

Sequoia Hospital Foundation
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HOWARD GIRDLESTONE GIVES \$1 MILLION FOR NEW SEQUOIA HOSPITAL

REDWOOD CITY, CA- June 11, 2009 – Howard Girdlestone has pledged \$1 million to help build and equip Redwood City's new Sequoia Hospital. The gift was made to The New Sequoia Hospital Campaign, which has raised \$7.5 million of its \$20 million goal.

A former member of both the United States Navy and Marine Corps, Mr. Girdlestone moved to San Carlos in 1953 and purchased his home for just \$19,000. In the years since, he has become a prominent figure in the community, as the founding President of the Parks and Recreation Foundation of San Carlos, Citizen of the Year in 2001, and the Silicon Valley Community Foundation's Outstanding Philanthropist for 2008. Mr. Girdlestone became active with Sequoia Hospital in the early 1990's and publicly credits Sequoia's physicians and staff with curing his prostate cancer with radiation. He has served on the Sequoia Hospital Foundation's Board of Directors since 2004.

"Realizing the importance of Sequoia Hospital to our community, I am very proud to join with others in being a part of its development," said Mr. Girdlestone. "I know this facility will improve the quality of life for the people on the Peninsula and the surrounding region for decades to come."

Sequoia is building a new hospital at its historic site in Redwood City, at the intersection of Alameda de las Pulgas and Whipple Avenue. The new hospital will be a full-service, 148,000 square foot, four-story building located in the center of the Sequoia campus adjacent to the existing hospital facility.

Two floors of the new hospital, approximately 50% of the entire new hospital, will be dedicated to cardiac and vascular services. Plans for the new hospital also include an inpatient surgery center with two suites designed to accommodate open-heart surgery and a 16-bed intensive care unit. Virtually all of the patient rooms will be private rooms and they will have sleeping accommodations for family members. Key areas of the existing Sequoia Hospital facility will be renovated as part of the new hospital project such as the Emergency Department, the Birthing Center, food services and imaging. When complete, the new Emergency Department will be significantly larger and will feature a separate entrance for trauma and ambulance arrivals.

The plans also call for the relocation of the hospital's main entrance to Whipple Avenue which will create a readily identifiable entrance to the Sequoia campus and greatly improve traffic flow in the surrounding neighborhoods. During construction of the new hospital, there will be no disruption of medical services to the community. Site work began in late 2007 and the new Sequoia Hospital will be completed in 2012.

The projected total cost to build the new Sequoia hospital is \$240 million. This total cost will be met by a collaborative financing plan that calls for \$75 million funded by Catholic Healthcare West, \$75 million from Sequoia Hospital, \$75 million from the Sequoia Healthcare District and \$15 million from philanthropic contributions raised by the Sequoia Hospital Foundation. The Sequoia Hospital Foundation is conducting an area-wide fundraising campaign with a minimum goal of \$20 million - \$15 for the new building and a minimum of \$5 million for cutting-edge medical equipment and technology.

"Howard's early support of this campaign is both heartwarming and inspirational," observed Deanna Dooley, Chair of the Sequoia Hospital Foundation. "Our community is deeply indebted to those who are giving so generously to assure that Sequoia continues to deliver award-winning, world-class care well into the 21st century."

About the Sequoia Hospital Foundation

Now in its 25th year, the Sequoia Hospital Foundation is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization dedicated to supporting the life-saving mission of Sequoia Hospital. Financial support from individuals, families, foundations and organizations is essential to maintain Sequoia's ability to offer excellent, state-of-the-art services and programs. The Foundation is proud to use 100% of every dollar donated to support patient care and outreach services, programs and facilities to keep our hospital strong and our community healthy. To learn more, please visit www.sequoiahospitalfoundation.org

About Sequoia Hospital

Sequoia Hospital is an accredited, not-for-profit community hospital providing innovative and exceptional healthcare to Bay Area residents. With a nationwide reputation for pioneering advanced cardiac care, Sequoia is designated as a 2009 Blue Distinction Center for Cardiac Care by Anthem-Blue Cross of California and Blue Shield of California. Sequoia also excels in the areas of stroke care, emergency services, and birth center services. Voted "A Family Favorite 2008 Best Hospital" by readers of Bay Area Parent magazine, Sequoia ranks in the top percentile of U.S. hospitals for patient satisfaction and is a leader in quality and safety initiatives. To learn more, please visit: www.sequoiahospital.org