



# UCSF Department of Medicine ZUCKERBERG SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL

## SUPERVISORS APPROVE RESEARCH BUILDING

During February’s ceremony at Zuckerberg San Francisco General, San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee signed legislation approving the construction of the UCSF research and academic building at the hospital. Earlier this month, the building plans received an unanimous vote from the Board of Supervisors.

Lee called the building an extension of the 150-year partnership between ZSFG and the city.

“It’s a bright day here at the Zuckerberg San Francisco General campus where more than just the treatment of patients happen, it’s where valuable research comes along with it,” he said. “It took us a little longer than we want it to – three years – but we were planning for the next 150 years.”

During the quick presentation, ZSFG Department of Medicine Chief Neil Powe highlighted the importance of the building for the department and its patients.

“This is a momentous occasion for which we should all be very, very happy,” Powe said. “As a physician and researcher, I was attracted to the General eight years ago because of the opportunity to promote innovation in health disparities. As chief of the Department of Medicine, we are the largest department at the General and we have the largest research-per-funding portfolio – at more than 100 million each year – for many years, as Mayor Lee said, we have been engaged in research to improve the health of hundreds of thousands of San Francisco residents.”

With the 11-0 vote, the San Francisco BOS approved the lease disposition, develop-



*Dr. Neil Powe speaks during the research building signing ceremony as, from left to right, Vice-Dean Sue Carlisle, Mayor Ed Lee and Supervisor Jeff Sheehy look on in early February.*

ment agreement and ground lease for a new research building at Zuckerberg San Francisco General after more than an hour discussion - focused mostly on a parking mitigation plan. The project will bring nearly 800 researchers at the hospital campus under one roof.

To help with parking concerns, UCSF agreed to hold 130 parking spaces at its Mission Bay campus for employees during and after construction.

The project isn’t expected to break ground until next year.

Public comments were held a week earlier in front of the Supervisors’ Budget and Finance Committee.

During the meeting, department Chief Neil Powe said: “We compete competitively for millions of dollars from the federal government including the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other agencies to support science and discovery that brings world-class

innovation to patients treated at the General.

Our work on cures for HIV, AIDS, and its complications has turned AIDS from a death sentence to a treatable disease. Our work on tuberculosis has protected residents from outbreaks in this city. Our work on obesity is preventing diabetes in youth. Our work on high blood pressure prevents end stage kidney failure and expensive dialysis. We eradicate troubling health disparities that cut lives short and ruin human potential in this great city. Our research serves as a model for the nation and the world, shining light on San Francisco as a global health leader.

We employ San Francisco residents, attracts superstar physicians, and train young people to make them competitive for the science and technology jobs of the future. We can only do this if we have a modern and safe building where doctors who treat patients can perform research that helps their patients.”

— Connor Ramey, Communications Specialist

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## WARD 86 OPENS GOLDEN COMPASS

The twilight of most people's lives are anything but golden. Add HIV and AIDS to old age, and the golden years of one's life can be devastatingly difficult.

That is where Zuckerberg San Francisco General Ward 86's Golden Compass program is here to help. The initiative aims to help the aging San Francisco HIV population, which more than 60 percent are over the age of 50. As AIDS amplifies the aging process, S.F. survivors have growing difficulties doing daily activities. This program will be a "one-stop shop" for over-50 AIDS patients - some of which are long-term survivors, while others are new to the disease - as they battle through the disease's effects.

"We are going to be the first in the country and the world to have a specific clinic for people that are 50-plus," said Diane Havlir, chief of the Division of HIV, Infectious Disease and Global Medicine. "What we are trying to do with Golden Compass ... is sustain the gains that we've made in HIV medicine and fill the gaps."

The program will focus on four points, each relating to directions on a compass, to form a comprehensive medical service, Ward 86 medical director Monica Gandhi said. North relates to "Heart and Mind," East focuses on "Bones and Strength," West highlights "Dental, Hearing and Vision," and South helps with "Network and Navigation." Each direction - or focus - will help the aging patients with HIV live a healthy and fulfilling life.

"What we want is those that have HIV to live well throughout their lifespan," Gandhi said.

For patients Hulda Brown, 72, and Norman Tanner, 58, programs within Ward 86's Golden Compass have already worked wonders.

Brown, who has been a Ward 86 patient for 26 years, is still full of energy despite her cane - or what she calls a "third leg." Her energy is everlasting because of her Ward 86 doctor - long-term HIV expert Dr. Eric Goosby - and nurses, she said.

"I'm so grateful for this program. I've always had a good experience (at Ward 86) and they always help me keeping on," Brown said. "That makes me feel good for someone to listen to me

and understand what I'm going through. It's one thing to have book knowledge and have actual knowledge. [It's another thing] ... when you get a doctor that is actually going to listen to what you're feeling and what is going on with you. They do that here."

## CVP CELEBRATES ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

For 10 years, the Center for Vulnerable Populations at Zuckerberg San Francisco General has been a center for innovation in both care and research for those that need help the most.

Opened in 2006, the center's design is to help fill the gap in care for those most susceptible to health risks - those from low-income and high-risk populations. To celebrate the 10-year anniversary of ZSFG's CVP, the hospital held an all-day affair at Carr Auditorium at the end of January. For more than seven hours, doctors and administrators gathered to highlight the work of the center.

Kristen Bibbins-Domingo, MD - the center's director - highlighted the impact of the CVP. In 10 years, the center has published more than 600 academic papers and generated \$100 million in funding. The center's focus has been to shift caregivers' attitudes to one of compassion for patients that suffer through environmental and social circumstances.

The Center takes great pride in helping fill that gap, said Dean Schillinger, MD, director of the Program in Health Communication and Health Literacy and founding director of the Center.

"Access to and quality of health care is inversely proportionate to the needs of the population," he said. "... Our policies are designed to mitigate the inverse care law. It's the natural way society develop and progressive policies try to reverse that."

The center looks beyond the right diagnosis.

"Really, the issue is not a question of the right diagnosis, which might have been asthma, but the question is the diagnosis of the social barriers that this individuals and child is faced with managing their asthma," Schillinger said.

## SPOTLIGHTS



**Dean Schillinger:** The San Francisco General Hospital Foundation recognized Dr. Schillinger as a "Hero" during its Heroes and Hearts event in February. The Foundation

highlighted his contributions related to research in health literacy, diabetes and public health.



**Vanessa Thompson:** Dr. Thompson received the Richard J. Haber, MD Excellence in Teaching in Primary Care Award for 2016. The award, established in 1997 in

honor of D. Rick Haber, is presented annually to a faculty member, fellow or chief resident who "exhibited the highest quality teaching" in the ZSFG Richard Fine People's Clinic.



**Bryan Greenhouse:** Dr. Greenhouse was among the first 15 UCSF researchers selected for the Chan Zuckerberg Biohub Investigator. Each investigator receives

a five-year appointment with up to \$1.5M in funding.



**Eric Goosby:** Dr. Goosby received the Consortium of Universities for Global Health's 2017 Distinguished Leadership Award in Global Health.

— Connor Ramey, Communications Specialist