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**LAGUNA HONDA HOSPITAL CELEBRATES 150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
COMMUNITY CELEBRATION FOR PATIENTS, STAFF and PUBLIC**

***Mayor Ed Lee, Health Director Barbara Garcia, Supervisor Norman Yee congratulate hospital on history of dedicated and compassionate service to San Franciscans***

(San Francisco)-- Mayor Ed Lee, Health Director Barbara Garcia, Supervisor Norman Yee and members of the hospital's extended family today celebrated Laguna Honda Hospital and Rehabilitation Center's 150 years of dedicated and compassionate service to San Franciscans.

Laguna Honda first opened in 1866, as an almshouse for the poor. Today it is a premier 780-bed rehabilitation and skilled nursing hospital, earning five stars for quality from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

"Laguna Honda has been here through earthquakes, polio epidemics, small pox and AIDS, always responding to the needs of the community," said Barbara Garcia, Director of Health.

San Franciscans passed a bond in 1999 to rebuild Laguna Honda. In 2010, it became the most modern skilled nursing and rehabilitation center in the country, replacing the open wards of yore.

"Because of its history as a nursing home, many people don't realize that Laguna Honda residents have a broader age range than you might think," said Dr. Edward Chow, President of the San Francisco Health Commission. "Today, 36 percent of Laguna Honda patients are between 45 and 64 years old. And, 18 percent are over 85. Of the nearly 1,300 San Franciscans that Laguna Honda served last year, 24 percent of them returned to the community."

Laguna Honda's extensive rehabilitation program helps people recover from strokes, spinal cord injuries, orthopedic disorders, brain injuries, neurologic conditions, amputations other major traumas. The campus features two state-of-the art rehab gyms and two beautiful therapeutic pools for residents undergoing rehabilitation.

The community celebration, attended by more than 300 people in addition to hospital residents and staff, included live music, food trucks, hospital tours, visits to the little farm on campus and an appearance by the Cal Men's Basketball Team.

Laguna Honda is part of the San Francisco Health Network, the health care delivery system operated by the San Francisco Department of Public Health that also includes Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center, primary care clinics throughout the City, specialty care, mental health and substance abuse treatment services.

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