strengthen the capacity of others and seek to bring about positive change.

Investigators from UCLA, Friends Research Institute, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and other research and community partners collaborate to achieve CHIPTS' mission. The CHIPTS community promotes cutting-edge science and networks and builds the capacity of scientists, advocates, policy makers and consumers.

CHIPTS consults on the development of new research projects and helps obtain funds for these initiatives; provides technical assistance in HIV program development and evaluation; and sponsors an annual conference for developing researchers to present their work.

For more information, go to: <http://chipts.ucla.edu>

Community Partners in Care

Depression takes a toll on entire communities, especially in lower-income neighborhoods. The UCLA Center for Health Services and Society, a research center for the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior in the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, is helping find ways to reduce that burden.

UCLA has joined with Santa Monica think-tank RAND and 95 community-based agencies to form Community Partners in Care (CPIC), a five-year collaborative-research project that aims to reduce the burden depression places on underserved communities and to help improve depression care in primary-care, mental-health, substance-abuse, homeless, faith-based and community-trusted settings.

Lessons learned from the research will be offered to the community through workshops. CPIC's goals include determining how to improve access to quality depression care through community-based organizations; bridging the gap in depression care in underserved communities; and trying to improve access for depression care, especially in low-income minority populations in South Los Angeles and the Hollywood/Metro area.

For more information, go to: www.communitypartnersincare.org

CTSI UCLA

Clinical and Translational Science Institute

UCLA Clinical and Translational Science Institute provides the infrastructure to bring UCLA innovations and resources to bear on the greatest health needs of Los Angeles and the nation. It is a dynamic partnership with Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science and Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center.

UCLA CTSI has five primary goals: create an academic home for clinical and translational science; build transdisciplinary research teams to accelerate and translate discovery; educate and train the next generation of clinician-investigators and translational scientists; build and expand academic-community partnerships; and serve as a national resource for collaborative research.

In 2011, the CTSI funded, co-funded or supported 53 awards that leveraged \$738,000 in direct CTSI funding with \$1.1 million in institutional matches.

The total funded research into melanoma, mental health, ovarian cancer and stroke, seed funds for two faculty inventions in partnership with the UCLA Business of Science Center and state-of-the-art clinical support for 404 ongoing research projects and 79 new medical protocols. The CTSI provides ongoing support for junior faculty scholars focused on team-based, patient-oriented research and predoctoral fellows in Health Services Research.

UCLA CTSI is one of 60 such institutes awarded a Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

For more information, go to: www.ctsi.ucla.edu

Happy Feet Clinic

Happy Feet Clinic unites UCLA undergraduates and medical students from the PRIME program at David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA to provide comfort to the homeless one foot at a time by setting up podiatry clinics at multiple sites in Los Angeles, including Union Rescue Mission in downtown L.A., Ocean Park Community Center in Santa Monica and New Image Emergency Shelter in South L.A.

Visitors to the daylong clinic get a foot wash in a tub of warm, soapy water, followed by a foot exam. Students work alongside faculty mentors to check for everything from fungal infections to diabetes. Some foot ailments are remedied immediately. Often, simple services prevent major problems such as leg amputations. A medical "education station" provides fresh socks, shoes and other essential foot-care products.

The program was started in 2008 by 17 PRIME students who wanted to create a community-based initiative that addressed a real need and to add to the existing network of resources and services. UCLA undergrads were recruited and given the opportunity to continually improve and host foot clinics for L.A.'s homeless.

PRIME is a five-year, dual-degree program focused on developing leaders in medicine who will address health policy, care and research for the underserved. Students identify with one of three programs at UCLA-Westwood, UCLA-UC Riverside or UCLA-Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, earning a medical degree with a master's degree in a related field.

For more information, go to: <http://uclahappyfeetclinic.weebly.com>

Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Center

Physician faculty at the Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Center are board certified in internal or family medicine, have special training in preventive and routine care, including pap smears, breast exams and contraception. They treat common medical problems and manage many complex and chronic diseases.

Specialty consultation is also available for issues related to menopause and osteoporosis. In addition, the center refers to a wide array of UCLA specialists with expertise in women's health.

Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Center physicians also see patients at community locations. Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Center faculty provide ongoing education in women's health for the physicians of UCLA Health System, which includes many physicians practicing in neighborhood offices.

Iris Cantor-UCLA WHERC

The Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Education and Resource Center (WHERC) is a non-profit agency that provides education on the physical, psychological and social issues impacting the health of women and girls. The center provides the community-outreach and consumer-education components for the UCLA Center of Excellence in Women's Health, integrating faculty expertise and research with a strong focus on prevention, especially for underserved girls and women.

