



2023

*Annual*  
**REPORT**

# Message From the President & CEO



**Justin Preas**

President & Chief Executive Officer

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large 'J' and 'P' followed by a horizontal line.

In our 52-year history, there have been many great milestones making a tremendous impact on the health and wellness of the Central Valley. Not unlike previous years, the milestones of 2023 were strategically planned by an experienced Board of Directors and a team of exceptional leaders who methodically executed the planning to benefit over 160,000 unique patients. In 2023 we added many new specialty services including cardiology, gastroenterology, orthopedics, nephrology, gynecology, urology, vascular health, and sleep medicine. We also continued to bring essential services to several new communities, including Visalia for the first time and two additional locations in Fresno with a new comprehensive health center on Ashlan Avenue and a Vision Services Center downtown on "S" Street.

To accompany the new services, UHC grew its employee base by 125 new hires including 45 key clinical staff as well as two officers, two directors, seven health center managers, and various specialists. The two new officers provide direct support to the President and CEO: Faith Driscoll, Esq., UHC's Chief Legal Officer, oversees Human Resources and provides essential consulting on legal and strategic initiatives while overseeing the training and development of our excellent workforce of 1,200+ individuals. Navjot Singh was named Contracting and Managed Care Officer for the United Physicians Network (UPN), a specialty network and one of the largest Independent Physician Associations (IPA) in the Central Valley. To date, UPN has incorporated over 2,076 contracted providers and 183 organizations—a remarkable achievement within Navjot's first year in this position.

*Mr. Preas delivered remarks at the UHC Fresno Jensen Groundbreaking Ceremony on June 9, 2023*



Among new clinical positions, Dr. Sharareh Shabafrooz was promoted to Associate Medical Director for Medical Education to oversee the various Post-Grad and Pre-Grad Residency Programs. UHC's Medical Education Program is comprised of nearly 50 coaches/mentors that assist with the training of more than 165 future clinicians annually. Another key director is Candice Clem, Director of Philanthropy, who will oversee UHC Foundation fundraising events including the Spring Gala, the Summer Fun Run (new in 2023) and the Annual Golf Tournament now held at Eagle Springs Golf and Country Club. In addition, Ms. Clem will generate revenue through major gift pledges and donations supporting the Dr. Shankerman Scholarship Program and the ever-increasing costs of comprehensive healthcare services and facility construction.

As I reflect on all the important achievements we have made in just one year, I still find it quite remarkable how new services quickly reach their capacity and that we still have far to go to fulfill the tremendous demand for quality and accessible healthcare in the underserved areas of our vast Central Valley. With the aid of social media and electronic web-based patient appointments along with dozens of new community partnerships, we can quickly reach multitudes unlike any time in our history. These advancements and growth are thanks to the outstanding work of our new health center managers and the great work of our award-winning creative team and their communication services.

Through my 19 years with UHC (and now in my first year as President and CEO), I have been fortunate to know that the true strength of our organization continues to rely on the outstanding support of our compassionate and dedicated staff. I was delighted to see the return of the UHC Holiday Gala at Table Mountain Casino with nearly 1,000 guests. I also greatly enjoyed our quarterly recognition lunches, as well as witnessing the highly prized softball trophy come back to where it belongs.

The road ahead remains a challenge as we face constant variables in national economics and policies; however, with outstanding strategic planning from our exceptional Board of Directors, we are well-prepared and confident for 2024 and beyond. Several new health centers will soon open in Fresno, including sites on Jensen Avenue, California Avenue, First Street and downtown on Illinois Avenue, along with a second location on Bullard Avenue and another health center in the City of Fowler on 6th Street. These new sites along with new services coming in the near future, including Mammography screening, will be quite exciting for us all.

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# Message From the Board Chair



**John R. (Jack) Shantz, PsyD**

UHC Board Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jack Shantz". The signature is stylized and fluid.



*Dr. Jack Shantz at the Visalia Grand Opening Ceremony on May 25, 2023.*

As UHC Board Chair, I was extremely pleased to announce the selection of Mr. Justin Preas as the new President and CEO in January 2023. Justin and Colleen (now retired) had worked together for nearly 20 years collaborating, planning and implementing an outstanding management and growth strategy that has continued throughout 2023 with remarkable results.

Of the many accomplishments over the course of this year, we, the members of the Board of Directors, recognize that the successes can certainly be traced back to executive decisions and to strategic planning, but truly the successes are made possible through the tremendous efforts of the entire UHC staff including its effective leaders and managers, and I have to highlight UHC's remarkable recruitment and training teams. While the importance of adding health centers and new medical services are critical to improving access to great healthcare, it is equally important to fill those centers with the most talented, qualified and trained employees.

As we have observed, there has been an overwhelming increase in exceptionally skilled staff coming to UHC including the new Chief Legal Officer and the new Director of Philanthropy. In addition, there are internal promotions of highly skilled staff making exceptional contributions including the new Contracting and Managed Care Officer and the Associate Medical Director of Medical Education who as individuals have critical responsibilities in the growing complexities of the healthcare environment. It has been a pleasure learning of their accomplishments and plans for the future as well.

