

# You Create HEALTHIER Communities

EL RIO  
FOUNDATION

NEWSLETTER | Winter 2023

## IMPACTING PATIENTS WITH YOUR HELP



### Changing Kids Lives Through Embedded Dental Services

The El Rio Embedded Dental Program is now providing oral health services to more than 13,000 children at seven clinics annually thanks to support from donors, like you, and partners like Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation! The services provided during pediatric medical visits include Caries Risk Assessment, Nutritional Counseling, Dental Screening, Topical Fluoride Varnish, and a Delta Dental Smile Bag. Tucson's drinking water is not fluorinated. The topical fluoride varnish children receive helps strengthen and protect their teeth, which helps decrease caries.

The program emphasizes the importance of establishing a dental home by 12 months of age. Through donor support, we are increasing access to early oral care by addressing health disparities that disproportionately impact lower socioeconomic families - lack of dental knowledge, access, financial, language, and nutrition barriers.

El Rio's pediatricians are invested champions collaborating with the Embedded Dental teams promoting continuity of care through integration documented in the child's electronic health record. The oral health care services, education, and encouragement to establish a dental home for patients ages 1+ has a positive impact on families' understanding of the important role dental care plays in their children's lives and in reducing caries.

### Women in Need Receive Free Mammograms

El Rio's radiology teams provided 204 free mammograms for women in need during October and November thanks to major support from Hope Matters Breast Cancer Foundation, Quilt For a Cause, Inc., and individual donors! We are now working with our patient eligibility teams to support the women who need further diagnostics and treatment. We are grateful to Roche Tissue Diagnostics, J. William & Helen D. Stuart Foundation, and individual donors for their support of our cancer treatment fund. We are thankful to our hospital and oncology partners for their discounted care, which helps us serve more people in need. This year we have been able to help 21 patients with no insurance receive over \$100,000 in diagnostics and cancer treatment thanks to generous donor contributions.

**Join us for a Behind the Scenes VIP  
Tour of one of our 14 health centers  
to see the impact of your support.**

*Please email [foundation@elrio.org](mailto:foundation@elrio.org) or call  
(520) 205-4947 for tour information.*



## Jill Rodriguez to Retire After 17 Years with El Rio Foundation

We are thankful for Jill Rodriguez, our Foundation Development Coordinator's dedicated, passionate, committed work since 2006, which has impacted thousands of lives through our health center and Foundation! Jill's many relationships, event coordination with Board members, El Rio Vecinos, sponsors, donors, partners, and vendors have been crucial to the success of our Annual Galas, Vecinos Block Parties and our past golf tournaments. Her coordination of the annual employee giving program has engaged hundreds of colleagues in supporting our annual "Share Your Heart" campaign. Jill has shared her heart, expertise, and skills to help raise millions of dollars for life-changing patient programs, services, and expanded care. Please help us by thanking Jill and congratulating her on her well-deserved upcoming retirement in January 2024.

