



Sierra Nevada Memorial
Hospital Foundation

PARTNERS IN HEALTH



Innovating Care: Your Donations Bring Robotic Surgery to SNMH

Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our dedicated donors, Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital is taking a monumental leap forward, bringing cutting-edge healthcare innovation directly to our community. We are thrilled to announce the arrival of the state-of-the-art da Vinci Xi Surgical System, truly transforming our surgical capabilities.

The Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital Foundation proudly championed this advancement, contributing a significant \$300,000 toward this transformative investment. This pivotal support expands access to unparalleled surgical care, delivered right here, close to home. As one of the most advanced robotic surgical platforms available worldwide, the da Vinci Xi system empowers our highly-trained surgeons to perform even the most complex procedures with unprecedented precision, control and visualization.

For our patients, this means a new era of surgical excellence: the potential for smaller incisions, significantly less post-operative pain, shorter hospital stays, faster recovery times, and ultimately, vastly improved outcomes. This exciting advancement reflects the Foundation's unwavering commitment to providing local residents with exceptional, accessible healthcare close to home.



Photo from our da Vinci Surgical Robot Demo Event (Left to Right) - Ida Arne, SNMH

Director of Strategy & Growth; Jennifer Michlig, SNMH CFO; Julie Ostrom, SNMH Chief Nurse Executive; Dr. Asfandiyar Khan, SNMH General Surgeon; Dr. Scott Neeley, SNMH President & CEO; & Sandra Barrington, SNMH Foundation Executive Director



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A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends of SNMH Foundation,

In times when healthcare challenges may seem daunting, Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital shines brightly. With six consecutive "A" ratings for patient safety and three consecutive Top Rural Hospital awards, our local nonprofit hospital is a true North Star, guiding our community to health and wellness.

Behind this remarkable success is you - a community of passionate donors and leaders dedicated to ensuring top-quality care is available right here in Western Nevada County. This year, we've strategically invested in three vital pillars: Workforce, Technology, and Community Health.

We celebrated our Workforce expansions with the inaugural graduating class of the Sierra Nevada Family Medicine Residency Program, while proudly welcoming two new residents. Investing in this program helps recruit and retain primary care physicians, directly increasing access to care for our community.

In Technology, your generous donations have enabled significant advancements, including the launch of our new Surgical Robotics Program. Beyond this, you've also funded advanced equipment for the Family Birth Center, Cardiology, Ambulance, and Surgery Departments. Plus, our ICCU Modernization project remains on track for completion this December.

Our Community Health investments are reaching further than ever, with our new Mobile Health Clinic, expanded Alzheimer's Outreach Program, and the launch of HealthSpan. All these advancements - from expanding our clinical teams to bringing new technologies and reaching out into the community - are possible because of you. Our donor family understands that everyone deserves exceptional care, close to home.

It is Our Health. Our Community. Our Hospital.

With Immense Gratitude,

Sandra Barrington, CFRE

SNMH Receives Sixth Consecutive 'A' Hospital Safety Grade

Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital earned its sixth consecutive "A" Hospital Safety Grade from The Leapfrog Group, recognizing it as a "Straight A" Hospital. This prestigious national designation reflects the hospital's steadfast commitment to patient safety and excellence in care. The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade is the nation's only rating program focused exclusively on preventing medical errors, infections, and injuries, making it one of the most respected measures of hospital quality and patient safety in the country.

Earning six consecutive "A" grades places Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital among a select group of hospitals nationwide recognized for consistently maintaining the highest standards of care. This achievement represents years of dedication, collaboration, and continuous improvement by physicians, nurses, clinical teams, and support staff committed to providing safe, compassionate care for every patient. For our community, this recognition offers reassurance that exceptional healthcare is available close to home and highlights Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital's ongoing commitment to delivering the highest quality care for generations to come.