The new endeavors of the United Physicians Network (UPN), the continuous expansion of the clinical residency and training programs, as well as the philanthropic programs of the UHC Foundation, will advance the many quality of care programs, operational efficiencies and ultimately advance the outstanding reputation of the organization throughout the state as well.

It is truly exciting and rewarding to serve alongside members of a dedicated board of directors that deeply appreciates the opportunity to serve this outstanding workforce of committed and compassionate healthcare professionals.



# Board of Directors



**Jack Shantz, PsyD**  
*Board Chair*



**Sarah Guerra**  
*Vice Chair*



**Ofelia Garcia**  
*Secretary*



**Nathan Williams**  
*Treasurer*



**Daniel Parra**  
*Parliamentarian*



**Jose Gutierrez**  
*HRSA/Policy*



**Lorane Avalos**  
*Board Member*



**Esther Nicacio**  
*Board Member*



**Nicole Thompson**  
*Board Member*



**Maricela Vargas**  
*Board Member*



**Michael Graville**  
*Board Member*

Strategic Planning  
Conference

Pismo Beach, California

November 10-12, 2023



# 30 Health Centers

Serving over 100 communities in  
Fresno, Kings & Tulare Counties

Patient Visits

883,820

Total Patients

163,218

Agriculture Workers

56%

Employees

1,268

## OUR MISSION

We are committed to the lifetime wellness of our communities by providing accessible, comprehensive quality health care to everyone with compassion and respect, regardless of ability to pay.

## OUR VISION

To improve the health and quality of life for the communities we serve.

# Our Services

## Primary Healthcare Services

### Medical

- Family Medicine
- Internal Medicine
- Urgent Care
- Pediatrics
- OB-GYN
- Immunizations
- Prenatal Care
- Women's Health
- Family Planning
- Work/School & Sports Physicals
- COVID-19 Testing, Treatments & Vaccines
- Flu Vaccines

### Dental

- Adult & Children
- Dental Exams
- Cleaning
- Extractions & Root Canals
- Crowns and Bridges
- Emergency Dental Services
- Whitening
- Implants
- Sealants

### Optometry

- Vision Exams
- Contact Lenses
- Frames & Lenses
- Treatment of Eye Allergies
- Diabetic Care
- Eye Trauma Care

### Ancillary Services

- Laboratory
- X-Ray
- Ultrasound
- Pharmacy
- Free Transportation
- Insurance Enrollment

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## Specialty Services

**In 2023, United Health Centers introduced an impressive new range of specialty services improving access to expert care, advanced treatments, and specialized resources.**

### Full List of Specialty Services

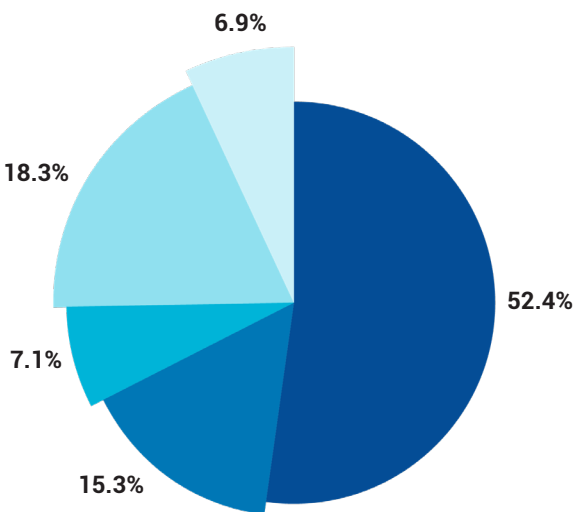
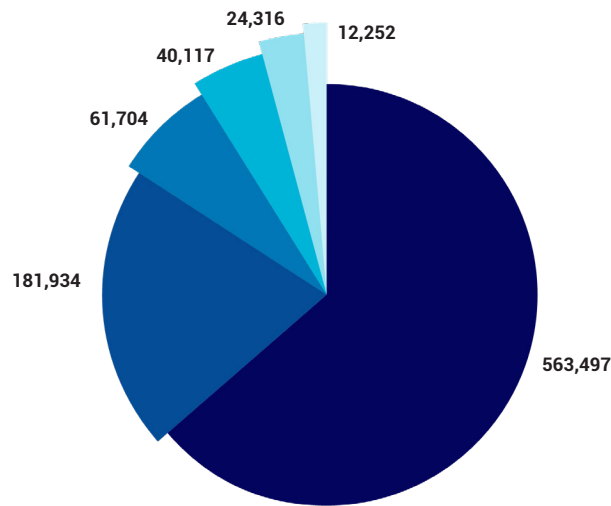
- |                                       |                 |                    |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| • Behavioral Health                   | • Nephrology    | • Sleep Medicine   |
| • Cardiology                          | • Ophthalmology | • Sports Medicine  |
| • Chiropractic                        | • Orthopedics   | • Tele-Dermatology |
| • Gastroenterology                    | • Podiatry      | • Urology          |
| • Gynecology                          | • Psychiatry    | • Urgent Care      |
| • Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) | • Pulmonology   | • Vascular         |



