



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## NEW HEALTH CENTER INCREASES ACCESS TO MEDICAL CARE IN SANTA CLARITA VALLEY

The Newhall Health Center is expected to provide 12,500 medical visits to over 3,500 patients in the first operating year.

Newhall, CA – With the demand for quality health care on the rise, Northeast Valley Health Corporation (NEVHC) opened its fourth community health center in the Santa Clarita Valley providing health care services that include women's health, pediatrics and adult/internal medicine. The new health center, located at 23413 Lyons Avenue in the Old Orchard Center, contains 14 exam rooms, two special procedure rooms, a lab, and Woman, Infants and Children (WIC) program providing comprehensive health and nutrition services to people who are underinsured or uninsured and/or in need of low-cost health care.

"The demand for cost-efficient care in the Santa Clarita Valley has outweighed available resources. The Newhall Health Center provides medical care to people in need of preventative and primary health care services, chronic disease management, and reduces the number of unnecessary visits to local emergency rooms," said Kimberly Wyard, Chief Executive Officer of Northeast Valley Health Corporation.

Currently, underinsured or uninsured patients without access to primary medical care, often utilize the Henry Mayo Newhall Hospital Emergency Department for non-urgent conditions such as, bronchitis, sore throat and fever. Newhall Health Center will help relieve the strain on emergency rooms where hospitals and taxpayers pay the costs to treat patients with non-urgent conditions. According to the National Association of Community Health Centers, the network of community health centers nationwide save \$24 billion for the health care system annually by providing services that range from medical, dental, behavioral health to patients who call them their medical home.

In 2017, NEVHC provided 52,000 patient visits to over 17,000 patients in the Santa Clarita Valley who call NEVHC their primary medical home. Newhall Health Center joins NEVHC's network of health centers in the Santa Clarita Valley which includes the Santa Clarita Health Center, Valencia Health Center, and Rainbow Dental Center in Canyon Country. Newhall Health Center increases capacity to provide an additional 12,500 medical visits to 3,500 patients within the first operating year.

(more)

As one of the largest health centers in the nation, NEVHC has provided medical care in the Santa Clarita Valley since the 1970s when they contracted a local physician to care for patients who were employees of Santa Clarita based businesses. In 1995 NEVHC took over operations of the Valencia Health Center from the County of Los Angeles. Wyard adds, "NEVHC has a long history of providing medical care in the Santa Clarita Valley and we are excited to expand services in the community so that our patients can count on access to affordable, quality health care throughout all stages of their lives."

## **About Northeast Valley Health Corporation**

With 15 licensed health centers, Northeast Valley Health Corporation (NEVHC) is one of the nation's largest community health centers. Incorporated in 1971, NEVHC is a non-profit Joint Commission accredited Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). NEVHC's mission is to provide quality, safe and comprehensive primary health care to medically underserved residents of Los Angeles County, particularly in the San Fernando and Santa Clarita valleys, in a manner that is sensitive to the economic, cultural and linguistic needs of the community.

For more information, visit nevhc.org.

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