Stereotactic Biopsy Machine

In addition to the da Vinci Xi Surgical System, Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital Foundation helped fund the acquisition of a new stereotactic breast biopsy machine, bringing advanced diagnostic technology and enhanced breast health services to our community. This specialized equipment allows physicians to precisely target and biopsy suspicious breast tissue, helping patients receive faster and more accurate diagnoses. By offering this procedure locally, patients can avoid traveling outside the area for care, reducing stress and improving access to timely treatment. The new technology also supports earlier detection and treatment planning, which can lead to better outcomes for patients facing a potential breast cancer diagnosis. This important investment reflects the Foundation's commitment to ensuring our community has access to high-quality, state-of-the-art healthcare close to home.



*Pictured:
Kelly
Freeman &
Brittney
Davis
(BIC Tech
Not
Pictured:
Rhonda
Campbell)*

Celebrating a Milestone: Sierra Nevada Memorial Family Medicine Residency Graduates its Inaugural Class!

A significant and joyous milestone was celebrated this summer as the Sierra Nevada Memorial Family Medicine Residency Program proudly graduated its very first class of resident physicians. This momentous occasion marks a pivotal step in strengthening healthcare access and quality for Western Nevada County and beyond.

Launched in 2023, with two pioneering physicians, the program has quickly blossomed into a vibrant and highly sought-after training ground. Today, it boasts a full complement of six dedicated residents, actively learning, serving, and integrating into our community's healthcare fabric. This rapid growth underscores the urgent need and successful execution of high-quality, local medical education.

The Sierra Nevada Family Medicine Residency Program's success is built upon a strong foundation of collaboration. Through an invaluable partnership with Dignity Health's Methodist Hospital of Sacramento, our future family physicians receive unparalleled hands-on training. Residents gain this comprehensive experience through rotations at our own Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital, the vital Chapa-De Indian Health Clinic, and numerous local specialty practices. This immersive approach ensures that residents acquire the diverse skills, breadth of experience, and crucial community connections essential for providing exceptional, patient-centered care, particularly in rural settings like ours.

Back: Dr. Karina Gookin, Dr. Julie Garchow, Dr. Glenn Gookin, Dr. Ben Oldach, Dr. Marlowe Dieckmann, Dr. Alinea Stevens, Front: Dr. Kelty White, Dr. Nick Sparr



A Testament to Community Connection: Our Graduates Stay Local!

We are thrilled to announce that both Dr. White and Dr. Sparr, our inaugural graduates, have chosen to continue serving the community they trained in. Dr. White will join Chapa-De Indian Health Clinic as a family medicine physician, while Dr. Sparr will remain at Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital as a hospitalist. Their decision to build careers in Western Nevada County powerfully demonstrates our program's strength and directly ensures local patients retain access to high-quality healthcare close to home, a crucial factor in rural areas.

Thank you for your dedicated support of Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital and the innovative programs, like our Family Medicine Residency, that fundamentally strengthen the health and well-being of our entire community.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS PARTNERS

Thank you for the incredible support from local businesses

Caring Hand Home Health Solutions Inc's mission is to provide professional and paraprofessional services to clients in their homes, assisting them to achieve the highest level of potential in their day-to-day self-care activities. We are committed to providing high-quality, multidisciplinary care by professionals who recognize the need for comprehensive assessment of needs from both the client's and professional's point of view. www.caringhandhhsolutions.com



Cranmer Engineering (CEI) was established in 1962 in Grass Valley. From its inception, CEI's mission has been to provide advanced professional and technical services in the engineering and water quality fields. Through the years of experience and dedication to clients, CEI has developed into a full service, multi-discipline consulting organization that provides integrated scientific and professional services including engineering services, drinking water and wastewater analysis, soils/sediment, hazardous waste analysis, groundwater monitoring, and a full range of compliance reporting services. Contact us at (530) 273-7284.



Nevada County Association of Realtors, established in 1935, has long supported local real estate professionals with education, tools and advocacy. The association promotes best practices in real estate and champions property rights while actively engaging in issues and projects to strengthen our local community. Learn more at nevadacountyhomes.com.