WHERC partners with community-based organizations to address such issues as reproductive health and the environment, delivering healthcare to culturally diverse women, teen-intimate-partner violence prevention and human trafficking.

The UCLA women's basketball team and the student groups Campus Against Cancer and the American Medical Women's Association medical school chapter conduct the annual PinkZone breast-cancer awareness outreach program.

Lennox Health Fair

Nearly a third of the residents in the community of Lennox live below the poverty level. There is a shortage of basic health services, including preventative services, for this predominately Spanish-speaking population.

But the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and the Lennox School District set out to change that with the bi-annual Lennox Health Fair.

The health fairs, organized by a team of six coordinators from the Latino Medical Student Association (UCLA/Charles R. Drew University chapter), are held twice a year at one of the six schools in the district.

The volunteers, who include physicians, students and community workers, range from first- and second-year medical students who serve as chaperones, help patients with intake forms and take vital readings, to third- and fourth-year medical students and physicians who interview and consult with patients.

Health services include physical exams, immunizations, glucose and cholesterol testing and education, hypertension and anemia screening, vision and hearing testing, mammography, pap smears, dental screening and education for all aspects of healthcare, including HIV, prenatal care and nutrition education. About 200 patients are seen at each event.

L.A. CAPRA

Los Angeles Community Academic Partnership for Research in Aging

The Los Angeles Community Academic Partnership for Research in Aging (L.A. CAPRA) Center implements programs to help older adults stay active and healthy as long as possible.

The partnership is between the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, Charles Drew University, City of Los Angeles Department of Aging and Partners in Care Foundation.

The L.A. CAPRA Center facilitates and implements community-partnered research across Los Angeles, one of the largest and most ethnically diverse urban centers in the United States.

The mission is to launch and test innovative programs that will improve the quality of life of lower-income older adults. The center collaborates with local leadership at community sites to implement these programs.

Current research projects include family care of older Latinos with diabetes, vulnerability of older adults to fraud, grief in older adults and the frailty of older homeless women.

The L.A. CAPRA Center was created in 2010 with a grant from the National Institute on Aging (NIA).

For more information, visit: www.lacapra.med.ucla.edu

Magnolia Place Project

The Magnolia Community Initiative (MCI) aims to galvanize a community to support, nurture and educate 35,000 children living in a low-income area of Los Angeles.

The UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities supports a learning system that encourages experimentation to change outcomes for the population of children and their families. The UCLA Clinical Translational Science Institute (CTSI) is collaborating with the Magnolia Initiative to link investigators from the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA with community partners in applied research in health behaviors, healthcare and community mobilization.

The Magnolia Initiative operates within Los Angeles' West Adams, Pico Union and North Figueroa Corridor neighborhoods. The project draws together more than 70 county, city and community organizations to create a safe, supportive system to help not only the children, but the entire community.

MCI, which was formed in 2008, takes information gleaned from years of research about what helps children thrive. This includes building a community culture that supports health and well-being for everyone.

Operation Haiti

Days after a devastating 7.0 earthquake hit Haiti in 2010, UCLA medical personnel mobilized to help, sending six nurses and an anesthesiologist, along with medical and surgical supplies to the beleaguered country.

UCLA Health System partnered with the Navy to help at the military hospital ship, the USNS Comfort, which docked at Port-au-Prince.

The team spent two weeks, both on the island and on the ship, providing critical care and comfort to those injured in the quake and its aftermath. They saw more than 1,000 patients.

UCLA's assistance to Haiti had also included a half-ton of medical and surgical supplies sent immediately following the disaster by the UCLA Health System and paid for by anonymous donors.

The team blogged about their experiences and many planned to return to the island.

To visit the team's blog, go to: <http://today.ucla.edu/portal/ut/haitirelief.aspx>

Operation Mend

UCLA Operation Mend utilizes the skills of UCLA physicians in a comprehensive and collaborative approach to healing U.S. military personnel wounded and disfigured in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The pioneering program was established in 2007, envisioned by Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center Board and Executive Committee member Ronald A. Katz and his wife, Maddie, to give returning service members with severe facial injuries access to the Army's best burn center and the nation's best plastic and reconstructive surgeons.

In a partnership with Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC), a leading burn and rehabilitation center in San Antonio, Texas, the V.A. Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System, and UCLA Health System, Operation Mend began with facial reconstruction. The program has since expanded to optimize healing of body, mind, and spirit.

Services include plastic and reconstructive surgery, mental-health support (for warriors and their families), orthopaedic reconstruction for severely damaged limbs, urologic treatment, otolaryngological care, the examination and treatment of reproductive issues, repair of airways, and design of new prosthetic ears.

