

## **12<sup>th</sup> Anaheim Health Fair, September 23-24, 2017**

In it's 11<sup>th</sup> year Organizers held 12<sup>th</sup> Anaheim Health Fair (AHF) on September 23 & 24, 2017. Every year no. of people registering online is going up, this year more than 200 had preregistered and also for the first time we had over 225 volunteers registered online! If anything, it indicates that patients and volunteers look forward to this annual event and are more cognizant of using online services.

Another First (Citizenship) – we had partnered with OCCORD (Orange County Communities Organized for Responsible Development) and arranged a simultaneous clinic for Citizenship! We helped 327 people to apply for US Citizenship on Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> (the clinic was for only one day). OCCORD did a phenomenal job in offering this free services, they had over 200 volunteers!

Organizers the City of Anaheim. GBS Linens, Anekant Community Center and Lestonnac Free Clinic had treated 875 people over the weekend! People had travelled hours to get their teeth removed &/or get medical checkup &/or get a pair of Eye Glasses – all for free!

This was 12<sup>th</sup> AHF, an annual event from 2007. Over 250 volunteers poured their hearts in serving the underprivileged that very patiently waited as the lines were long especially for blood tests, dental treatment and eye glasses. This time 3 volunteers had flown in from Texas and Wisconsin and two had travelled from far just to come and help! While many contributed GBS Linens, Masimo Foundation, Sarva Mangal Family Trust, Wal-Mart, Drs. Bharat & Neena Patel Foundation, Brown Bag Brigade (they provide breakfast and lunch to all Volunteers and also snacks to all participants and have been doing it with a smile year after year!), and were major sponsors. Walmart partnered with us again and will provide eyeglasses to over 300 patients, thanks to Lions Club we were able to give away around 141 pairs of eyeglasses onsite this year! Wal-Mart's pharmacists helped administer 240 flu shots, which were given to us by

**Orange County Health Authority. 313 patients received dental treatment onsite (extractions, fillings &/or cleaning).**

**Dr. Nitin Shah welcomed sponsors, Mayor of City of Anaheim, Staff of City of Anaheim, All Medical and non-medical volunteers at 11:10 am on Saturday for a brief ceremony. Mayor welcomed all and appreciated all sponsors and volunteers, Mahesh Wadher, President of Anekant Community Center thanked all for their selfless service to mankind. Ed Gerber, Executive Director of Lestonnac Free Clinic explained the benefits of such an event to needy people. Past Anaheim City Councilman Harry Sidhu who brought AHF to the city was recognized for his vision that has continued to help hundreds of people year after year! Dr. Shah in conclusion especially thanked and appreciated all patients who had come from near and far with faith in the professionals providing services. He ended with a quote of Happiness – “True Happiness comes from Serving Unknowns!**

**Besides dental and vision care all patients’ vital signs (BP, heart rate etc.) were measured. More than 1385 blood tests (550 glucose, 430 Lipid profile, or 225 Cholesterol and 180 HgbA1c), 82 Bone Density assessment tests, 39 Mammograms, 31 Pap smears, and 140 EKGs were performed. 240 flu shots were given and Yoga demonstrations were held, Chiropractors treated about 210 people while 190 people benefited from Acupuncture.**

**Mr. Walt Dannenberg, Director of Tibor Rubin VA Medical Center spent couple of hours watching dental procedures, blood tests, how eye glasses nos. are determined. All in all 11<sup>th</sup> Anaheim Health Fair was a very gratifying event. We appreciate patients’ trust and volunteers’ selfless service.**

**New medical services this year included free “Hands on” only CPR training, Sleep disorder check up and Posture screening! People appreciated increasing no. of services under one roof – AHF actually has become One Stop Shop for many clinical services and of course all for FREE.**

**Nitin Shah, MD, 562 244 9035.**