Fact sheet: Historical Highlights

From our modest beginning in 1897 – when Fresno physicians formed a private hospital by joining forces with Celia Burnett, the proprietor of an already successful boarding house – to the construction of an academic regional medical center and expansion of Clovis Community Medical Center, Community Medical Centers’ rich history spans more than a century of commitment to the Central Valley and its residents.

Here is Community’s 100-plus year timeline:

1897: Burnett Sanitarium is established.

1905: Three-story building at corner of Fresno and S streets opens.

1916: Five-story Burnett Annex is built.

1945: Burnett Sanitarium is sold to nonprofit corporation, named Fresno Community Hospital.

1959: Fresno Community Hospital opens 204-bed, five-story building.

1963: Fifth floor of Fresno Community Hospital is completed; adds 69 beds for total 299 beds.

1965: Dedication ceremonies for new Clovis Memorial Hospital.

1972: Fresno Community Hospital’s 10-story tower is added.

1979: Fresno Community Hospital becomes Fresno Community Hospital and Medical Center, merges with Clovis Memorial Hospital, renamed Clovis Community Hospital.

1982: Fresno Community Hospital and Medical Center and Sierra Hospital Foundation incorporate; form Community Hospitals of Central California.

1988: Clovis Community Hospital opens with 120 beds.

1993: California Cancer Center opens.

1995: City of Fresno approves development of Community Regional Medical Center. Community purchases Santé Health System. Sierra Community Hospital closes in December; inpatients transferred to Fresno Community and Clovis Community.

1996: Community and local physicians launch Community Medical Providers, a group of 45 physicians and nurse practitioners who are members of Santé Community Physicians.

Fresno County and Community merger is approved. Community assumes management for Valley Medical Center; renames it University Medical Center (UMC).

1999: Name changes to Community Medical Centers – two hospitals renamed Community Medical Center-Clovis and Community Medical Center-Fresno. Fresno Heart Hospital plans unveiled.

2000: Site work begins at the regional medical center

2001: Fresno Heart Hospital site work begins. CMC-Clovis outpatient care center groundbreaking.

2002: Outpatient care center at CMC-Clovis opens. Cedar Vista Hospital is purchased; renamed Community Behavioral Health Center. Outpatient clinics are renamed the “Deran Koligian Ambulatory Care Center” in honor of the late Fresno County Board of Supervisors Chairman who was a longtime advocate of health services for the disadvantaged.

2003: Downtown campus is named Community Regional Medical Center. University Medical Center’s and Community Regional’s maternal child services are combined. Fresno Heart Hospital opens. Table Mountain Rancheria gifts $10 million for areas of greatest need. MedWatch ½ hour television show launches on KSEE 24.

2004: Trauma and critical care building is completed at Community Regional Medical Center; first patients treated in new cardiac catheterization labs and radiology.

2005: Community Regional Medical Center’s emergency department is moved to first floor of new Trauma and Critical Care Building (TCCB). Community Alzheimer’s Living Center is sold to Elimcare Communities. Community Regional is first in the world to offer new “Generation 4” CyberKnife technology for noninvasive treatment of cancerous and non-cancerous tumors and lesions.
2006: Board of Trustees authorize move of services from University Medical Center to Community Regional Medical Center.

2007: First surgery is performed in Trauma and Critical Care Building at Community Regional Medical Center.

   ICU patients from Community Regional Medical Center’s 10-story building are moved into new Trauma and Critical Care ICU.

   Fresno Heart Hospital becomes wholly-owned by Community Medical Centers and is renamed Fresno Heart & Surgical Hospital.

   Level 1 trauma designation is transferred to Community Regional Medical Center.

   All inpatient, acute-care services, including burn and Level 1 trauma centers, are relocated from UMC to Community Regional Medical Center.

   University Medical Center’s emergency department closes.

   Community Medical Centers’ health care advocacy tool, MedWatchToday.com launches.

   Seven-year, $75 million roll out of state-of-the-art information technology systems for clinical and business services starts.

2008: Clovis Community Medical Center begins its outpatient expansion.

   Fresno Heart & Surgical Hospital completes its $8.3 million facility expansion, including two specialty high-tech operating rooms.

   Officials break ground on the 79,534-square-foot Deran Koligian Ambulatory Care Center.

   Community Regional Medical Center receives six international Telly awards for “Outstanding Television Programming” for its MedWatch segments.

2009: Trustees approve plan for Terry’s House, a 17,000 square-foot, two-story hospitality home at Fresno and R streets in downtown Fresno to lodge families whose loved ones are receiving critical care at Community Regional Medical Center.

   6-story parking garage with more than 1,500 stalls for employees, patients and tenants opens at Community Regional Medical Center.

   New outpatient and surgical services center opens at Community Regional Medical Center.

   Community Medical Centers’ national television show, “Healthcare Heroes” launches.

   Clovis Community Medical Center completes its outpatient expansion and embarks on an inpatient expansion.

2010: Construction of Terry’s House begins.

   The Deran Koligian Ambulatory Care Center opens on the campus of Community Regional Medical Center.

   The 88,000-square-foot East Medical Plaza opens on the campus of Community Regional Medical Center.

   Community Regional Medical Center’s stroke program becomes the Valley’s only accredited primary stroke center certified by the Joint Commission.

   The last steel beam on Clovis Community Medical Center’s 5-story bed tower is placed as part of its $300 million expansion project.

   Community Regional Medical Center achieves a more rigorous status of American College of Surgeons (ACS) verification for its Table Mountain Rancheria Trauma Center.

   The 659-space visitor parking garage opens at Clovis Community Medical Center as part of its expansion project.

2011: Terry’s House opens.

   Community Regional Medical Center, Clovis Community Medical Center and the Deran Koligian Care Center clinics implement state-of-the-art electronic health record system.

2012: Fresno Heart & Surgical Hospital’s Advanced Diagnostic Testing Center is completed.

   Fresno Heart & Surgical Hospital transitions to electronic health records.

   Construction begins on the Health & Education Conference Center at Clovis Community Medical Center.

   New five-story bed tower opens at Clovis Community Medical Center.