

Care Connection



Grateful for the lifesaving care she received as a child, Grace Mikuriya regularly gives back to lift the spirits of hospitalized kids in our community.



Saving a young life.

When Grace Mikuriya was just 11 years old, her health took a quick turn for the worst. After experiencing intense abdominal pain and vomiting, her parents took her to urgent care to get checked out. Grace was sent home, but her parents remained concerned. They took her to the doctor the next day, who identified worrying symptoms and sent Grace to our Nan and Howard Schow Emergency & Trauma Center right away.

When she arrived here, our team of caregivers quickly diagnosed Grace with sepsis — a condition in which the body responds improperly to infection. She was experiencing multisystem organ failure. “The doctors told my parents that if I’d come in any later, they probably couldn’t have saved me,” says Grace.

Our team discovered that Grace’s condition was caused by a kink in her ureter — the duct where urine passes from the kidney to the bladder. Shortly after

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Best care for kids, close to home.

Did you know that we offer primary and specialty pediatric care throughout the San Gabriel Valley?

Each year, 25,000 children receive care at our three primary-care pediatric offices. With our local, trusted pediatricians, your kids can get the medical care they need to grow up healthy.

Huntington is also here for you in the case of severe illness or an emergency. From our pediatric unit staffed with hospital-based, expert pediatricians to the Cedars-Sinai Guerin Children's program, which offers the highest level of specialized pediatric care, your kids are in good hands.

► Find a pediatrician:
huntingtonhealth.org/kidsdoc

Saving a young life.

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being diagnosed, she fell into a coma. She needed surgery to install a stent to keep her ureter open.

Thanks to the lifesaving treatment we provided, Grace began to improve — eventually coming out of her coma after two weeks. She was cared for by our team of pediatric specialists for about a month.

“I was sad that I had to be in the hospital during my summer break, but the doctors and nurses were so accommodating and kind,” says Grace. Others helped brighten her time here, too. She recalls that she was gifted a diary to use to write down her thoughts during her recovery. A soccer team that her friend was on at the time also brought her a special teddy bear. “It made me so happy during a sad time,” she says.

After being released from Huntington, Grace spent time at home fully recovering, before undergoing reconstructive surgery of her ureter. About a year later, she wanted to find a way to give back and help other children like her in our community. With help from her pediatrician Margaret Legault, MD, and her friends and family, she decided to hold a toy drive to collect teddy bears to distribute to patients in our pediatric unit during the December holidays. “My family and friends helped me do it again the following year and we have continued every year since,” says Grace. “It’s grown over time, and we now donate other toys, too. It’s my only tradition and it means so much to me.”

Today, Grace is completely healthy. She went on to attend California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, where she majored in journalism and now works in minor league baseball as the fan engagement manager for the Rancho Cucamonga Quakes. Grace remains appreciative of the doctors and nurses who cared for her here, including Dr. Legault, who recently retired after a long career in pediatrics. “I’m so grateful for what they did for me,” says Grace. Huntington Hospital absolutely saved my life.”

Learn more about our lifesaving, compassionate care for kids: huntingtonhealth.org/peds





When it comes to your heart, trust Huntington.

From diagnosis and treatment to recovery and research, our Helen and Will Webster Heart & Vascular Center brings comprehensive cardiology services and the latest medical technologies together all under one roof.

Our comprehensive cardiac care includes a personalized and innovative Heart Wellness Program that provides:

- Comprehensive screening by registered nurses.
- Personalized consultation with a registered dietitian, heart-healthy nutrition counseling, diabetes education, body fat testing and cooking classes designed specifically for individuals with heart disease.
- An individualized exercise program to maintain lifestyle changes.
- Outpatient access to emotional assessment and counseling, as needed.
- Stress management services, including individual counseling, group lectures and spouse support.
- A Cardiac Rehabilitation Program that provides dedicated facilities and state-of-the-art equipment to help keep your heart strong.

Our team of cardiac specialists puts you and your heart health first.

- ▶ Learn more about our expert heart care services: huntingtonhealth.org/heart



Robbin Cohen, MD, MMM

Surgical care that's a beat ahead.

As an affiliate of Cedars-Sinai, we recently expanded our cardiac surgery program. Robbin Cohen, MD, MMM, has joined the team of Cedars-Sinai physicians who practice at Huntington Health, as the director of the cardiothoracic surgery program. This brings Cedars-Sinai's top-ranked heart care to patients throughout the San Gabriel Valley.

For more than 30 years, Dr. Cohen has been providing care to our community at Huntington Hospital as a renowned cardiothoracic surgeon. Now he leads an expert team, which includes: Tyler M. Gunn, MD, director of the ECMO Program; Michael Bowdish, MD, vice chair of quality and research; Dominic Emerson, MD, associate surgical director of heart transplant and mechanical circulatory support, surgical co-director of CSICU, associate director of the Thoracic Surgery ACGME Fellowship Program, director of robotic cardiac surgery; and Armin Kiankhooy, MD, cardiac surgeon.

