



The
LARRY KING[™]
Cardiac Foundation



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For Immediate Release

The Larry King Cardiac Foundation Announces Partnership with LAC+USC Medical Center and COPE Health Solutions

Partnership already demonstrating success with over 20 patients served to date

Los Angeles (July 26, 2006) – The Larry King Cardiac Foundation formally announces its partnership with the LAC+USC Healthcare Network and COPE Health Solutions at a press conference to be held at the new LAC+USC Medical Center today at 2 p.m.

Since the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved the three-year partnership agreement in January 2006, over 20 patients who are either uninsured or have little money to pay for expensive cardiac treatments have benefited from the life-saving services provided at no charge because of this unique collaboration.

"This partnership allows us to help Los Angeles County residents who are of the greatest need receive the life-saving cardiac care they deserve," said Larry King Jr., president of The Larry King Cardiac Foundation. "By working with the team at LAC+USC, we are supporting their efforts to care for a large population of the underserved."

The Larry King Cardiac Foundation, a nonprofit organization with an ambitious goal to "save a heart a day," through its partnerships with Cordis Corporation, Medtronic Inc. and St. Jude Medical Inc. and grants from Edwards Lifesciences Corporation and Eli Lilly and Company, provides patients with critical cardiac devices, such as stents, implantable pacemakers, implantable cardioverter defibrillators and heart valves free of charge.

"We are so fortunate to be a 'partner' hospital to The Larry King Cardiac Foundation," said Pete Delgado, chief executive officer of LAC+USC Healthcare Network. "This will provide our patients with additional opportunities to address their cardiology and medical needs. For us, it's a great opportunity to expand our cardiac diagnostic and treatment capacity."

COPE Health Solutions, a Los Angeles-based nonprofit organization, forged the partnership between LAC+USC and The Larry King Cardiac Foundation that now allows more patients requiring specialty care to receive state-of-the-art cardiac care at the medical center.

"We expect to yield amazing results," said Allen Miller, COPE Health Solutions' chief executive officer. "We're now able to support LAC+USC Medical Center, one of the country's largest safety net hospitals, as it continues to provide the local community with the highest quality of cardiac care possible."

Although The Larry King Cardiac Foundation supports the underserved population with medical centers across the U.S., LAC+USC Medical Center is the first public hospital to join the list. According to Larry King Jr., this partnership will greatly extend the reach of the Foundation into Los Angeles County and surrounding areas.

"We hope to serve between 75 and 100 patients at LAC+USC by the end of this year," said King.

(more)

The partnership is also supported by L.A. Care Health Plan, a local public health plan serving low-income and vulnerable communities. L.A. Care has committed a generous \$100,000 grant to support the partnership.

Special guests participating in the tour of the new facility and press conference include renowned talk show host and founder of The Larry King Cardiac Foundation, Larry King; Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina; CEO of the LAC+USC Healthcare Network, Pete Delgado; Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa; CEO of L.A. Care Health Plan, Howard Kahn; and Director and Chief Medical Officer of the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, Bruce Chernof.

For more information, please visit the following Web sites:

- The Larry King Cardiac Foundation, www.lkcf.org
- LAC+USC Medical Center, www.usc.edu/patient_care/hospitals/lac_usc/
- COPE Health Solutions, www.copehealthsolutions.org
- L.A. Care Health Plan, www.lacare.org

About The Larry King Cardiac Foundation

The Larry King Cardiac Foundation (LKCF) provides funding for life-saving treatment for individuals who, due to limited means or inadequate insurance, would otherwise be unable to receive vital cardiac treatment. The Foundation works in conjunction with major medical centers throughout the nation to ensure that such patients receive life-saving medical attention.

About LAC+USC Medical Center

LAC+USC Medical Center is the nation's largest academic medical center training more than 870 medical residents annually in virtually every specialty. Within Los Angeles County, LAC+USC: provides more than 28% of all trauma care; operates one of only three burn centers; and cares for about 35% of all HIV/AIDS patients. More than 750,000 outpatients and 50,000 inpatients are cared for annually at LAC+USC.

About COPE Health Solutions

Founded in 1995 and headquartered in downtown Los Angeles, COPE Health Solutions has developed core competencies in the areas of strategic planning, hospital and health systems operations, health professions education and preventive health services. Its dedicated team of healthcare professionals leverages these competencies to support health care systems, safety net hospitals, clinics and other health care agencies in providing accessible, culturally sensitive and high quality health care services to their communities.

About L.A. Care Health Plan

L.A. Care Health Plan (Local Initiative Health Authority of Los Angeles County) is a local public agency and health plan serving residents of Los Angeles County through a variety of programs including Medi-Cal, Healthy Families, and Healthy Kids. With nearly 800,000 enrolled members, L.A. Care is one of the largest health plans in California and is the nation's largest public health plan. L.A. Care is a leader in developing new programs through innovative coalitions and partnerships designed to support public health, the safety net, and health insurance coverage for vulnerable populations. For more information, please visit www.lacare.org.

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