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VCC Lactation Program Receives Award

VISTA, CA— Vista Community Clinic has received the prestigious International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) Care Award from the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners (IBLCE) and the International Lactation Consultant Association.

The award recognizes VCC’s excellence in providing lactation care to its patients. As a result of the recognition, VCC will be included in the IBCLC directory at www.ibclccare.org. The directory lists hospitals, clinics, birthing facilities and other agencies that have a dedicated lactation program and hire certified lactation consultants. VCC is one among 20 community-based agencies that have been recognized with the Care award in 2014.

“The Care award is a wonderful recognition of our support to breastfeeding families,” said Theresa Halvorsen, manager of prenatal services at VCC. “The lactation program is a very important part of our services to new parents. Breastfeeding gets babies off to a great healthy start in life and offers many benefits to the mother. Lactation education and support are critical in helping mothers to have a successful breastfeeding experience.”

The lactation program is offered at four VCC locations in Vista and Oceanside. Board certified lactation consultants offer individual counseling to new parents before and after the birth of the baby. They answer questions and provide information on how to initiate breastfeeding and overcome challenges.
According to Rachelle Lessen, chair of IBCLE, “Agencies that receive the IBCLC Care Award are to be commended for improving maternal and child health by making breastfeeding a priority and for taking steps to improve breastfeeding support. An important part of providing excellent breastfeeding care is having expert assistance available when the breastfeeding couple needs it.”

**About Vista Community Clinic:** With five locations in the cities of Vista and Oceanside, Vista Community Clinic provides high-quality, low-cost healthcare to more than 57,000 uninsured and low- to moderate-income members of the North County community. One in four Vista residents and one in eight in Oceanside receive care from Vista Community Clinic. For more information, please call (760) 631-5000 or visit www.vistacommunityclinic.org.