



SEQUOIA HEALTHCARE DISTRICT

History

The Beginning

Sequoia Healthcare District (SHD) was formed in 1946 after being voted in by taxpayers residing in Redwood City, Belmont, San Carlos, Menlo Park, Portola Valley, Woodside and Atherton in order to provide a local source of funding to address the growing community's health needs. Thus began the development of Redwood City's Sequoia Hospital - the first district hospital in California and the prototype from which 77 others would follow.

Changing Times

The District operated Sequoia Hospital from 1950-1996 and in September 1996, Sequoia Healthcare District residents voted to affiliate Sequoia Hospital with Catholic Healthcare West, now Dignity Health. The hospital itself was governed through a 10-person Board of Directors, including five members appointed by the Sequoia Healthcare District and five members appointed by Dignity Health. In 2007, Sequoia Healthcare District sold the Hospital to Catholic Healthcare West which became effective Jan. 1, 2008. The 10-member Board of Directors split into two separate governing bodies.

Today

We are one of 78 Healthcare Districts throughout the state that provide community-based health care services to local residents. Although we no longer own Sequoia Hospital, our commitment to health and wellness endures. Through our broad mandate to support the health of our residents, we now play a crucial role in assuring access to healthcare, not hospital care. We do this by investing in the prevention and early intervention of illness in our ongoing efforts to keep people out of the hospital and enjoying the benefits that good health brings. We know that investing in prevention produces a far greater economic return than treating illness, and although 1 in 5 people will be hospitalized each year, everyone benefits from prevention.