



Transform Health Care into HealingSM

For Immediate Release

March 10, 2017

The Agriculture Leadership Council (TALC) donates more than \$260,000 for services and medical equipment at Natividad Medical Foundation's Annual Donor Celebration

The Haynes Charitable Foundation honored with Hero Award

SALINAS, Calif – Natividad Medical Foundation (NMF) gathered with more than 120 foundation friends and supporters at its Annual Donor Celebration on Wednesday at Corral de Tierra Country Club.

Dr. Gary Gray announced that Natividad Medical Center was one of 115 Top Hospitals recognized out of 1,800 across the country by Leapfrog Group. The hospital rated in the top three percent of hospitals nationwide and it also received a grade of "A" in the Leapfrog Group's Hospital Safety Grade. "Our sole job at Natividad is to make lives better," Gray said.

NMF, a nonprofit fundraising organization in support of Natividad Medical Center, started the night by presenting its tenth annual Hero Award to The Haynes Charitable Foundation. "The support of The Haynes Charitable Foundation creates solutions to improve the health of the whole community," said Dr. Minerva Perez, NMF's Chair of the Board.

The Haynes Charitable Foundation, which started giving to NMF in 2011, pledged \$300,000 in 2015 to fund medical equipment and services at Natividad Medical Center. "We're not really the heroes. The volunteers and staff at Natividad are the real heroes," said Mike Haynes, President of The Haynes Charitable Foundation and Cinderella Carpet One.

The evening featured the unveiling of the new Monterey Bay Plein Air Painters Association (MBPAPA) exhibition, "From Morning Mists to Setting Suns" Healing Landscapes Exhibition. The exhibition, sponsored by SSB Construction, is at the hospital starting April 1 and extends throughout the year. MBPAPA artists are donating 30% of all sales to support the spiritual care program at Natividad Medical Center.

John D'Arrigo, a third-generation grower and President, CEO and Chairman of the Board of D'Arrigo Bros. Co., of California, presented a check from The Agricultural Leadership Council (TALC) for \$250,800 to NMF, though he noted the check amount was incorrect because two more pledges came in the day of the event, taking the total amount donated to more than \$260,000.

TALC, founded by D'Arrigo in 2010 with a group of 22 farming families, is now made up of 161 Salinas Valley agricultural industry leaders. "We focused on the goal of giving Natividad Medical Center the tools they need to provide high-quality care," D'Arrigo said. "One of the reasons TALC works is that all the funds — that's one hundred percent of funds — are used for medical equipment and services."

Since starting TALC eight years ago, the organization has donated more than \$2.3 million to NMF. In addition to funding hospital services including spiritual care, trauma training and the internationally acclaimed [Indigenous Interpreting+](#)SM community interpreting services, and has purchased 150 pieces of medical equipment.

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“Our donors transform health care into healing. We couldn’t be more grateful for them,” said Linda Ford, NMF President and CEO. “Without them, Natividad wouldn’t be what it is today.”

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About Natividad Medical Center

Natividad Medical Center is a 172-bed acute care hospital owned and operated by Monterey County. As the safety-net hospital providing health care to the residents of Monterey County for more than 130 years, Natividad provides health care access to all patients regardless of their ability to pay. The hospital operates with a medical staff of over 300 physicians and has several specialty clinics and outpatient primary care clinics operated by the Monterey County Health Department. Natividad Medical Center is a Level II Trauma Center providing the immediate availability of specialized personnel, equipment and services to treat the most severe and critical injuries.

About Natividad Medical Foundation

Natividad Medical Foundation transforms health care into healing by developing innovative programs to enhance the Medical Center and support its high quality care. Established in 1988, Natividad Medical Foundation is a 501(c)3 charitable organization. For more information, visit www.natividadfoundation.org.

Media Contact: Linda Ford, President & CEO
Natividad Medical Foundation
lford@natividadfoundation.org
Mobile: 831.236.4100