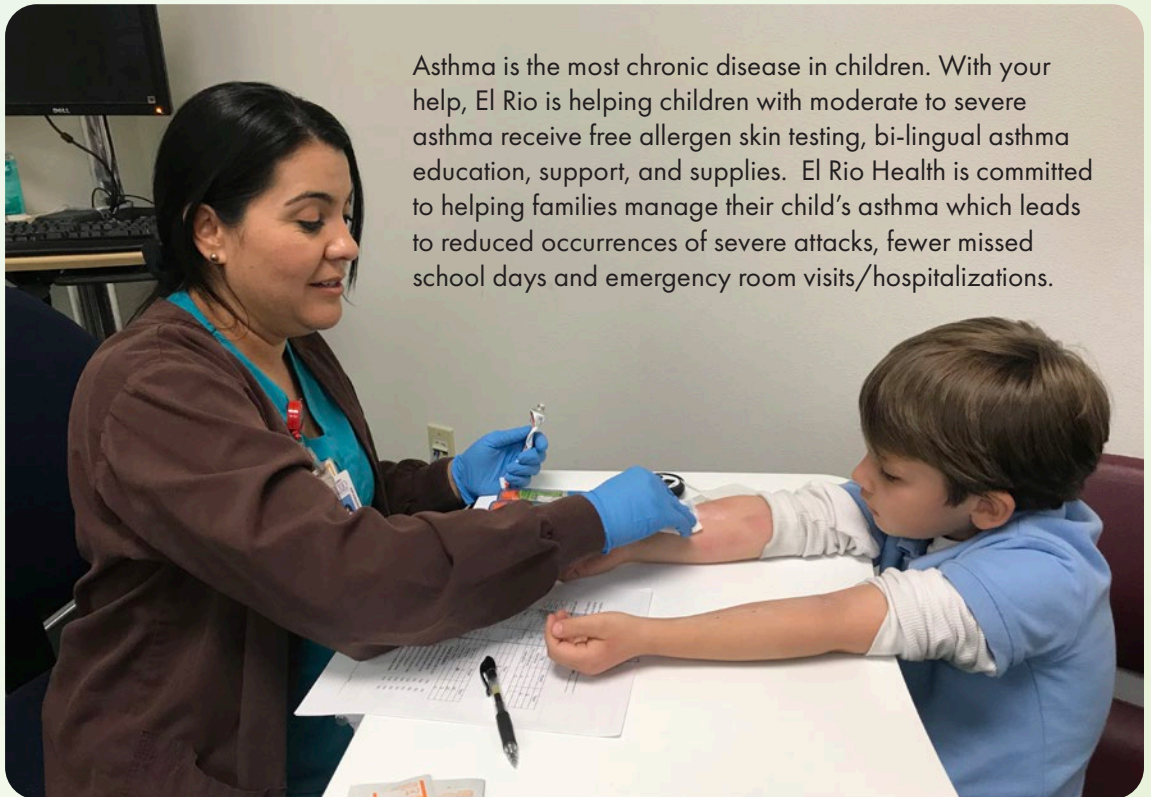
# INTEGRATED PROGRAMS CHANGE LIVES!

## El Rio Behavioral Health Services Grow Exponentially



At El Rio Health, we care about the whole person and provide an integrated approach to care. In the past few years, El Rio has actively worked to expand behavioral health services from serving 1,300 to now serving over 13,000 people. Our primary care and behavioral health professionals are working together to create integrated health homes for our patients and families. This care addresses mental health, chronic disease management, lifestyle change, health behaviors, substance misuse conditions, life stressors, crises, and stress-related physical symptoms.

## Gift Of Breath - El Rio's Children's Asthma Program



Asthma is the most chronic disease in children. With your help, El Rio is helping children with moderate to severe asthma receive free allergen skin testing, bi-lingual asthma education, support, and supplies. El Rio Health is committed to helping families manage their child's asthma which leads to reduced occurrences of severe attacks, fewer missed school days and emergency room visits/hospitalizations.

### GRATEFUL PARENTS' FEEDBACK:

*"I was feeling overwhelmed with my daughters' inhalers and did not know which to use when, what they do and how they work. The Asthma Coordinator, Trini, went over them in detail and I feel much more confident now."*

*"Thank you for your support for this important program – I learned more to help my child in El Rio's asthma program than two years of going to the Pulmonologist's office."*





## THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP

### Donations to El Rio Foundation Qualify for the Arizona Charitable Tax Credit

Your donations to the El Rio Foundation are eligible for the Qualified Charitable Tax Credit for Arizona taxpayers. The maximum Charitable Organization donation amount for 2023: \$421 for single, married filing separate or head of household; \$841 for married filing jointly. Your Arizona tax liability can be reduced dollar for dollar donated! Please consult your tax advisor for additional information.

You can make your charitable gift online click **DONATE** at [elrio.org](http://elrio.org), call us 520-205-4947 or mail your donation to El Rio Foundation, 839 W. Congress, Tucson, AZ 85745.

### Serving Refugee Families

At El Rio, we believe that offering our newly settled refugee neighbors' timely access to quality healthcare is part of the foundation for their successful resettlement. Our Community Health Advisors and health teams are working diligently to offer compassion, support, and guide them with wrap around services for a smooth transition in their new life in Tucson. Your support helps provide wrap around services, translation, and transportation.

### Population Health Technician (PHT) Project Improves Clinical Quality Outcomes

El Rio launched a new, innovative Team-Based Model of care that can improve clinical outcomes by hiring highly intelligent, motivated gap year college graduates to focus on helping patients with high-risk diabetes mellitus improve clinical outcomes. The project exposes future health care professionals to community health centers and helps in their preparation for applying to graduate health sciences programs like attending medical school.