# At-a-Glance

## Patient Visits

- Medical
- Dental
- Chiropractic
- Optometry
- Behavioral Health
- Perinatal Program



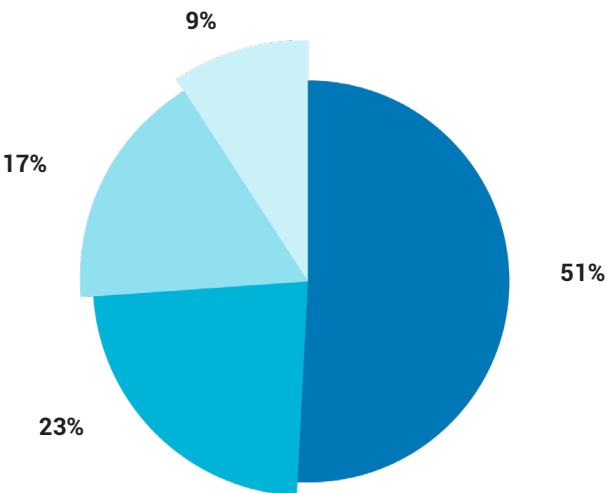
## Patient Income

Patient income based on the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)

- 100% and below
- 101-150%
- 151-200%
- Over 200%
- Unknown

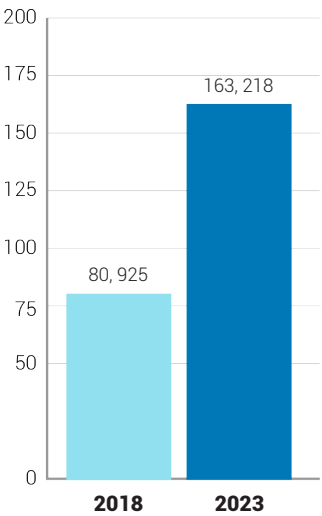
## Payor

- Medi-Cal
- Uninsured
- Private
- Medicare

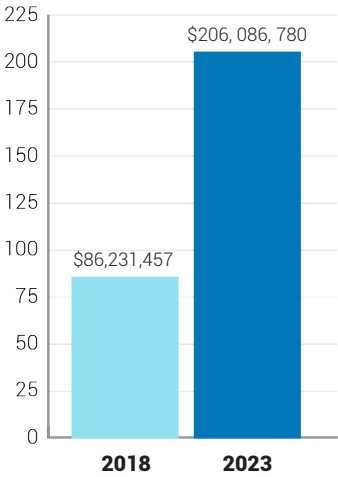


# Five Years of Growth

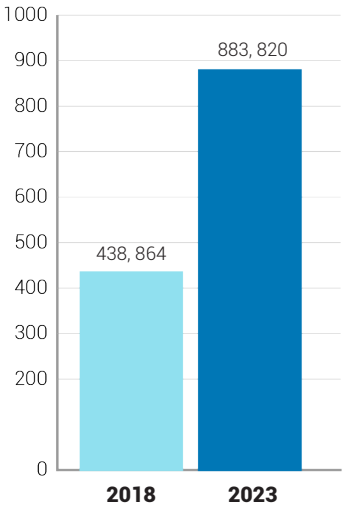
**Patients Served**  
*(In Thousands)*



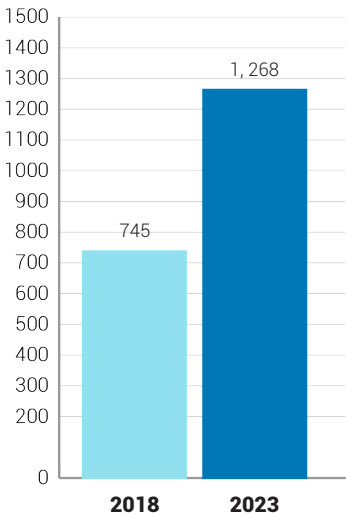
**Revenue Growth**  
*(In Millions)*



**Patient Visits**  
*(In Thousands)*



**Employment**



# New Health Centers: Now Open

**Visalia Health Center**  
4038 S Mooney Blvd, Visalia, CA



*Opened February 2023*

17,044	15	3
Square Feet	Medical Exam Rooms	Urgent Care Rooms
12	6	1
Dental Suites	Optometry Rooms	Behavioral Health Office
2	• Comprehensive Perinatal Services • X-Ray & Lab Services	
Chiropractic Treatment Rooms		

**Fresno S Street Health Center**  
1122 S Street, Fresno, CA



*Opened February 2023*

This location is exclusively dedicated to providing families with vision care services.

