

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

The Santa Barbara Foundation – Investing in Health

No one organization can possibly fill all the needs that exist throughout Santa Barbara County, but the Santa Barbara Foundation has made a valiant effort. Since 1928, in good times and bad, the Foundation has worked to put its philanthropic dollars where they are most needed. Some grants fund today's needs, others, those of tomorrow.

The Foundation supports a broad spectrum of community efforts, from immediate human aid programs – like serving the homeless and hungry – to long-term initiatives that address education issues and nurture the arts. But investing in health is a primary objective; good health is necessary for children and families to succeed and citizens to engage. When Marian Medical Center applied for help to build a new hospital, the Foundation saw an opportunity to invest in an organization that has provided quality, compassionate health care services since 1940 when Marian began its Judeo-Christian ministry.

The Santa Barbara Foundation was honored to award Marian Medical Center a grant of \$750,000. Required to meet State-mandated seismic upgrades, Marian is building a new hospital which is scheduled to open in 2011.

The Santa Barbara Foundation and Marian Medical Center have enjoyed a long-standing partnership in advancing community health. In the 1960s, the Foundation helped Marian add 125 new beds and a surgical wing. In the 1980s, the Foundation awarded a grant to Marian Community Clinic. Today, the Santa Barbara Foundation is delighted to assure a stable future for the facility by helping to fund a new Patient Tower and Neo-natal Intensive Care Unit. With this grant, the Foundation is investing in a facility that not only treats the sick and trains future physicians and health care workers, but also features an environmentally-friendly central energy plant.

“We believe that having access to services that help to maintain or improve health is fundamental to quality of life,” says Ron Gallo, President & CEO of the Santa Barbara Foundation. “We hope our gift will inspire others to step forward and wish Marian every success with its capital campaign.”