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Facts about CMOAR:

Annually, CMOAR provides over 55,000 health related encounters to children, adolescents and adults regardless of ability to pay.

An average family of four receiving services at CMOAR earns less than \$16,000 per year, many much less.

The vast majority of patients are the working poor who have jobs in the restaurant, garment, and other service industries that make up the backbone of the Los Angeles economy, but have no insurance for themselves or their families.

Over 11,000 children, youth and adults receive health education per year on the issues of HIV, tobacco, and alcohol and drug use prevention.

Clinica Msr. Oscar A. Romero

is a 501(C)3 non-profit community health center and contributions are tax-deductible.

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CMOAR to Host Public Forum on Saving Rent Control: No on Prop. 98

Community Organizing Director Enrique Velasquez has a vision for what a healthy community looks like. It encompasses much more than primary healthcare because so much episodic and chronic treatment is the result of broader environmental concerns. In line with CMOAR's organizational philosophy that healthcare is a basic human right and not a privilege, the civic-minded Velasquez is organizing a Public Forum to address rent control in the face of the upcoming June 3, 2008, State elections. This is a vital concern to impoverished Pico-Union/Westlake residents facing numerous stressful challenges.

The current Proposition 98, although appearing to focus on eminent domain issues, is an underhanded attempt to do away with rent control in favor of the interests of private developers. With so much education needed about the topic in the neighborhood, CMOAR's Public Forum will delineate the issues at stake, the potential impact on the neighborhood, and what can be done to stop Prop. 98.

Please join CMOAR on Thursday, May 22, 2008, at Gratts Elementary School, 309 South Lucas Street, at the corner of Third, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. For more information contact the Community Organizing team of CMOAR at 213-201-2785, -2743, and -2732, or enrique@clinaromero.com.

CMOAR Pioneers Comprehensive Diabetes Program

Su Salud en Sus Manos: Your Health in Your Hands

CMOAR's model of care for diabetes was enhanced through a program expansion over three years, from 2005 through 2007, with funding from the California HealthCare Foundation for incorporating a Spanish-language workshop, *Tomando Control de Su Salud*, which teaches chronic disease self-management skills. This workshop was developed by Kate Lorig, RN, DrPH, and Halsted Holman, MD, of the Stanford University Patient Education Research Center.

Su Salud en Sus Manos: Your Health in Your Hands implies taking personal responsibility for one's own health. It is a team-based, patient-centered approach to care. Patients themselves are in the leading role with guidance and assistance from a multidisciplinary provider group. The providers, medical assistants, case managers, and health educators receive initial and ongoing training in self-management philosophy and techniques as well as patients.

A diabetes patient is enrolled in *Su Salud en Sus Manos: Your Health in Your Hands* during an initial visit with a primary care

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provider, who is prompted by a “progress note” in the chart to initiate a discussion and establish individual self-management goals. During the course of the initial visit, the patient is screened for depression using the PHQ-9 questionnaire and referred to mental health services as appropriate. Patients are enrolled into a Patient Electronic Care System (PECS) diabetes registry.

After each visit with the primary care provider, the patient is immediately seen for one-on-one behavioral counseling with a community health educator to review self-management goals and to develop or update an individualized action plan. Patients enroll in group health education classes taught by a nutritionist, which focuses on nutrition and the signs and symptoms, complications and treatment of diabetes. *Su Salud en Sus Manos: Your Health in Your Hands* staff strongly encourages diabetes patients to participate in the self-management skills development workshop based on *Tomando Control de Su Salud*, which is led by peer health educators for two-and-a-half hours per week for six weeks.

A pharmacy clerk helps patients apply for free medications through several patient assistance programs, and dental services are provided in an on-site facility. A case manager follows up with patients who miss appointments and assists in accessing specialty care through the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, or, for the few patients with Medi-Cal, through their independent provider association.

This partnership in care is an ongoing process by staff and patient to support self-management, medication adherence and ultimately a healthy life. At each point in the process, a patient is monitored and supported, attracted back to adherence if needs be, and provided access to services that will address any other healthcare need.

2032 Marengo Street Joins Best Babies Collaborative

This past spring, CMOAR became part of an expanded Best Babies Collaborative overseen by lead agency St. John's Well Child and Family Center (SJWCFC). The collaborative is a northern extension of the Harbor Corridor Best Babies Collaborative (HCBBC), which is one of the original five collaboratives funded by First 5 LA through their Healthy Babies Initiative (HBI). CMOAR's 2032 Marengo Street site in Boyle Heights/East Los Angeles will dedicate two case managers to this Harbor Corridor North initiative. CMOAR will become increasingly involved in the planning and implementation of the extended collaborative program in conjunction with other member agencies. CMOAR looks forward to providing its expertise and learning from others as together the collaborative provides services to women at risk for poor birth outcomes through case management, medical care, and support services.



Patricia Banks is the Program Coordinator with SJWCFC overseeing the collaborative. She also helped CMOAR to receive \$100,000 in annual funding for the next three years to implement the program. St. John's Well Child and Family Center's mission is to improve and maintain the health of children and their families and enhance the community's access to health care, by providing a



medical home offering medical, dental and mental health treatment for underserved, uninsured and economically disadvantaged persons.

First 5 LA is a unique child-advocacy organization created by California voters to invest tobacco tax revenue in programs for improving the lives of children in Los Angeles County, from prenatal through age 5. First 5 LA champions health, education, and safety causes concerning young children and families. The Healthy Births Initiative of First 5 LA seeks to improve outcomes for pregnant women and their families, reduce subsequent poor birth outcomes in vulnerable populations and build sustainable networks to address the needs of pregnant women, infants and new families through evidence-based and community proven interventions. HBI also supports the Los Angeles Best Babies Network.

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