5,690	12
Square Feet	Vision Care Rooms
• Optometry & Ophthalmology Services	

**Fresno Ashlan Health Center**  
2848 W Ashlan Ave, Fresno, CA



*Opened March 2023*

13,885	13	4
Square Feet	Medical Exam Rooms	Urgent Care Rooms
10	3	2
Dental Suites	Optometry Rooms	Behavioral Health Offices
2	• Comprehensive Perinatal Services • X-Ray & Lab Services	
Chiropractic Treatment Rooms		



# Health Centers Coming Soon



**Fresno Jensen Avenue Health Center**  
4340 E Jensen Ave, Fresno, CA

12,383	12	3
Square Feet	Medical Exam Rooms	Urgent Care Rooms
9	2	2
Dental Suites	Behavioral Health Offices	Chiropractic Treatment Rooms

- Comprehensive Perinatal Services
- X-Ray & Lab Services



**Fresno First Street Health Center**  
4615 N First Street, Fresno, CA

13,488	12	10
Square Feet	Medical Exam Rooms	Dental Suites
4	1	2
Optometry Rooms	Behavioral Health Office	Chiropractic Treatment Rooms

- Comprehensive Perinatal Services
- X-Ray & Lab Services



**Fresno Illinois Transitional Care Clinic**  
2210 East Illinois Ave, Ste. 501, Fresno, CA

2,035	5
Square Feet	Medical Exam Rooms

This location will be dedicated to helping patients transition from hospital care by linking them with a primary care provider after they have been referred.



**Fowler 6th Street Health Center**  
130 South 6th Street, Fowler, CA

4,785	9	2
Square Feet	Medical Exam Rooms	Chiropractic Treatment Rooms

- Comprehensive Perinatal Services

# Executive Leadership Team Updates



**Justin Preas**  
*President & Chief Executive Officer*



**Jesus Maldonado**  
*Executive Vice President &  
Chief Financial Officer*



**Gregory Williams, MD**  
*Chief Medical Officer*



**Ganga Hematillake, MD**  
*Chief Medical Officer -  
United Physicians Network*



**Beatrice Perez, RN**  
*Chief Clinical Services Officer*



**Anthony Olivares**  
*Chief Operations Officer*



**Faith Driscoll, Esq.**  
*Chief Legal Officer*



**David Phillips**  
*Community Resource Officer*



**Ricardo Viveros**  
*Business Development Officer*



**Miguel Rodriguez**  
*Chief Administrative Officer*



**Raul Venegas**  
*Chief Information Officer*



**Navjot Singh, MSHA**  
*Contracting and Managed Care Officer*

## Jesus Maldonado Promoted to Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer



**Jesus Maldonado**  
*Executive Vice President &  
Chief Financial Officer*

Effective September 1, 2023, UHC announced the promotion of Jesus Maldonado to Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.

Mr. Maldonado joined UHC in 2015 as UHC's Chief Financial Officer and immediately became a vital part of the executive team with his knowledge and experience in the finance world. Mr. Maldonado has helped provide a vision for UHC while working to provide financial stability during extended periods of growth. Mr. Maldonado has been key in the success of UHC's Independent Physician Association (IPA), namely the United Physicians Network (UPN) which has become one of the largest IPA groups in the Fresno, Kings, and Tulare counties. Through UHC's new IPA, Mr. Maldonado has helped to implement a structure that will serve patients and UHC for years to come.

Mr. Maldonado has overseen UHC's financial services departments and continuously obtains results above industry standards that UHC is proud of. Under his leadership, we are confident that UHC will continue to thrive and excel, setting new benchmarks in healthcare financial management. We look forward to the continued growth and success of UHC with Mr. Maldonado in his new executive leadership position.

## Faith Driscoll, Esq., United Health Centers' New Chief Legal Officer



**Faith Driscoll, Esq.**  
*Chief Legal Officer*

UHC announced the appointment of Faith Driscoll, Esq. as the new Chief Legal Officer. With a wealth of experience in advanced employment law and human resource management, Mrs. Driscoll will play a crucial role in supporting our growing organization as we continue to expand our services and workforce.

Mrs. Driscoll holds a BA in Business Administration from California State University, Fresno, and a Doctor of Law (JD) from the San Joaquin College of Law. She has more than 10 years of advisory experience in labor and employment, healthcare, corporate, and board governance. As an active member of several legal associations and a dedicated advocate for children's healthcare, Mrs. Driscoll brings a unique blend of expertise and compassion to her role at UHC. In her free time, she enjoys creating lasting memories with her family at the lake and undertaking DIY home improvement projects.

We are excited to welcome Faith Driscoll to the executive leadership team and look forward to the invaluable contributions she will make in her new role. With her leadership, UHC is poised for continued success, influence, and respect as an employer of choice in the healthcare sector.

## Navjot Singh Promoted to Contracting and Managed Care Officer



**Navjot Singh, MSHA**  
*Contracting and Managed Care Officer*

Navjot (Nav) Singh was promoted to Contracting and Managed Care Officer effective September 1, 2023. Since joining UHC in 2017 as the Director of Managed Care and Contracting, Mr. Singh has been essential to the recent development of the United Physicians Network (UPN) and the entire contracting and managed care departments at UHC. Mr. Singh has worked tirelessly to expand and develop our pharmacy 340B program at UHC which has resulted in increased access to pharmaceuticals for our patients at affordable prices.

Mr. Singh has been essential in the success of numerous projects at UHC and through his dedication UHC has become a more sophisticated and respected organization. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Health Administration from his hometown of Fresno at California State University, Fresno, and his Master of Science Degree in Health Administration at California State University, Northridge.

