



Venice Family Clinic's Dr. Sarah Carpenter Honored with HALO Award

Carl & Roberta Deutsch Foundation Select "Everyday Angels" to Encourage Volunteerism and will provide a \$20,000 grant to Venice Family Clinic and \$5,000 to Dr. Carpenter

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Santa Monica, CA – The Carl & Roberta Deutsch Foundation recently honored volunteer physician Dr. Sarah Carpenter for her 23 years of commitment and service to Venice Family Clinic. The foundation selects volunteers who go above and beyond to promote the betterment of their communities and the nonprofit organizations whose work motivates and supports volunteers. Named an "Everyday Angel," Dr. Carpenter was honored at an awards luncheon held at the Marion Davies Guest House in Santa Monica.

Dr. Carpenter completed her pediatric residency and adolescent fellowship and began working in private practice in the mid-1980s. A desire to stay connected to her community led her to volunteer weekly at Venice Family Clinic, then a one-clinic operation. Since that time Venice Family Clinic has expanded to eight clinical sites including the Culver City Youth Health Center (CCYHC) located on the shared Culver City High School and Middle School campus. The success of this clinic owes a significant debt to Dr. Carpenter's years of service.

Upon her retirement from Kaiser Permanente last year, she doubled her efforts at the clinic volunteering for two shifts each week. The students, many of whom come from challenging home backgrounds, have come to rely on Dr. Carpenter as a stable source of advice and support for their health care needs. Reaching out to low-income families and their children is a passion of Dr. Carpenters, as is an ambition to reduce teen pregnancy. When CCYCH first launched, the teen mother program had more than 20 young mothers enrolled. Now only one or two young girls become pregnant each year.

"Dr. Sarah Carpenter's volunteer work is the reason for Culver City Youth Health Center's tremendous success as a critical health care resource for students and their families," said Elizabeth Benson Forer, Chief Executive Officer of Venice Family Clinic. "Volunteers have been

the cornerstone of the clinic since its inception in 1970. We are grateful to the Carl & Roberta Deutsch Foundation for providing resources to make our volunteer capacity even more robust.”

With the \$20,000 grant, Venice Family Clinic plans to increase the capacity of the volunteer services department to manage, recruit and retain volunteers by improving and streamlining current volunteer check-in and timesheet recording procedures. Currently volunteers clinic-wide use paper sign in sheets to record their time that are then manually entered into a management program. The grant will allow the clinic to customize software, purchase laptops and no longer rely on paper record keeping. With this advancement, volunteer staff will be able to devote more time to volunteer management, recruitment and retention, ensuring that the volunteer program remains strong and is responsive to the needs of the clinic and patients.

[The Venice Family Clinic](#) provides quality health care to people in need. With eight clinical sites in Venice, Santa Monica, Mar Vista, Inglewood and Culver City, Venice Family Clinic is the medical home for thousands of low-income and uninsured families across Los Angeles. With the support of donors and volunteers — including UCLA faculty, medical residents and medical students — the nonprofit Venice Family Clinic provides quality medical, dental, mental health, vision and specialty care to more 24,000 men, women and children with nowhere else to turn each year.

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