Vista, CA – Vista Community Clinic (VCC) has received a one-year, $50,000 grant from the Avon Breast Health Outreach Program to increase awareness of the life-saving benefits of early detection of breast cancer.

One of 52 organizations nationwide to receive the grant, VCC was chosen for its ability to effectively reach women, particularly minority, low-income, and older women, who are often medically underserved. It is the 16th year that VCC has received funding from Avon Breast Cancer Crusade in support of its work on this important health issue.

The Breast Health Program at VCC will provide education on breast cancer to the women of San Diego North County, and will refer them to low-cost or free mammograms and clinical breast exams in their own communities. In addition, the program will provide patient navigation services and support services for patients diagnosed with breast cancer.

Since January 2000, the Breast Health Program at VCC has reached more than 61,000 women with information about the importance of early detection of breast cancer and has referred almost 22,000 women for mammograms and clinical breast exams.

Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in women in the United States. According to the American Cancer Society, 26,730 new cases of breast cancer will be detected in California this year and 4,400 lives will be lost. While advances have been made in prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure, early detection still affords the best opportunity for successful treatment. Programs such as the Breast Health Program at VCC help ensure that all women, including the poor and medically underserved, have access to early detection information and treatment.

“Thanks to the many years of sustained support from Avon, VCC has been successful in improving access to breast cancer screening and treatment for low-income, underserved women in San Diego North County,” said Fernando Sañudo, Chief Executive Officer of VCC. “The funding has also allowed us to provide critically-needed patient navigation services and other support for women diagnosed with breast cancer. We thank Avon for being our partners in promoting breast health in the communities we
Since 1993, the Avon Breast Health Outreach Program has awarded more than 1,800 grants to breast health programs across the United States. Beneficiaries range from leading cancer centers to community-based grassroots breast health programs such as VCC. Visit avonbhop.org for more information.

For more information on the Breast Health Program at VCC, please call Natasha Riley at (760) 631-5000 x 7167. To learn more about the Avon Breast Health Outreach Program, visit www.avonbhop.org

ABOUT VISTA COMMUNITY CLINIC

With five locations in the cities of Vista and Oceanside in San Diego North County, and one health center in the city of Lake Elsinore in Riverside County, VCC provides affordable, high quality health care to more than 58,000 patients of all ages each year. Services offered by VCC include primary care, pediatrics, prenatal and women’s health, optometry, dental care, chiropractic services and behavioral health. VCC also offers a wide array of innovative health education programs for all community residents and free health insurance enrollment services. VCC is recognized by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) as a Level 3 (highest) Patient-Centered Medical Home. For more information, please call 760).631.5000 or visit www.vcc.clinic.

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