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Verdugo Hills Hospital Opens Renovated Gastroenterology Department

New Facility Doubles Capacity, Provides Latest Technology

(GLENDALE, CA – June 20, 2005) — Verdugo Hills Hospital’s recently renovated gastroenterology department will open for its first procedures on June 23. Located on the third floor of the hospital, the gastroenterology department now features state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment, a second procedure room that allows for increased patient capacity, and a more functional work space to help improve patient privacy and wait times.

Physicians, hospital staff, donors, and other invited guests received a preview tour of the department last week. “Everyone is very excited about what this renovation means to our physicians and patients,” said Leonard LaBella, president and chief executive officer, Verdugo Hills Hospital. “Demand for gastrointestinal procedures has been growing, so it was clear that we needed to increase our capacity.”

Donors generously contributed nearly \$350,000 toward the construction, equipment, and furnishings – offsetting nearly half the cost to upgrade the facility. Donors included the Verdugo Hills Hospital Women’s Council, The Ahmanson Foundation, the Del E. Webb Foundation, and the Glendale Community Foundation.

Verdugo Hills Hospital is a 158-bed nonprofit primary care facility nestled in the foothills between Glendale and La Cañada. The hospital features all private rooms, 24-hour emergency services, comprehensive inpatient and outpatient diagnostic and treatment facilities, and a family birthing center. It is the only independent, freestanding hospital in the greater foothills community and was voted the “Foothills’ Best” hospital by the readers of the *Glendale News-Press* and *Foothill Leader* for the past two years.