We are confident that under Navjot Singh's leadership, UPN will continue to advance its contracting and managed care initiatives, further enhancing service delivery and patient care. We congratulate Mr. Singh on his well-deserved promotion and look forward to the continued impact he will have expanding services and influence in the healthcare market.



# Training the Next Generation & Combating Gaps in Central Valley Healthcare

## Primary Care Family Practice Residency and Intern Programs

UHC is currently a participating teaching site for the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Fresno Medical School Family Practice Physician Residency Program. This program annually graduates five third-year family practice physicians, under the leadership of Program Director Dr. Juan Ruvalcaba. Since 2015, Dr. Juan Ruvalcaba has been leading the UHC Family Practice Residency Program and has been instrumental in the retention of more than 60% of the graduates to continue practicing in the Valley.

In addition to the Family Practice Residency Program, UHC hosts a variety of other training programs, including the Physician Assistant Residency Program from California Health Sciences University and the A.T. Still University (ATSU) Central Coast Physician Assistant Training Program. UHC also supports Family Nurse Practitioner student programs from Fresno Pacific and Fresno State Universities, along with multiple other training programs across California and beyond from institutions such as The University of Texas at Arlington, California State University (CSU) Bakersfield, United States University of San Diego, CSU Dominguez Hills, Marysville University, Purdue Global University, Chamberlain University, and Walden University.



**Juan Ruvalcaba, MD**  
*Family Medicine  
UCSF Resident Pathway  
Program Director*

“...the UHC Family Practice Residency Program has been instrumental in the retention of more than 60% of the graduates to continue practicing in the Valley.”



## Medical Education Training Programs

At the forefront of the UHC's Medical Education Program is Dr. Sharareh Shabafrooz, Associate Medical Director for Medical Education. Dr. Shabafrooz oversees Advanced Practice Medical Practitioners in various Post-Grad and Pre-Grad residency programs. UHC's program is comprised of nearly 50 coaches and mentors who assist in training more than 165 future clinicians annually across over 30 UHC clinical training sites.

By offering a comprehensive training program that includes hands-on clinical experience, mentorship from seasoned faculty, and professional development opportunities, UHC fosters strong bonds between new residents and underserved communities. As a result, the Central Valley can expect to retain up to 40% of its graduates, helping to address provider shortages and reduce barriers to healthcare access.

As a teaching healthcare organization, UHC is staffed with over 180 staff clinicians in various specialties, providing services to over 160,000 patients across Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and Kern counties. With a workforce of over 1,200 staff, UHC coordinates nearly one million appointments annually. Among UHC patients, 80% are Hispanic, 56% are migrant or seasonal farmworkers, and 75% live at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.

For additional information on residency and training programs, please visit [www.unitedhealthcenters.org](http://www.unitedhealthcenters.org).



**Sharareh Shabafrooz, DO**

*Family Medicine  
Associate Medical Director -  
Medical Education*



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*Program residents and  
director, Dr. Ruvalcaba, at  
our Parlier Health Center on  
Manning Avenue.*

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# UHC Celebrates and Recognizes Employee Excellence

## Annual Years of Service Honors Staff Milestones

UHC's Annual Years of Service honored staff members who reached milestones of service at UHC. We are incredibly appreciative and proud of each honoree and extend a huge congratulations to everyone who was recognized. Their dedication and commitment drive our success, and we are honored to celebrate their invaluable contributions to our organization.



**38**  
5-Year Honorees



**17** 10-Year Honorees



**10** 15-Year Honorees



**8** 20-Year Honorees



**3** 25-Year Honorees



**3** 30-Year Honorees

**2** 35-Year Honorees



**Gloria Pecina**  
Former WIC Director  
WIC



**Beatrice Perez, RN**  
Chief Clinical Services Officer  
Corporate



# Quarterly Taco Appreciation Lunches

UHC extended its gratitude to our dedicated staff with a special gesture of providing free quarterly taco lunches throughout 2023. In February, May, August, and October, we were delighted to honor the invaluable contributions of our team, recognizing their tireless efforts in upholding our mission of delivering exceptional care every day.



## Annual Employee Softball Tournament

In October 2023, we hit the field with enthusiasm during our Annual Employee Softball Tournament at the Jensen Sports Complex in Fresno, showcasing teamwork and sportsmanship. Amidst the friendly competition, camaraderie flourished, strengthening our employee culture of collaboration and unity. A huge congratulations to Bad News Bears as they reclaimed their Championship title!





## 2023 Employee Holiday Gala

Our elegant 2023 Holiday Employee Gala was a night to remember, celebrating our achievements and dedicated to honoring our exceptional employees. The gala took place at Table Mountain Casino Resort and included a plated dinner, exciting raffle prizes, a casino cash card, and professional photography capturing unforgettable memories, all set in a stunningly decorated venue that sat a total of 1,000 guests. It was a truly memorable celebration of our team's dedication and success.





