**This is our San Francisco Chinatown's Chinese Hospital.**

***The early Chinese immigrants living in the San Francisco Bay Area did not have any western medical care until 1899, when the Tung Wah Dispensary was established on Sacramento Street in Chinatown. This Dispensary was the only source for western medicine until the Chinese Hospital was constructed 26 years later.***

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***Chinese Hospital 845 Jackson St.***

Chinese Hospital, located at 845 Jackson Street, between Stockton St and Powell Street, was completed in 1925. (Note it is only 4 blocks from our Cathay Post headequarters.) Prior to having an American western hospital, there was no western hospital that could effectively provide medical service to any Chinese person in America *due to language limitations*. It should surprise no one that our early settlers did not speak much, if any, English. And, of course, in those early days, none of our American trained doctors spoke Chinese.

If available Chinese herbs could not cure a Chinese person, that person was out of luck. There was also only limited types of herbs available in America, and the number of herb doctors was also limited. Herb doctors and limited herbs were only available in big cities like San Francisco or New York city. If you lived away from a major metropolis with a large Chinese population, you were in big trouble if you ever needed any type of medical care. Life was indeed difficult and dangerous for the early Chinese immigrants.

In the 19th and first half of the 20th Century, there very few Chinese American doctors/medical staff . When our Historian was born in the 1940s, his doctor was a Dr. Kingston. His Mom spoke English, so communication was not a problem. For many Chinese patients at this hospital, translators, when available, were necessary. Until the World War II babies grew up, some went to medical schools and became doctors, even the Chinese hospital staff was absent any Chinese American medical staff. Thank heavens that many of our smart and hard working Chinese girls decided to become doctors. And many became nurses!

Today, the doctors at Chinese Hospital are all Chinese Americans, mostly females. Things have changed a lot since the early days, and today, according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, our Chinese Hospital provides medical service now ranked among the best hospitals in San Francisco.

The Hospital now supports a Stroke Center in conjunction with the UC Medical Center. As we all know, strokes are a threat to everyone, and therefore, with Chinese Hospital nearby (only 4 blocks from Cathay Post) it is comforting that a stroke center is so close. For stroke victims minutes count, as stroke victims need immediate competent medical care. The first couple of hours is vital to prevent severe damage to the brains of all stroke victims. Even if a stroke victim is not near our hospital, EMT personnel in ambulances will deliver their patients to a competent stroke cener.

Some great news as $7,000,000 gift from the Charles Huang Foundation, the largest philanthropic contribution in our 123 years. Additionally, California State Assemblymember Phil Ting advocated and secured $5,000,000 of the state’s budget for Chinese Hospital, marking the first time in our history that we’ve received state funding. Collectively, these funds will be used towards renovating our Outpatient Building and adding more beds to provide care to more patients. Additionally, this project will expand the much-needed subacute beds to the San Francisco healthcare ecosystem. Subacute care includes medical attention for patients recovering from a number of different medical problems, including post surgery services.

Chinese Hospital is a community hospital (not for profit organization) so it serves our entire community, not just Chinese patients. A number of our Cathay Post members were born there, and some of us (and our family members) have received excellent medical services at our Chinese Hospital. And many of us will use this hospital sometime in the future. As we all get older, medical services will become more relevant to each and everyone of us.

The **CEO of our hospital is Dr. Lian Zhang**, whose leadership and medical skills have establish Chinese Hospital to be one of the best in our nation. She has received both national and international awards for her distinguished accomplishments in hospital management.

It makes great sense for our Post to support and contribute to this important hospital as many of us are potential clients. Several of our Post members started a donation last month, and I am asking all of our Post members to make a generous donation to keep our Hospital healthy and valuable to everyone. Your contribution should be made by our next Post meeting on Saturday, Jan 14, 2023.