As of November 2012, Operation Mend had aided more than 70 military members.

For more information, go to: www.operationmend.ucla.edu

Partnership for Progress Mentoring Program

The Drew/UCLA Partnership for Progress mentoring program matches medical students with inner-city high school students who might be interested in the sciences but may lack the resources to know how to pursue those dreams.

Medical students from the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science provide support, resources, friendship and knowledge to underserved and underrepresented students who might be interested in pursuing a medical career.

Mentors offer tutoring, practice SAT tests and training sessions, special science classes, college-application and financial-aid workshops and scholarships. They also talk to students about how to get the most out of high school, college and higher education.

The program was seeded in 2000 with a grant from the Association of American Medical Colleges in collaboration with Pfizer, Inc.

For more information, contact partnership4progress@yahoo.com

Project Export

The Charles Drew University Clinical Research Center/UCLA/RAND Project Export mission is to establish the knowledge base necessary to reduce diabetes, depression and other related health disparities among low-income African Americans and Latinos, and also build bridges in minority health by training, educating and implementing pilot programs in these communities.

Project Export also aims to provide formal training in academic and community-based settings for researchers at Charles Drew University, UCLA and RAND, the Santa Monica based-think tank; to increase the participation of medically underserved minorities in health promotion and disease research; and to provide health information in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner to this target population, community-based healthcare providers, the broader academic community and health policy makers.

Partners include Drew faculty and researchers at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, UCLA School of Public Health and RAND.

For more information, go to: www.projectexport.org

RCMAR National Coordinating Center and RCMAR Center for Health Improvement of Minority Elderly

The Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research (RCMAR), established in 1997 by the National Institutes of Health National Institute on Aging, aim to decrease health disparities between minority and non-minority older adults by increasing the number of minority academicians who conduct health-services research on older adults in partnership with community-based organizations who service them.

The RCMAR National Coordinating Center and the RCMAR Center for Health Improvement of Minority Elderly (CHIME) are housed in the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA's Department of Medicine. RCMAR/CHIME's leadership and minority academicians are either faculty or affiliated with the Department of Medicine.

Training programs in the six currently funded RCMARs are geared towards enhancing the development of these academicians' careers, improving recruitment and retention methods used to enlist minority elders in research, creating culturally sensitive measures that assess the health of minority elders, and increasing the effectiveness of interventions designed to improve the health of minority elders.

The RCMAR CC provides logistical support to the RCMARs and oversees the dissemination of research activities such as measurement tools, instruments, publications, community activities, pilot research projects, and other resources developed by RCMAR-affiliated researchers to health professionals, public policy makers and consumers.

For more information, visit: www.rcmar.ucla.edu and www.chime.ucla.edu

RENEW (Recovering Equipment for Nations Everywhere)

RENEW, which stands for Recovering Equipment for Nations Everywhere, collects and donates medical equipment for use in developing countries visited by UCLA medical students and faculty. It is a joint project between the students of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and the nurses of Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center.

The goal of RENEW, which collects everything from IV supplies and antibiotic dressings to catheters and biohazard bags, is to reduce waste of unused medical supplies and bring those items to developing countries. Students help collect, sort, maintain an inventory list and distribute the supplies to UCLA students and faculty traveling to those areas.

Countries served run the gamut from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe.

For more information, go to: www.medstudent.ucla.edu/renew

Sex and Cookies

Cookies are the lure, sex is the topic for the graduate students who run UCLA's Sex and Cookies program.

Four or five times a quarter, students from the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, as well as those from the schools of Public Health and Social Welfare, bring cookies and lively discussions to undergraduates at UCLA residence halls.

The program, which began in 2009, facilitates discussions about healthy relationships, sexuality, consent, communication, contraception and sexually transmitted diseases. The idea is to foster open, supportive and accurate discussions about these topics and to give resident assistants knowledge and communication skills so they can offer support and resources to students.

UCLA faculty members David Gere, an associate professor in the World Arts and Culture program, and Gail Wyatt, Ph.D., a professor at the UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior, helped establish the program.

For more information, contact: uclalsexandcookies@gmail.com

Simms/Mann - UCLA Center for Integrative Oncology

The Simms/Mann - UCLA Center for Integrative Oncology provides a unique model of care for patients and family members touched by cancer. It is affiliated with the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, UCLA Health System and UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center.