# Quality Measures Exceed National Standards in 2023

- Ranked among the **Top 10%** in Quality by Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
- UHC has its Best Diabetic Compliance in **5 Years**
- **Exceeded Standards** for Optimized Health Information Technology Services
- **Top 10%** COVID-19 Champion in Vaccinations
- **Top 20%** in Quality Measures (Bronze level)
- Improved Quality Screening Measures **exceeding UDS Benchmarks** in Cervical Cancer, Colorectal Cancer, and Well-Child Visits
- Received Annual Wellness Incentives for 2023 at **\$235,500**
- Received Annual Panel Incentives for Quality Care Gap Closure and Diagnosis Code Projections for 2023 at **\$442,427**
- Patient Satisfaction Scores for all Clinical Specialties **Exceeded 91%** for 2023



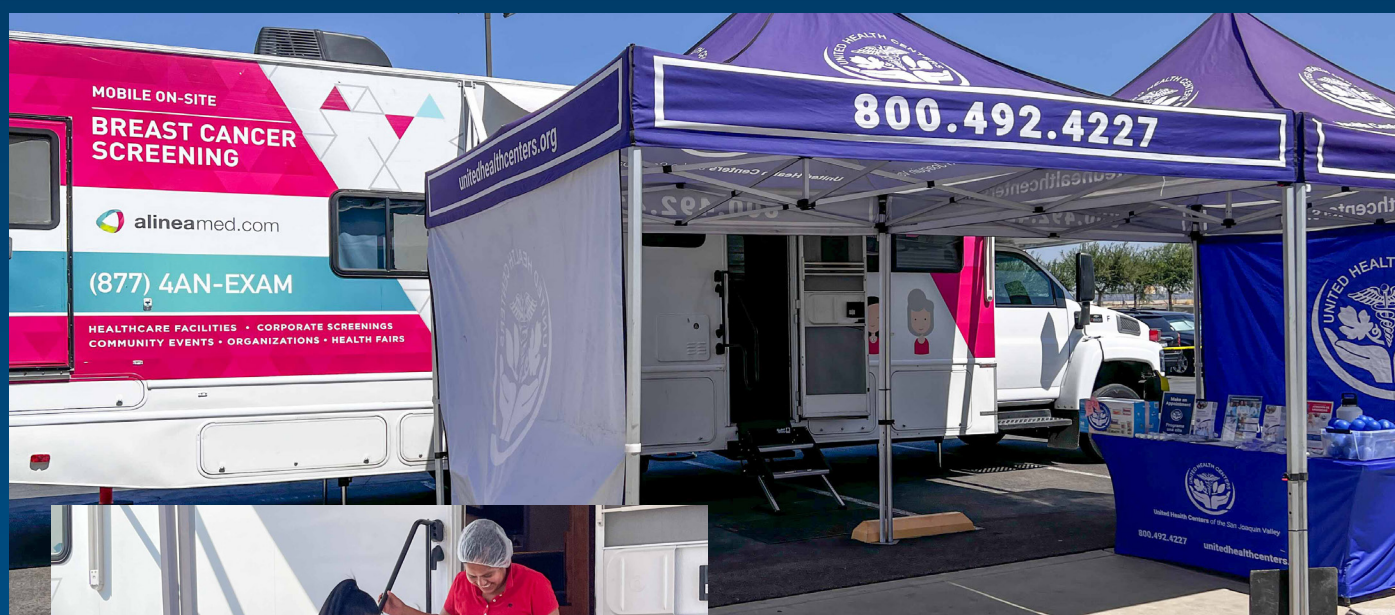
Received "**Excellence in Quality**" Award from HealthNet/CalViva. Pictured from left to right: Natalie Vandergriff-Saechao, Quality Improvement Manager; Sara Santillan, Quality Improvement Director.



# Community Outreach and Impact

Our commitment extends far beyond the walls of our care centers, where we engage in heartfelt community outreach events, fostering meaningful face-to-face interactions and gaining a profound understanding of our community's unique needs and challenges, allowing us to provide personalized and impactful care. These efforts not only strengthen the bonds between our staff and

the community but also empower individuals with the knowledge and resources they need to take charge of their health and well-being. In addition, we leverage various digital platforms such as social media, our website, and captivating graphics and videos. Through these channels, we extend our reach beyond physical boundaries, connecting with individuals across our communities.



*Bee Sweet Citrus Mammogram Mobile Unit*



*Bee Sweet Citrus Vision Screening*



*Bee Sweet Citrus Safety Meeting*





Fresno Univision Feria de Salud



Clovis Big Hat Days



Corcoran Cotton Festival



Kingsburg Swedish Festival

## Community Impact Overview

1,617,119

UHC Website Page Views



365,348

UHC Website New Users



870,445

Social Media Reach (All Accounts)



1,000+

Approved Graphics, Videos, Voice Overs



6,448

TV & Radio Spots



3 GOLD, 3 SILVER

Aster Awards



250+

Outreach Events



63,300+

Estimated people in attendance at events



# United Health Centers Foundation



## Building Healthy Communities

United Health Centers Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and is the philanthropy division at United Health Centers. The Foundation's mission is to be an effective philanthropic partner to United Health Centers, supporting its vision to improve the health and quality of life for the communities it serves. The Foundation was initially established in 2012 to support community programs. After a decade of success – such as funding the Dr. Robert Allen Shankerman Memorial Scholarship at Fresno State to support locally aspiring clinicians – the Foundation's board of directors evaluated the nonprofit's presence in the community. The Board unanimously agreed the Foundation's benefit to the most underserved Valley families could be even greater if its mission was to improve access to essential medical care, the Foundation's top priority in moving forward.



