



LA MAESTRA
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS
City Heights · El Cajon · National City · Lemon Grove

NEWS RELEASE

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La Maestra provides free mammograms to incarcerated women at Las Colinas Detention and Reentry Facility

SANTEE, CA — Beginning at 10 a.m. today at the Las Colinas Detention and Reentry Facility at 451 Riverview Parkway in Santee, California, La Maestra Community Health Centers and Community Health Imaging Centers (CHIC) will provide free mammograms to women ages 40 years and older using the organizations' state-of-art mobile mammography coach. The coach is equipped with full-field digital mammography equipment and 3D Tomosynthesis, which is less invasive than computerized tomography (CT) scanning and creates a three-dimensional view that doctors can examine in a virtual environment. This technology allows providers to view breast tissue in layers similar to reviewing the pages of a novel. By using 3D Tomosynthesis suspected tumors and masses in the breast can be detected with a high degree of accuracy.

Since July 2017, La Maestra has provided 168 mammograms to incarcerated women at Las Colinas. Providing mammograms to high-risk populations of women that may not otherwise have access to care is part of La Maestra's *All Women Count* program, which provides no or low-cost mammogram services to women ages 40 and older, regardless of their ability to pay.

La Maestra is honored to provide free mammogram services and to be a part of the Pink Patch Project. During the month of October, the Sheriff's Department of San Diego County took part in a nationwide public awareness campaign to combat breast cancer. At today's event, Sheriff Bill Gore will be presenting a donation to the Scripps Research Institute for Breast Cancer Research, and will be highlighting free mammogram services. La Maestra is honored to be participating in today's event. In addition, La Maestra and CHIC provide free mammogram screenings at Las Colinas twice per month throughout the year to inmates 40 years or older or those with a family history of breast cancer.

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About La Maestra Community Health Centers: La Maestra Community Health Centers is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) and a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). For more than 27 years, the organization has served immigrant, refugee, uninsured, and underinsured populations living in the underserved communities of central, east, and south San Diego County, California. Today, La Maestra operates five medical clinics, ten dental suites, four school-based sites, a mobile medical and dental unit, and a mobile mammography coach. Since its founding, La Maestra has been committed to its mission to provide quality health care and education; to improve the overall wellbeing of the family; bringing the underserved, ethnically diverse communities into the mainstream of our society through a caring, effective, culturally and linguistically competent manner, respecting the dignity of all patients.

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