

LONG VALLEY HEALTH CENTER: CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF SERVICE



Without a lot of fanfare, the best medical facility that has ever operated in this part of the county starting seeing patients on March 1st.

— THE LAYTONVILLE LEDGER | MARCH 10, 1978

Forty years later and it's fanfare time at Long Valley Health Center as they prepare to celebrate this important anniversary.

In 1978 there were few medical care options for residents of the rural northern region of California's Mendocino County. Even the most routine care often involved significant travel, and was rarely easily accessible or convenient.

In the mid-1970s, a small group of residents of Laytonville, an unincorporated town about 150 miles north of San Francisco, formed an advisory board with the goal of starting a health center to serve the people of Laytonville and the surrounding area. When the Center opened, it employed one part-time doctor, a nurse, and three part-time support staff. During the first month of operation, the Center reported treating 79 patients in rented rooms at Laytonville's Garden Club.

The Center's current site was purchased in 1990 and renovated for use as a primary care facility the next year. A significant expansion to the Center's facilities was constructed in 1995. Primary dental services were added in 1995, followed by acupuncture in 1997. A grant-funded chemical dependency program was initiated in 1997, and in 2002 the Center began offering chiropractic services. The facilities were expanded again in 2003, with dental services and key administrative functions being moved into adjacent leased space.

In 2017, the clinic entered into a contract with University of California, San Francisco Medical Center (UCSFMC) to provide tele-psychiatry services. Today, patients needing psychiatric assessment or treatment can virtually "meet" with a UCSFMC psychiatrist via video, saving the time and expense of a trip to the nearest comprehensive services in San Francisco. Without this service, limited options forced many to forgo much-needed assistance.

A far cry from its humble beginnings, Long Valley Health Center now offers full-time physicians, family nurse practitioners,

behavioral health counselors, dentists, a dental hygienist, and acupuncture and chiropractic services. Looking forward, the Center is working to expand their tele-medicine program to include specialties such as cardiology, dermatology, and endocrinology. A transportation service will be initiated this year to assist patients from the remote parts of their service area who face transportation issues limiting their access to services.

Morrison & Company's financial advisory team first began working with Long Valley Health Center in 2014 in an outsourced CFO role. Assistance included establishing and streamlining accounting functions for consistent management analysis and facilitating the annual financial audit. In 2017, our People Solutions team worked to help the Board of Directors develop a strategic plan, set related goals, and implement plans to achieve them.

Morrison & Company congratulates Long Valley Health Center on its milestone 40th anniversary and their success in offering innovative, high-quality health services to the community.



Morrison & Company's Carolyn Kanabrocki, Geoff Chinnock, and Carissa Rystrom, stand with Long Valley Health Center's Executive Director, Rod Grainger.



The nurses of Long Valley Health Center