## Complete Access to Life-Saving Medical Care

United Health Centers is a best-in-class system of community health centers, ready to care for any person, no matter what the circumstance. However, thousands of families across the Valley still do not have access to its resources, or any resources like it. Gifts to the Foundation will address this critical issue by bringing the best equipment, programs, facilities and care teams to medically underserved communities far faster than without donor support.



Scan for video:  
**We are UHC**



# Advancing Healthcare Through Philanthropy

## Meet Candice

Candice Clem joined UHC as the Director of Philanthropy in August of 2023. With experience in healthcare administration, health system fundraising, and national nonprofit management, she will bring a wealth of knowledge and skills to the Foundation. In her role, Candice will grow and develop the UHC Foundation through innovative and industry-leading fund development strategies that complement the Foundation's flagship programs and events. Reporting to UHC's President and CEO, she will oversee the creative direction of Foundation events, and activities, while developing meaningful relationships with community leaders and stakeholders in a way that yields substantial, private, donor-investments in support of the Foundation's mission. Candice specializes in securing meaningful and impactful contributions from private donors, foundations and corporations, and looks forward to working with community leaders to improve the landscape of medical care for the millions of community members who are counting on us.



**Candice Clem**

*Director of Philanthropy*

**Contact:**

[clemc@unitedhealthcenters.org](mailto:clemc@unitedhealthcenters.org)  
559-310-7393

## Donor Spotlight

### Bill Cummings - Legacy Construction

Legacy is a construction, realty, and development enterprise that has deep roots at UHC. Legacy is an essential partner to UHC, helping build world-class care centers in underserved communities across Fresno, Tulare, and Kings Counties. Gifting nearly \$100,000 to the Foundation since 2015, Legacy has impacted thousands of families who turn to United for their care. Thank you to the visionary behind Legacy, Bill Cummings, CEO, for our meaningful partnership, and to the entire Legacy enterprise for its tremendous impact across the Valley.



### G.V. Burrows, Inc.

G.V. Burrows, Inc. joined UHC's family of donors this year as a team in the annual golf tournament. Headquartered in Lemoore since 1975, this third-generation, family-owned petroleum business shares the same service area as United Health Centers, both providing essential jobs and services in rural communities throughout the Valley. The Burrows-Castadio family is "proud to invest in communities that invest in [them]." We're grateful for new partners like G.V. Burrows, Inc. who share our vision for healthier communities.





# \$140,000 Donation Advances Dr. Shankerman Scholarship at Fresno State



In April of 2023, the United Health Centers Foundation committed a \$140,000 gift to Fresno State University to endow the Dr. Robert Allen Shankerman Memorial Scholarship for students pursuing careers in the medical field. Later in 2023, a ceremonial check presentation was hosted at Fresno State University by Justin Preas, President & CEO, and David Phillips, Community Resource Officer, to Fresno State University representatives.

Shortly thereafter, the scholarship was uploaded into the student portal and students began the process of applying for consideration through, 2024.

### The application criteria included:

- Minimum GPA of 2.54
- Must be a junior or senior
- A statement of desire to become a medical provider
- A statement of the applicant's experience with diversity and healthcare is required

19 applications were received, and the review committee will select eight students to receive \$5,000 by the close of 2024. Four candidates will be selected from the School of Science and Math, and Four candidates will be selected from the College of Health and Human Services. Awards will be disbursed to each candidate in two parts: \$2,500 in 2024, and \$2,500 in spring of 2025.

United Health Centers will have an opportunity to meet the awarded candidates during the annual spring scholarship luncheon at Fresno State in spring of 2025, which is traditionally hosted at the Smittcamp Alumni House at Fresno State.

United Health Centers Foundation is proud to celebrate Dr. Robert Shankerman's compassionate spirit and dedication to underserved regions through this scholarship, and the training and education of future health care providers and physicians the scholarship supports.

## Employee Donor Highlight

Dr. Ramirez is a key champion of the Dr. Shankerman scholarship, giving generously to this cause as our top employee donor. Inspired by her mentor, Dr. Shankerman, she ensures his legacy lives on. His influence endures as the scholarship supports the training of future providers, ensuring his lasting impact on the field.



**Sylvia Ramirez, PsyD**  
Director of Behavioral Health

# Annual Spring Charity Gala

The 2023 UHC Foundation Spring Gala was held at The Painted Table Event Center in Fresno at 5080 N. Blackstone Avenue on April 21, 2023. Emily Erwin, KSEE24's Central Valley Today Host, was mistress of ceremonies, and facilitated a special program to honor the life of former United Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Robert Allen Shankerman who had passed away in 2020 from the ravages of COVID-19. Proceeds for the evening were allocated towards the Dr. Robert Allen Shankerman memorial scholarship

fund at Fresno State University, which provides scholarship support to students pursuing a career in healthcare.