The center provides a wide range of free psychosocial services and other programs including:

- Psychological interventions, individual and family counseling and support
- Stress management and coping skills
- Educational services, including a free monthly public lecture called Insights Into Cancer
- Information about nutrition, supplements, life-style and complementary approaches
- Oncology psychiatry
- Spiritual support

The center offers the Integrative Assessment Program to complement conventional treatment. The Integrative Medical Physician works with patients to create an individualized wellness plan of nutrition, exercise, stress management and supplements.

The center houses Reflections, a not-for-profit boutique that carries nutritional supplements, wigs, hats, scarves, mastectomy and lymphedema garments to help patients manage the physical appearance changes caused by cancer and its treatment.

For more information, go to: www.simmsmanncenter.ucla.edu

Sun Valley Community Health Center

Sun Valley Community Health Center may sit on a middle-school campus, but it provides healthcare services for an entire community. The center, which officially opened in 2008, is a unique partnership between the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, Los Angeles County, the Los Angeles Unified School District and the Northeast Valley Health Corporation, a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC).

The 10,000-square-foot center has 13 exam rooms, a dispensary, lab, four counseling offices and education and training rooms and is one of the largest and most comprehensive school-based clinics in the United States. Walking groups are offered for local residents.

Clients, including middle school students, receive help with chronic-disease management, dental care, preventative care, mental health and WIC program services. The clinic also serves as a training center for UCLA medical students and family medicine residents. Undergraduates are also welcome to volunteer.

The seeds of the center were planted in 2000, when eight UCLA medical students surveyed 300 households in the area for more than a year and found the area lacking in adequate healthcare services. Asthma was found to be the most serious health problem in the community, and the research led to Sun Valley being designated a Health Professional Shortage Area for primary care. An asthma screening and early intervention program was the first to be established on the middle-school campus.

For more information, go to: www.nvhc.org

UCLA Dance Marathon

UCLA students and others put on their dancing shoes and rock away during the 26-hour annual UCLA Dance Marathon to raise money and awareness to help children with AIDS.

The yearly event, which began in 2002, attracts students, celebrities and others and has raised nearly \$3 million in more than a decade.

Proceeds benefit four organizations: the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, the largest pediatric AIDS foundation across the globe; Project Kindle and One Heartland, two free summer-camp programs that provide HIV-affected children with a summer-camp experience; and the UCLA AIDS Institute, which is dedicated to the eradication of HIV and AIDS.

In 2012, Dance Marathon attracted more than 3,000 supporters and took in more than \$451,000.

Besides raising funds, Dance Marathon hopes to raise awareness about the importance of HIV education and testing.

Dancers set a donation goal and must stay on their feet for the entire 26 hours of Dance Marathon. They are paired with Dancer Captains who assist with fundraising and guide and support the dancers.

For more information, go to: www.bruindancemarathon.org

UCLA Family Commons at Robert F. Kennedy Community Schools (formerly RFK Wellness Center)

School and community intersect at the UCLA Family Commons at Robert F. Kennedy Community Schools in Los Angeles, where UCLA medical students and professors bring the best science-based tools for well being to neighborhood families.

Like its counterpart, the UCLA Family Commons Santa Monica, the RFK site is a project of the UCLA Semel Institute for Neurosciences and Human Behavior and was founded by Mary Jane Rotheram-Borus, Ph.D., UCLA professor of clinical psychology.

The RFK Commons provides school-based and community-based programs geared to the needs of the community. School programs include social skills lessons, afterschool programs, obesity prevention, parent education and health fairs supported by the UCLA Department of Family Medicine.

The community-based component includes a home visiting program for pregnant women, breastfeeding support, obesity prevention workshops, social support, parenting and child development and early intervention designed to help children enter school with a good foundation for health and learning.

For more information, visit:

www.rfkcommunityschools.org

www.facebook.com/RFKCS

vimeo.com/nowacademyrfk/health2012

www.uclacommons.com

UCLA Family Commons

Developed by researchers from UCLA's Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior, the UCLA Family Commons offers unique family-centric programming that includes family coaching, mixed martial arts, social-skills training, parent education, Baby & Me classes, children's summer camps and a wide array of learning materials to improve the well-being of families throughout the community.

Co-founded by Mary Jane Rotheram-Borus, Ph.D., UCLA professor of clinical psychology, and Diane Flannery, Ph.D., The Commons' Santa Monica-based center opened in February 2010, providing a unique and cutting-edge environment that welcomes both parents and children. The extensive portfolio of age-appropriate wellness programs are grounded in the latest research on family development and are consistently refined and adapted to extend beyond the center and into the home.

For more information, visit: www.uclacommons.com

UCLA Mobile Clinic

The UCLA Mobile Clinic Project brings weekly healthcare and social services to the homeless and indigent in four locations.