Volz Automotive is proud to be citizens and business owners in Nevada County since 1982. From walk-ins to multi-generational loyal customers, our mission is to provide the highest quality work with clear, honest communication for a fair price. For over 40 years, giving back hasn't simply been a program or campaign - it's how we do business. Volz Automotive has been woven into the fabric of Nevada County since 1982, and community support has always come with that territory. Specializing in Subaru, Toyota, Lexus, Honda and Acura, we know our clients' vehicles and recognize our customers' and community needs. 530-273-3979



GRATEFUL PATIENT TESTIMONIAL

AMOR TRACESKI

I survived both breast cancer and ovarian cancer, and my treatment journey began at two highly respected hospitals in the San Francisco Bay Area. When I later moved to the Sierra Foothills, my care was transferred to the Cancer Center at Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital under the care of Dr. David Campbell.

“What I found here changed my understanding of what cancer care can be.”

Dr. Campbell brought not only deep expertise, but also the kind of thoughtful foresight every patient hopes for. He carefully reviewed the treatment plan I had been following in the Bay Area and recognized that continuing one therapy would not benefit me. Because of his knowledge and willingness to look beyond “standard procedure,” I was spared unnecessary treatment and the serious side effects that would have come with it. That decision improved my quality of life in ways I cannot fully express.

I also found tremendous support through the Cancer Center’s integrative healthcare practitioner Dr. Justine Corbett. Those meetings with her helped me regain a sense of balance and control during a time when so much felt uncertain. The care I received addressed not just my diagnosis, but the emotional and physical toll that cancer leaves behind.

Although the Cancer Center at Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital is smaller than the large institutions where I was first treated, it offers something deeply personal that larger systems often cannot. Here, I never felt like a chart, a number, or an appointment on a schedule. I felt known. I felt cared for. I felt like family.

I will always be deeply grateful for the care I received at Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital. The compassion, wisdom, and humanity shown to me during one of the hardest chapters of my life made all the difference. I recommend their Cancer Center wholeheartedly to anyone facing a cancer diagnosis. The people there do more than provide treatment — they walk beside you every step of the way, and that kind of care is a gift beyond measure.

Amor Traceski

SNMH Auxiliary Member

SNMH Cancer Center Grateful Patient



UPCOMING EVENTS

www.SupportSierraNevada.org/Events



FALLS PREVENTION SUMMIT

What: The Falls Prevention Coalition Annual Summit will bring together community members and professionals to share resources and education focused on reducing falls and promoting healthy aging.

When: Friday, September 11th | 8am to 1pm

Where: Sierra Presbyterian Church - 175 Ridge Road

Cost: Free

Learn More: SupportSierraNevada.org/falls



BOOTS, BOWS & BINGO AT LAKE WILDWOOD

What: This popular event brings people together to enjoy bingo, connect with friends, and support the Cancer Center at Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital.

When: Friday, September 18th | 4:30pm to 9:00pm

Where: Lake Wildwood Oaks Clubhouse

Cost: \$75 per person (includes a BBQ dinner & 5 bingo cards)

Learn More: SupportSierraNevada.org/bingo



SENIOR HEALTH FAIR

What: The Elder Care Provider Coalition Senior Health Fair offers valuable resources, screenings, and information from local organizations and healthcare providers to support the health, wellness, and independence of older adults.

When: Wednesday, October 14th

Where: Gold Miners Inn in Grass Valley

Cost: Free

Learn More: ElderCareProviderCoalition.org/event-page



40X40 CALFIRE RELAY

What: The Cal Fire 40 for 40 Relay is back! This inspiring community event benefits the Barbara Schmidt Millar Fund at SNMHF, helping provide local breast cancer screening, diagnostic services, and treatment support for those in need.

When: Saturday, October 24th

Where: Start - Western Gateway Park / End SNMH Building 4

Cost: Free for viewing

Learn More: Facebook.com/CalFireNEU



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Hospital Foundation

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