**Thanks in advance for your kind support and needed donations.**

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**Source:**

**From: Chinese Hospital - Fund Development <donate@chasf.org>**

**Date: November 29, 2022 at 5:02:16 PM PST**

**To: rsdong@sbcglobal.net**

**Subject: Happy Holidays - Chinese Hospital CEO Message**

**﻿ Dear Friends & Supporters of Chinese Hospital,**

**I hope this note finds you and your loved ones safe and well. As you will read below, Chinese Hospital has achieved the milestones and made the community-wide impact it has thanks to generous and dedicated supporters like you. Thank you for your partnership, this year and every year.**

**2022 marks Chinese Hospital’s 123rd year serving the people of Chinatown and the San Francisco Bay Area. Our history is rich in both medical milestones and achievements, as well as a landmark institution at the forefront of inclusion and cultural competency. As I reflect on the past year in relation to our 120+ years prior, a common theme emerges – Chinese Hospital is the Community’s Hospital.**

**As you likely know, Chinese Hospital was born from necessity in the late 1800s. Facing systematic exclusion from other hospitals, targeted racism, hate-fueled propaganda, and violence, the Tung Wah Dispensary was founded because of a steadfast commitment to care for San Francisco’s Chinese people. Today, many of our patients – from varying races and ethnic backgrounds – choose Chinese Hospital because of our commitment to delivering culturally competent, exceptional healthcare. This includes pairing acute care, complex surgeries, and other lifesaving procedures with bilingual services, familiar food, and a blend of eastern-western wellness practices. Then, and now, Chinese Hospital is a community-centered hospital.**

**Another reflection I find particularly striking is the parallel relationship between Chinese Hospital’s role in navigating COVID-19 and its response to the bubonic plague more than 120 years ago. In both public health crises, the reactions of the public at large and that of Chinese Hospital were the same. Public panic transformed to fear, then led to misinformation and misdirected blame, discrimination, and targeted violence. Undeterred in the face of such adversity during both the plague and COVID-19, Chinese Hospital provided widespread, community-focused public healthcare. In both cases, Chinese Hospital prevented an outbreak of disease in Chinatown and safeguarded the neighborhood, and subsequently San Francisco. During widespread public health emergencies in the past, present, and the future, our hospital is the community’s hospital.**

**As I reflect on our past, it’s equally important to plan for tomorrow. Chinese Hospital is the only remaining independent community hospital in San Francisco and the only of its kind in the country. Though our history stems from exclusion, we know that our future depends on collaborating and partnering with local healthcare institutions. San Francisco is home to many of the finest, groundbreaking, and well-regarded hospitals in the world.**

**Recognizing our limitations while maximizing our strengths, we are growing partnerships that blend our unique philosophy with our much larger neighbors’ expertise and access to resources. To name a few of the collaborative cross-hospital relationships we are building:**

**In collaboration with UCSF, we were able to establish the Primary Stroke Center, which was certified by The Joint Commission in May 2022**

**We are developing a SNF/Subacute unit in collaboration with SFDPH**

**We built a 3-way collaboration with SFGH and UCSF to provide eye surgeries**

**In order for Chinese Hospital to survive and thrive for generations to come, we know we can’t do it alone and that partnerships like these are essential.**

**Looking to the future, I am excited to share that this year we received a $7,000,000 gift from the Charles Huang Foundation, the largest philanthropic contribution in our 123 years. Additionally, California State Assemblymember Phil Ting advocated and secured $5,000,000 of the state’s budget for Chinese Hospital, marking the first time in our history that we’ve received state funding. Collectively, these funds will be used towards renovating our Outpatient Building. Specifically, this project will expand the much-needed subacute beds to the San Francisco healthcare ecosystem. This generous monetary support shows that community members and government officials alike recognize Chinese Hospital’s impact and importance locally, nationally, and globally.**

**This project is not a finish line, but rather the start of our next chapter. And we can’t do it alone. I invite you to join us in helping this vision become a reality. When you are making your end-of-year contributions, please keep Chinese Hospital in mind. Your support will ensure that Chinese Hospital remains to safeguard the communities we serve: https://chinesehospital-sf.org/donate-now/ .**

**In closing, I am grateful for our community – our healthcare staff, Chinese Hospital Board members, local and statewide partners, and especially for donors and supporters like you. Together, we will ensure that Chinese Hospital remains the People’s Hospital for the next 123 years.**

**I wish you and your family a happy holiday season and good health in 2023.**

**Sincerely,**

**Dr. Jian Zhang, DNP, MS, FNP-BC, NEA-BC, FAAN**

**Chief Executive Officer, Chinese Hospital**