



CONTACT:  
Rachael Kagan | [SFGH](mailto:rachael.kagan@sfdph.org)  
415 206-3170 | [rachael.kagan@sfdph.org](mailto:rachael.kagan@sfdph.org)  
Joe Kowalke | [Charles Zukow Associates](mailto:joek@charleszukow.com)  
415-296-0677 | [joek@charleszukow.com](mailto:joek@charleszukow.com)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center to Host Seismic Safety Fair**  
*Rebuild Safety Features, Community Disaster Preparedness Highlighted at Open House*

SAN FRANCISCO (September 15, 2010) – [San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center](#) (SFGH) and [San Francisco General Hospital Foundation](#) today announced “Quake, But Don’t Break” – a community seismic safety fair to educate the public about the earthquake-safe design of the new hospital. The new SFGH will be **the first hospital in the city built on a base-isolated foundation -- the most advanced, seismically-resistant design known today.**

The **October 23** open house will take place in the cafeteria on the second floor of the main building (1001 Potrero Ave.) from 9 a.m. – noon. Experts will be in attendance to discuss safety features of the Rebuild design and share tips on home disaster preparedness planning.

“As the only trauma center in San Francisco it is critical that we be up and running during and after a disaster, to treat victims city-wide,” said Sue Currin, CEO of SFGH. “Thanks to our seismically-safe design, General Hospital will remain open and operational, able to care for current patients and treat disaster victims.”



*The new San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center*

The new 460,000 square-foot building, scheduled for completion in 2015, will be nine stories (seven stories above ground and two below) and house 284 inpatient beds, 32 more beds than the current hospital. The new building will feature a state-of-the-art environment including patient care areas which have been designed to reduce errors and infections and improve quality and nursing care. The \$887.4 million hospital will be LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified and will feature a seismically-resistant design allowing the hospital building to glide 30 inches in any direction, in the event of an earthquake. The new hospital will be the hub of San Francisco’s health care emergency response, housing the Department of Public Health’s Departmental Operations Center, which coordinates all medical responses for the city.

“Quake, But Don’t Break” will feature an **interactive display for attendees** that will include a video and model of the new hospital, in addition to discussions with architects, engineers, builders and other experts who will talk about the stellar seismic design elements of the new building. Safety fair attendees will also have the opportunity to **create a disaster relief plan for the home** with the help of emergency preparedness specialists. And, they can take home a free flashlight to stock their kits.

The Saturday open house is free to attend and will take place on October 23, 2010 from 9 a.m. – noon. For more information, please visit [www.sfdph.org/dph/rebuildsfg/](http://www.sfdph.org/dph/rebuildsfg/).

–more–

#### About San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center

San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center is the sole provider of trauma and psychiatric emergency services for the City and County of San Francisco. A comprehensive medical center, SFGH serves some 100,000 patients per year and provides 20 percent of the city's inpatient care. As San Francisco's public hospital, SFGH's mission is to provide quality health care and trauma services with compassion and respect to patients that include the city's most vulnerable. General Hospital is also one of the nation's top tertiary academic medical centers, partnering with the University of California, San Francisco on clinical training and research.

###