PHT's workflows are two-fold – to connect with patients diagnosed with diabetes in clinic and to outreach to patients who have gaps in care. In the pilot project, the diabetes control of patients at our Southeast clinic rose from 68% to 74%, and Retinopathy Eye Screenings rose from 34% to 75%. The Southeast Clinic now has the top diabetes mellitus control quality score of the organization. For El Rio the control climbed from 64% to 70%, improving the overall health of 900 patients. This project has an impact across multiple stakeholders as it focuses attention on the highest risk patients and can reduce emergency department visits, hospitalizations, and costs to the healthcare system by preventing adverse outcomes. The Population Health Technician Pilot Project was successful and with the help of donors, like you, El Rio is committed to expanding from three to nine PHTs. This will give us the opportunity to expand the work to serve thousands of patients at multiple clinic sites and beyond diabetes to cardiovascular disease and cancer prevention.



### Welcome El Rio's New Chief Financial Officer, Jody Yarbrough

Ms. Yarbrough is a finance and accounting professional with 25+ years' experience in healthcare including health plans, health insurance, academic and private practice physician groups, outpatient dialysis and integrated health systems. Most recently, Ms. Yarbrough worked as a consulting CFO, supporting small business CEOs to resolve their operational and financial challenges. Her portfolio includes several life sciences start-ups, primarily in pharmaceutical research and development. Ms. Yarbrough is a subject matter expert supporting new start-ups at the University of Arizona Center for Innovation. Ms. Yarbrough graduated from the University of Arizona with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting and Finance. She holds an MBA in Health Care Administration and is a licensed CPA in Arizona.

# EL RIO FOUNDATION GALA

## Gala Raises \$400,000 for Children's Vision Screening & Literacy

We want to thank Yvette-Marie Margaillan, our 2023 Gala Chair, Anthony Schaefer, 2023 President of the Board, the Gala committee, Foundation Board, sponsors, donors, volunteers and everyone who helped make this year's Gala a wonderful success! Through your generosity and support, we will purchase fifteen vision screeners for our clinics and thousands of children's books that will be distributed during pediatric visits!



### MAJOR SPONSORS



### MEDIA SPONSOR



### PLATINUM SPONSORS

Lloyd Construction Company, Inc., CPR2U

### GOLD SPONSORS

Arizona Eye Consultants, Banner - University Health Plans, Mercy Care, Sonora Quest Laboratory Sciences of Arizona, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan

### SILVER SPONSORS

AGM Container Controls, Inc, Allergy Asthma Associates, PC, BATA | Reilly | Fentonelli, Blue Cross® Blue Shield® of Arizona, BWS Architects, Inc, Contact One Call Center, El Rio OB/GYN Associates, Encompass Rehabilitation Hospitals of Tucson, Fester & Chapman, PLLC, Rick & Lynn Gregson, Henry Schein, Long Realty Cares Foundation, Yvette-Marie Margaillan & Eddie Diaz, Dr. Adalberto Renteria - Pascua Yaqui Tribe, RG & Sons Plumbing, Inc, Sonora Behavioral Health, Southern Arizona Land Trust, The Downtown & D2 Dispensaries

### BRONZE SPONSORS

Achilles, Inc, Anonymous, Arizona Eye Consultants, Arizona Medicare Helpers, Asthma & Airway Disease Research Center, Bank of America/Merrill Lynch, Carondelet Health Network, Angela & Steve Celis, Concordance Healthcare Solutions, El Rio Vecinos, Freedom Sourcing, Friends of Yvette-Marie Margaillan, GEICO, Dr. Mehrnoosh Hashemzadeh & Dr. Reza Movahed, Palo Verde Behavioral Health, Paul Loucks / DeConcini McDonald Yetwin & Lacy, PC, P3 Health Partners Arizona, R & A CPAs, PC, Radiology, Ltd, Southern Arizona Heart & Vascular, Southwest Gas, Sun Corridor, Inc, Swan Gastroenterology & Surgical Center PC, Tucson Convention Center, Tucson Electric Power, Tucson Federal Credit Union, Tucson Fire Department, Wells Fargo

### MARKETING SPONSORS

Bobby Bakos-Merrill Lynch Wealth Management, Edye Riharb, Realtor, Pima Heart & Vascular, The Schaefer Team

### EVENT PARTNERS

Arizona Pro Sound, Biz Tucson, Carlos Chavez Photography, Cirrus Visual, Commotion Studios LLC, Crain + Co Events, Dominic Ortega, EYEMART Express, Sandoval Creative, Si Charro!/ Flores Concepts, Total Lighting Support, Inc.