If you're looking for a trusted cardiac surgeon, follow your heart to Huntington.

- ▶ Learn more: huntingtonhealth.org/hearturgery

In the community.

As a proud pillar of the San Gabriel Valley for 131 years now, we consistently reach out beyond our walls to help improve the health and wellbeing of people throughout our region.

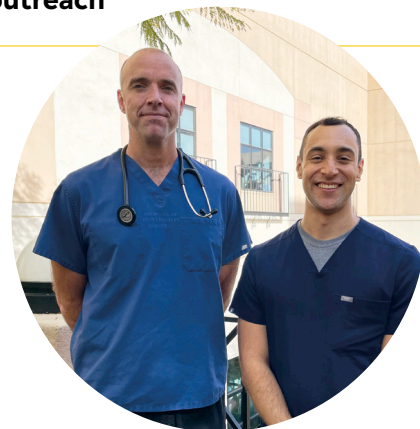


Free community health screenings. Did you know that our registered nurses offer free health counseling and screenings for diabetes and hypertension at a variety of community sites every month? They also provide free health education on disease prevention and management.

- ▶ Learn more about our free community clinics: huntingtonhealth.org/communityoutreach

Fentanyl education. In response to the national fentanyl poisoning crisis, community members recently joined emergency department physician Ted Peck, MD, and clinical pharmacist specialist Evan Adintori, PharmD, BCPS, to learn about the dangers of fentanyl, the pervasiveness of the drug in the community and what to do if someone overdoses.

Our clinical experts also provided information about Narcan, a nasal spray used to reverse or reduce the effects of opioids, and trained attendees on how to administer it. We were happy to offer this critically important program to help save lives by preventing and reversing fatal fentanyl overdoses.



Black History Parade and Festival. In February 2023, we were proud to join the City of Pasadena for their 41st annual Black History Parade and Festival! It was an honor to march down Fair Oaks Avenue, celebrating our incredible community with thousands of fellow Pasadenans. We also enjoyed the opportunity to offer attendees free health screenings at the event. We look forward to participating in this joyous festival again next year.

Food drive. In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy of giving to those in need, Huntington employees, physicians and volunteers recently organized a food drive for Friends in Deed, Pasadena's local food bank. Over 3,000 pounds of non-perishable items and beverages were donated to help people in our community who are struggling with food insecurity.





NICU cuddlers.



Highest level of NICU care.

When Stephanie Cianci was pregnant, she chose to give birth at Huntington Hospital, which was over an hour away from her home. Why? Because we don't just offer neonatal care, but the highest level of neonatal care in the San Gabriel Valley. "No expectant mother wants their newborn to need specialized care right after birth," says Stephanie, "but it's better to plan for every scenario so you can give your baby the best and safest start to life."

During birth, Stephanie's baby boy had his umbilical cord wrapped around his body. As she pushed, the cord would pull him back. This tug-of-war caused his heart rate to drop. Our neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) team was called into Stephanie's birthing suite to wait for her baby's arrival, so they could quickly examine him and provide treatment if necessary. When baby Dylan entered this world, he was struggling to breathe. Fortunately, our neonatal specialists were on hand to provide swift care.

"I had a healthy pregnancy and assumed I wouldn't need the NICU team, but I'm so glad they were there," said Stephanie. "It was scary when the baby I'd been waiting to meet for 9 months wasn't breathing well, but the amazing caregivers jumped into action and immediately helped him. If I give Dylan a sibling one day, I will absolutely give birth at Huntington again."

We are proud to have a level III NICU. Babies who are born at other local hospitals and need a higher level of care than they can provide, are transferred to us. To help expedite the transport of these premature or sick newborns, we now have an ambulance designated only for them. Our new NICU ambulance is equipped with

the latest technologies and is parked on our campus, so it is always ready to pick up babies who need our expert neonatal care.

► Learn more about our specialized care for babies:
huntingtonhealth.org/NICU

One of the most important components of infant care is human contact: a soothing voice, warm touch, gentle rocking, expressive eyes, or a soft lullaby. That is why, Huntington Hospital's level III neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) embraces volunteer "cuddlers" who hold premature and high-risk newborns when their families or guardians are not available.

Studies have repeatedly shown that cuddling helps regulate the digestive, circulatory and gastrointestinal systems, strengthens pulmonary and immune functions, and helps reduce pain and discomfort. Cuddlers also free up our nurses to focus on patient care. This program was on hold during the pandemic, but we are thrilled to welcome these essential volunteers back to our NICU!





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We speak your language. We are committed to providing you with compassionate care regardless of the language you speak. ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al (626) 397-5211. 注意：如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 (626) 397-5211。

#1 in trusted care in the San Gabriel Valley.

World-class health care
right in your community.



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