The Gala was quite a smashing success with the most support ever gifted through gala fundraising. Over \$118,000 was gifted through sponsorships, table and ticket sales, fund-a-need, and a live and silent auction. Guests enjoyed a fabulous evening of dinner, dancing and fundraising to support the evening's special cause.



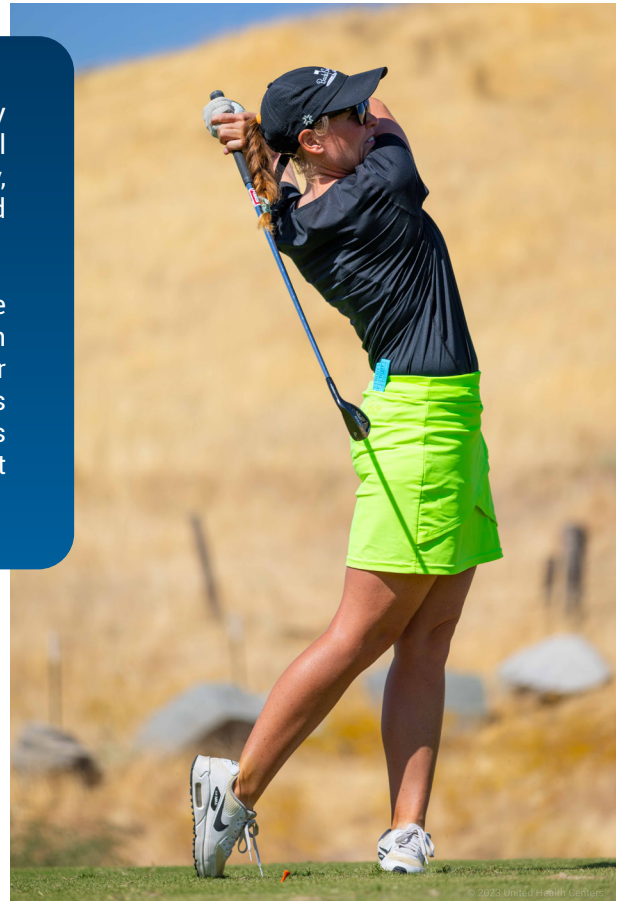


# 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament

The 8th annual UHC Golf Tournament, presented by Legacy Construction, was hosted for the first time at the beautiful Eagle Springs Golf and Country Club in Friant on Friday, September 29th. The tournament sold out with 36 teams, and 144 golfers in competition.

Over \$100,000 was generated from sponsors and unique contests across the course to advance care at United Health Centers. United's President & CEO, Justin Preas, vied for a fourth consecutive first-place championship, but was knocked to second by a narrow margin. Thanks to a generous roster of sponsors, partners, and volunteers, this year's event was truly our most enjoyed golf tournament to date.

Scan the QR Code  
for a Special  
Highlight Video



*Tori Peers at the Backswing Beat the Pro Hole*

# 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Summer Fun Run



*At 8:15 am, the starting signal echoed through the air, launching the timed race.*

Fresno's Woodward Park buzzed with excitement on July 8, 2023, as the inaugural UHC Foundation Summer Fun Run took center stage. With an impressive turnout of over 600 participants, the event marked a significant step towards promoting community health and togetherness. The action-packed morning commenced with the event's signature 5K Run, accompanied by a scenic 2-mile walk and kids' race. At 8:15 am, the starting signal echoed through the air, launching the timed race. The triumph of the inaugural UHC Foundation Summer Fun Run underscores its role as a positive community-building initiative.



# Commitment to Community



*The Espinoza family at the UHC Toy Giveaway in Parlier, CA*

The impact of philanthropy can extend far beyond a dollar with creative, and intentional partnerships. This year, the Espinoza family generously leveraged their family business – Espinoza Family Food Distribution – to make their hometown of Parlier a little healthier and happier during the holiday season.

The Espinoza family gifted and personally distributed complete Thanksgiving dinners to 100 of the most underserved UHC families in Parlier to make sure they were well nourished and felt surrounded by community during what can be a challenging time of year. A few weeks later, the Espinoza's went on to purchase and hand-distribute 1,000 presents for children in the same area for Christmas. Inspired by the project, UHC Board member, Jose Gutierrez, secured winter jackets through the National Latino

Peace Officers Association to distribute alongside toys. The gratitude displayed during these special events was incredible. Volunteers, care center staff, community leaders and the Espinoza family worked together to deliver the gift of community, camaraderie and kindness to some of the most marginalized families in UHC's care.

The Foundation sincerely appreciates partners like the Espinoza family who recognize that UHC cares for the whole patient, and not just their illness. A person's health is affected by their environment, their support network and their mental and spiritual well-being. Thank you to the entire Espinoza family for believing in our mission, and for investing in the people of our Valley.



*Food items included in the Thanksgiving dinner boxes gifted to UHC patients.*



*Big smiles with Dr. ICARE Bear at the UHC Toy Giveaway in Parlier a few days before Christmas.*

# United Health Centers



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## **Administration**

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