*And thank you to our El Rio colleagues who purchased tables and seats and many event partners. If you have not yet paid your Gala commitment, please visit [elrio.org/donate](http://elrio.org/donate) or call us at 520-205-4947.*





**Save the Date!**

*El Rio Vecinos Block Party*  
**"London Calling"**  
 Plaza Palomino | April 6, 2024

Proceeds from the event will support Cancer Screening and Treatment. Please contact us at 520-205-4947 or [foundation@elrio.org](mailto:foundation@elrio.org) for sponsorship information.



## Thank YOU for Making a Difference

Your generous support helps fund: Adopt-A-Family, Asthma Care, Cancer Screening & Treatment Funds, Dental Services, LGBTQ Care, Children's Services, Teen Reproductive Health Project (RHAP), Wellness Programs, Behavioral Health Care, Population Health, medical equipment and more. More than 60% of those we serve live below the federal poverty level and 15% have no health care coverage and access our sliding fee scale. Thank you for your care and investments which help ensure vulnerable members of our community have access to care.





**Thank you to these generous foundations, corporations, and partner organizations for their charitable support and grants to the El Rio Foundation for patient and program support of \$5K+ in 2023** *(received by 12.6.23).*

Arizona Community Foundation -  
Kellenberger & Tollefson Center for  
LGBTQ Philanthropy

Bank of America

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona  
Foundation for Community & Health  
Advancement

BMO Wealth Management

Christiana Foundation, Inc.

Colon Cancer Coalition

Cox Communications

David & Norma Lewis Foundation  
held at Community Foundation for  
Southern Arizona

Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation  
Eaglet Fund held at Community  
Foundation for Southern Arizona

Epic Systems Corporation

Future Coalition

Goodwill Golf Tournament

Hope Matters Breast Cancer  
Foundation

J. William & Helen D. Stuart  
Foundation

Marshall Foundation

Northern Trust

PNC Bank

Quilt For A Cause, Inc

Roche Tissue Diagnostics

The Click Family Foundation

The Diane and Bruce Halle  
Foundation

The Mona Private Foundation

Tucson Conquistadores Inc.

Tucson Electric Power/ UniSource  
Energy Services

U.S - Mexico Border Philanthropy  
Partnership

Women's Foundation for the State  
of Arizona

Z Fund

**Thank you for your life-changing support for those we serve!**

## GIVE THE GIFT OF HEALTH



You can become an El Rio 1000+ member simply by supporting us with a gift of \$1,000 or more. As a participant, your benefits include invitations to special programs, personal clinic tours, health education and information on the impact of your support. It is because donors like you help sustain our mission of caring for people in need with accessible, affordable, comprehensive, quality, and compassionate health care.

**Will you join us today?**

EL RIO  
**1000+**  
IMPACTING 135,000+

### Your Legacy Gift Will Leave a Lasting Impact

Estate and Planned gifts help the El Rio Foundation to provide quality health care to those in need well into the future. Estate gifts can also reduce your taxable estate and transfer tax obligations. Join our Legacy Society today! Please contact Brenda Goldsmith or John Fung at 520-205-4947 to discuss gifting of stocks, life insurance policies, bequests or IRA donations. Or email [foundation@elrio.org](mailto:foundation@elrio.org) for more information.



EL RIO  
HEALTH

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AHEC  
AT EL RIO HEALTH

2024 SOUTHWESTERN PRIMARY CARE

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION SUMMIT

**May 8, 2024**

El Rio Health Manning House  
Tucson, AZ  
[Virtual attendance options included]

Save the  
Date!

Featuring the 8<sup>th</sup>  
Annual El Rio Health  
Poster Fair  
Virtual Poster Fair goes  
live in April 2024!

Presented by El Rio Health & SAAHEC in partnership with:



## EL RIO HEALTH AT A GLANCE

### EL RIO HEALTH'S CULTURAL BELIEFS

- HONOR PATIENTS
- CREATE TOMORROW
- STEP UP
- BREAK BOUNDARIES
- I MATTER
- VALUE HEALTH

### ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS (2023)

- World-class experience for patients and staff
- Healthier patients and employees
- Positive operating margin

### IMPACT

**125,000+**

Patients served (60% live below federal poverty)

**490,000+**

Annual patient visits

**\$15M+**

Annual Charity Care

**1,700+**

Staff

**14**

Locations

**1970**

Year founded





*You Create*  
**HEALTHIER**  
*Communities*



**Your support  
changes lives!**

Please donate at  
[elrio.org](http://elrio.org)