

Physician

Dr. Jack Klausen

Dr. Jack Klausen is chief OB hospitalist and leads the inpatient obstetrics panel at Vista Community Clinic as well as serving as the Women's Center site director. He's responsible for oversight of the nurse practitioners and physicians within the department and serves as liaison between the providers in the department and the administration. Since 1989, VCC's obstetrical patients were delivered by a panel of community-based obstetricians under contract with Tri-City Medical Center. At the end of 2007, due to the growing number of VCC enrolled obstetrical patients as well as the community-based physicians' demand for increased compensation, VCC faced a crisis. It recognized the opportunity to develop its own panel of obstetricians to deliver prenatal patients. Klausen contacted numerous obstetrical colleagues to entice them to join VCC, and within 30 days he identified an experienced panel of obstetricians and created the clinic's first hospitalist group. Today, a board certified obstetrician is on site at TCMC 24-hours-a-day to ensure that the 1,500 low-income, uninsured women who come to VCC a year for prenatal care have accessible, quality obstetrical care. Klausen has also worked diligently to implement Electronic Medical Records at VCC. In December, under the leadership of Klausen, VCC will be the first community health center in San Diego utilizing electronic medical records. Klausen has truly left his mark on the clinic since his arrival in 2004. Coming out of retirement to work at VCC, Jack immediately showed that he wasn't a bored retiree just trying to "keep busy." He could have rested on his laurels after a successful career both in private practice and the military but instead he sought to serve the most underserved residents of our community.



Health Care Educator

Natasha Riley

Since 2001, Vista Community Clinic Breast Health Program Manager Natasha Riley has built the program into one of the most effective breast cancer outreach programs in the region. Her staff continually outperforms their program objectives, providing breast cancer outreach and education to more than 3,500 low-income, mostly minority women in north San Diego County annually. As a result of their support activities, more than 1,600 of these women receive annual clinical breast exams followed by a mammogram each year at Vista Community Clinic alone. Riley's involvement in breast cancer awareness doesn't stop at the clinic door. She is a familiar presence at local and regional Komen and Avon Foundation events, handing out information on breast cancer at health fairs and cancer walks. Ever eager to improve breast cancer prevention services, she spearheaded a grant application to the California Breast Cancer Research Program in 2007. In conjunction with cancer researchers from UCSD and SDSU, she is principal investigator and the community partner on a research project to investigate strategies for increasing the number of minority women who participate in clinical trials. This multi-year project necessitates the facilitation of hundreds of key informant interviews and a large control group. Riley, as community partner, provides the driving force to the research project's success. Under her leadership, the VCC Breast Health Program recently received the "Rising Star Award" from the American Cancer Society's San Diego Chapter. She is also involved with her church in Oceanside and is a big supporter of her nephew's sports team in North County.

