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New Digital Mammography System Unveiled at VHH

(GLENDALE, CA – July 1, 2008) – Verdugo Hills Hospital (VHH) officials, including Hospital and Foundation board members, celebrated the installation of VHH’s new digital mammography system during a special ‘pink’-themed ribbon-cutting ceremony on June 25 at VHH’s Breast Healthcare Center.

VHH CEO and President Len LaBella thanked all of the donors for their support during the ribbon-cutting ceremony. “It is truly a community effort to make an investment like this a reality,” he said.

“Digital imaging is the new gold standard for mammography in both diagnosis and treatment planning,” said Scott Cameron, Administrative Director of Diagnostic Services at VHH. “The instant availability of information is the key to early diagnosis and survival of breast cancer. Having the digital unit here in the Breast Healthcare Center allows us to see more patients per hour in a relaxed, comfortable, non-clinical atmosphere.”

VHH’s digital mammography machine by GE Healthcare was funded by many local organizations and donors. A major supporter of this state-of-the-art equipment was the VHH Foundation’s Women’s Council.

“The Women’s Council was so excited to have the opportunity to raise funds for the digital mammography machine,” said Chris Mason, Women’s Council Chair. “We hope that early detection of breast cancer will be facilitated through this machine, and lives will be saved as a result.”

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The Glendale Community Foundation also provided funding for the new equipment. “We love to support this cause and help make a difference. We are so excited to be a part of this,” said Gina Dayao from the Glendale Community Foundation.

Margo Bottcher, Immediate Past President of Soroptimist International of Glendale, said their ‘Bras for a Cause’ fundraising program helps support the Glendale area hospitals.

“We are really interested in bringing women’s issues to the forefront,” said Bottcher. “When we see that our funds from ‘Bras for a Cause’ are being used for cutting-edge technology, we are really, really proud.”

VHH is the first of hospitals in the area to introduce digital mammography equipment to the community. The following groups have made possible the purchase of the \$480,000 state-of-the art digital mammography equipment: The Women’s Council of VHH Foundation, VHH Foundation Board members, VHH Board members, Caltech Employees Federal Credit Union, Capital Group Companies Charitable Foundation, Glendale Community Foundation, Pasadena Community Foundation, Soroptimist International of Glendale, The Ralphs/Food 4 Less Foundation, The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, VHH physicians, VHH employees, VHH vendors, and friends in the community.

About the Hospital:

Verdugo Hills Hospital is a 158-bed nonprofit primary care facility nestled in the foothills between Glendale and La Cañada Flintridge. 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, free-standing hospital in the greater Foothills community and was voted “Foothills’ Best Hospital” for 2008 by readers of the *Glendale News-Press* for the fifth consecutive year. Several VHH medical staff members have also earned the title of “Foothills’ Best”: Drs. Eric Lee and Joseph Lee, Foothills’ Best Cardiologists; Dr. Jane Wada, Foothills’ Best Dermatologist; Laurie Flagg, Foothills’ Best Nurse; Dr. Ronald Woodard, Foothills’ Best Obstetrician/Gynecologist; Dr. Scott Beeve, Foothills’ Best Ophthalmologist; Dr. Allan W. Perry (Jr. & Sr.), Foothills’ Best Plastic Surgeons; Dr. Brad Aguirre, Foothills’ Best Podiatrist; and Dr. William F. Schubert, Foothills’ Best Family Physician.

For more information, please visit www.vhhospital.org. For more information about funding initiatives or to support the hospital, please call the Foundation at 818.952.2226.

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