

FEBRUARY 2021 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.

Meet Dr. Karl Sandin, Medical Director, Acute Rehabilitation Unit

Where did you grow up? I grew up in Chicago and Minneapolis

What is your position at our hospital? I am the medical director of the rehabilitation unit at AG

What do you like most about working for our hospital?

I like the fact that the rehabilitation unit is a big fish in a small-ish campus, so that the theory and practice of medical rehabilitation can be front of mind in care.

What is your favorite patient story? When I was medical director of the rehabilitation hospital in Santa Barbara, I admitted a woman with a new spinal cord injury after a fall from a horse in Santa Ynez. She was grieving what she perceived she wouldn't be able to do and I almost off handedly said "we'll get you back up on that horse." I didn't know what an equestrienne she was and how important riding was to her, so those simple words gave her all the fuel she needed to power through her rehab program. She indeed ended up riding again, being on our hospital board, and being a strong advocate for women with SCI. Lesson: simple words can be powerful.

How has your work changed or been impacted by COVID-19? Covid-19 causes all sorts of disabilities so we have had quite a few different types of Covid surviving patients. Each one presents with very different findings and clinical course.



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.

2019 #'s

2,672 admissions
23,573 ER visits
602 inpatient surgeries
808 outpatient surgeries
8,724 CT scans
1,576 MRI scans

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

Employees: 387

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

Last month we learned:

Dr. Margaux Snider, Emergency Department Medical Director, and Dr. David Ketelaar, Behavioral Health Emergency Medicine Medical Director, discussed behavioral health services and developing a Crisis Stabilization Unit.

Dignity Health's Five Core Values

Compassion • Inclusion • Integrity • Excellence • Collaboration

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AGCH Foundation

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

Arroyo Grande Community Hospital Foundation

SupportArroyoGrande.org



Arroyo Grande
Community Hospital Foundation.
A Dignity Health Member

Upcoming Dates

Carrol Pruett Philanthropic Fraternity / Hoelle Tompkins

Sisterhood Society: February 21, 2021 *(combined presentation via Zoom)*

Next Board Meeting: March 4, 2021

Comedy Night: March 13, 2021

Recreational Therapy Program

The Recreational Therapy Program provides a productive and enjoyable approach to healing as a complement to the more rigorous therapies provided in the Acute Rehabilitation Center. This is made possible by grants and community support; most notably two grants of \$20,000 and two grants of \$25,000 from the Moca Foundation and Mary Bianco.



This program is an integral part of patient recovery in the Acute Rehabilitation Center. Support of this program ensures that we are able to best meet patient needs as they undergo a challenging healing process.

Our Current Funding Priorities:

- Emergency Support Fund
- Mission Hope Arroyo Grande:
 - Cancer Care Fund
 - Cancer Rehabilitation Program
 - Transport to Treatment Program
- Acute Rehabilitation Center:
 - Recreational Therapy Program
- Behavioral Health Services
- Parking Solution
- Surgical Services
- Spiritual Care Services

Put on
your
FANCY
PANTS
and Laugh the
Night Away



Comedy Night
Saturday, March 13, 2021

Coming to you virtually, Comedy Night 2021 will be a night like no other.
Visit SupportArroyoGrande.org for details.

Comedy Night

The Comedy Night Committee is securing auction items and sponsorships. Please contact Kim Goodwin if you have something to contribute.