

# NOVEMBER 2018 Hot Topics

**Cancer Support** Patients can find relief from the stressful financial burden of a cancer diagnosis through our assistance with gas and groceries, free screenings, and support groups.

**Orthopedic Services** Our hospital is known for its award-winning Orthopedic Services for bone and joint issues. Ranked among the **top 10%** in the nation for joint replacement surgery by HealthGrades. Nearly **500** knee surgeries and **300** hip surgeries are performed per year.

## Meet Dr. Brent Pennelly

**Where did you grow up?** Fremont, CA

**What is your position at the hospital?**

Associate Medical Director of the Acute Rehabilitation Center

**What do you like most about working for our hospital?** The people I work with: nurses, therapists, and staff; and the people I work for: patients.

**What is your favorite movie?** I like any movie that has purpose/meaning. If it's funny at the same time, that's a bonus!

**Your favorite patient story?** When I was a med student, I took care of an Army Ranger who'd been involved in an IED blast in Iraq, sustaining a traumatic brain injury. It was pretty bad. One day, I walked in to his room to see how he was doing, and his wife was sitting next to him, picking out all the red Jelly Bellies, and he started teasing her about it. His personality was returning. That was part of what inspired me to go into rehabilitation medicine. I like seeing patients get better and rebuild their lives.



## Acute Rehabilitation

The **20-bed** Acute Rehabilitation Center is the only one of its kind within a 100-mile radius.

## Stroke Certified since 2015

Received Advanced Primary Stroke Center Certification by the Joint Commission. Offers specialized services for stroke patients.

# Our Hospital

**Mission** Dignity Health and Arroyo Grande Community Hospital are committed to furthering the healing ministry of Jesus. We dedicate our resources to delivering compassionate, high-quality, affordable health services, serving and advocating for our sisters and brothers who are poor and disenfranchised, and partnering with others in the community to improve the quality of life.

Opened in **1962** by four pioneering, community-focused physicians with the same spirit that guides the hospital strategy today.

## 2017 #'s

**2,852** admissions  
**27,456** ER visits  
**995** inpatient surgeries  
**703** outpatient surgeries  
**7,096** CT scans  
**1,082** MRI scans

**Beds: 67** (39 General Care, 20 Acute Rehabilitation, 8 Intensive Care)

## Overview

**Employees: 425**

**Medical Services Available:** Acute Rehabilitation; Cancer Care; Emergency Services; Surgery; Imaging; Intensive Care; Laboratory Services; Medical/Surgical Inpatient Care; Neurological Care; Orthopedic Services; Physical, Speech and Respiratory Therapy

**Service Area Cities:** Arroyo Grande, Oceano, Grover Beach, Pismo Beach, Nipomo Population: 79,811  
In 2015, the South County service area was declared a

## Medically Underserved Area/Population

by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This means that residents in the area have a shortage of health services and the area includes large groups of people who face economic, cultural, or linguistic barriers to health care. This makes AGCH an important resource for our community, and we need to grow to meet the need.

## Last month we learned:

Several myths make planned gift fundraising seem more difficult than it really is. Like any other type of fundraising, planned gift fundraising is all about relationships! You don't need to be a professional to be a successful planned gift fundraiser.

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## Arroyo Grande Community Hospital Foundation

SupportArroyoGrande.org



Arroyo Grande  
Community Hospital Foundation.  
A Dignity Health Member



## Foundation Updates

### LEGACY CAMPAIGN

Goal:	<b>\$6,500,000</b>
Committed to date:	\$4,128,662
Pending gifts:	\$1,169,153
Total Committed & Pending:	\$5,297,815
Balance to raise:	<b>\$1,202,185</b>

## AGCH Foundation

began operating in 2006 to support the mission of the hospital.

## Upcoming Dates

### Board Meeting:

December 6th • February 11th, 2019

### Breakfast with the

**Administrator:** November 9th

### Joint Board Holiday Party:

December 12th at the Cliffs

**Ember Dinner:** February 4th, 2019

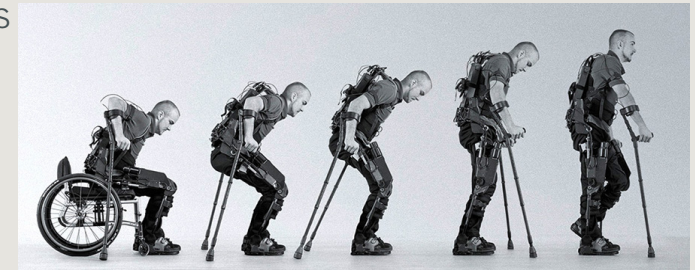
**Board Retreat:** March 7th, 2019

**Comedy Night:** March 16th, 2019

## Muscular Skeletal Therapy Fund

Many patients in the Acute Rehabilitation Center have suffered from a serious illness or injury that has left them unable to walk on their own. The Acute Rehab team is looking forward to the purchase of a wearable robotic exoskeleton – a machine that straps on to the patient's torso and legs and promotes early mobility, posture, and balance-awareness.

Community support is essential to the hospital's ability to purchase such technology. Just over \$85,000 has been raised to support this fund so far, leaving nearly \$65,000 more to be raised. We are more than half way there!



## 2018 Service Award Celebration

Employees were recently recognized for their many years of service at Arroyo Grande Community Hospital.

**20 Years:** Julie Caldwell, Raymond Davis, Cindy Grinstead, Rosemary McAuliff, Nancy Steffora

**15 Years:** Antoinette Aragon, Rosabelle Dela Vega, Lamberto Flores, Pamala Forsythe, Jennifer Moore, Sherrie Moore, Abraham Sahagun, Judy Scotto Di Vettimo, Michael Venancio

Two physicians were also recognized with Extraordinary Service awards:

**Dr. Thom - Heritage Award**

**Dr. Patel - Values in Action Award**