In 1999, the Greater West Hollywood Food & Health Coalition, a volunteer organization that serves food to the homeless and transient population in West Hollywood, reached out to the UCLA School of Public Health, saying their clients were in desperate need of healthcare. The project has since grown to include students from UCLA's schools of Medicine, Public Health, Law, and Letters and Science to help with medical, social and legal needs.

The Mobile Clinic is run by students with oversight from an attending physician. Volunteers record medical histories, provide treatment or referrals, dispense medication and supplies and help clients with social or legal issues. Services range from basic check-ups and disease prevention and education to treatment of cuts, infections, coughs, etc.

The Mobile Clinic also operates at three sites in Santa Monica, including a homeless shelter and mental health center. The Reproductive Health Outreach Project operates out of Common Ground, an HIV testing and treatment center, and educates clients about responsible sexual and reproductive health issues.

For more information, visit: www.mcp.ucla.edu

UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic

The Jules Stein Eye Institute seeks to prevent blindness and vision loss through community outreach using the UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic, which travels throughout Los Angeles' diverse neighborhoods to reach those with the greatest need.

Eye examinations are performed in two specially equipped rooms to determine the need for prescription lenses and to rule out the need for further treatment of any eye condition or disease. Visits are made to schools, preschools, free clinics, community centers and agencies that serve the homeless and low-income families. Vision screenings and eye exams are also provided at health fairs organized by medical students, undergraduate clubs, governmental offices, schools, non-profit organizations and churches.

Established in 1975 by an anonymous donor, the UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic is one of the first programs of its kind and the longest continuously operating eye clinic on wheels.

UCLA RAM Clinic

The Remote Area Medical® (RAM) free clinics travel the country providing care to underserved communities using an all-volunteer workforce, including UCLA volunteers from the schools of Medicine, Nursing and Dentistry, as well as UCLA's Jules Stein Eye Institute.

UCLA volunteers at the Los Angeles clinics include pediatricians, internists, OB/GYNs, laboratory technicians, urologists, radiologists, dentists, ophthalmologists and optometrists and the UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic. UCLA Health System donates lab test equipment, including pregnancy tests and urine dipsticks, and other urological supplies.

RAM, founded in 1985, is a non-profit publicly supported charitable organization. Volunteer doctors, nurses, pilots, veterinarians and support workers participate in expeditions (at their own expense) to underserved areas, including some of the most remote areas in the world.

The first RAM expeditions held in California took place in 2009 and 2010 in Los Angeles, where more than 13,000 patients received nearly 30,000 vision, dental, and medical services.

For more information, go to: www.ramusa.org

UMMA Community Clinic

The impetus for the UMMA Free Clinic, conceived by UCLA and Charles Drew University medical students, stemmed from the 1992 Los Angeles riots and began as a project of the school's Muslim American students who saw a need.

Medical students volunteer at the clinic, located in South Central Los Angeles, helping with basic health services, including in-take, immunizations and health education to the community. They also learn about some of the health concerns of underserved populations.

UMMA, an acronym for the University Muslim Medical Association, started with a small community development grant, one doctor and one nurse. The clinic saw its first patient on Sept. 24, 1996, and in 2008 was the first Muslim American organization designated a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC).

The acronym translates to "community" in Arabic, and is believed to be the first charitable medical institution in the United States established by Muslim Americans.

For more information, go to: www.ummaclinic.org

Venice Family Clinic

Venice Family Clinic, the largest free clinic in the nation, provides free, quality healthcare to more than 25,000 patients a year. Approximately 150 UCLA residents and faculty members in primary-care fields provide more than 4,700 volunteer hours. More than 200 medical students and undergraduate students also volunteer their time. UCLA hospitals also donate radiology, laboratory, surgical, emergency and other clinical services.

The clinic, established in 1970 by founder Phillip Rossman, M.D., and co-founder Mayer B. Davidson, M.D., provides primary medical, dental, vision and mental-health services to patients at eight sites in Venice, Santa Monica, Mar Vista, Inglewood and Culver City.

Venice Family Clinic offers a wide range of comprehensive wellness and education programs including HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment; domestic-violence screening and intervention; nutrition and exercise classes; obesity prevention; chronic-pain and stress management; reproductive-health education; and child-development services. The clinic's Simms/Mann Health and Wellness Center also offers integrative-medicine services, including acupuncture, chiropractic and osteopathic care.

Venice Family Clinic is a respected and valued training center for 44 programs in the areas of medicine, mental health, social work, nursing, pharmacy, public health and administration and integrative medicine.

For more information, go to: www.venicefamilyclinic.org

