

## HUMANITARIAN DAY 2010 HEALTH SCREENING REPORT

The volunteers and staff at the UMMA Community Clinic have had the privilege and honor to participate in the Humanitarian Day Event since its inception some ten years ago. Each year we have been able to provide much needed health services including the following:

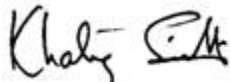
- Preventive health screenings including diabetes, hypertension, and more recently glaucoma
- Nutritional counseling, Influenza and pneumococcal vaccines
- Minor wound care
- Simple acute care evaluations (inner ear infections, sore throat for example)
- Rapid screening (on site) for HIV infection
- Education regarding sexually transmitted diseases

Each year, we are able to help over 250 individuals with the above services. Patients with abnormal results are counseled by physicians or other providers and referred to UMMA or local community clinic. Over the years we have partnered with community organizations and are most thankful to these organizations including AltaMed for the mobile van and free HIV screenings and the nursing staff from Queens Care who provide great support for the diabetes and hypertension. The vaccines (when seasonally available) are made available by the support of Los Angeles County health agency. The event crosses all faiths and reflects the collaborative nature of the organizations involved.

Unfortunately we do, at times, encounter patients who have poorly controlled diabetes, hypertension which necessitates immediate ER referrals; in one rare instance we were forced to activate the 911 emergency systems as we had a patient who was exhibiting stroke like symptoms. Physicians and other volunteers are recruited largely through personal networks as well as through organizational activities that lead up to the event. These meetings frequently attract individuals who are themselves in the healthcare field (students, residents, professionals) or know someone who is. Whenever individuals hear about the event, they readily want to help.

Last year, we were able to expand our scope to include other sites during the month of Ramadan: the Bilal Center, Santa Ana Civic Center, and others. The biggest challenge for the Humanitarian Day event from the health services perspective is accommodating such a large volume of patients within a relatively small amount of time. With the hard work of many volunteers and the blessings of Allah we have been able to provide a valuable service to the most in need.

Best Regards,



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