

# JIM CLICK'S GRAN SABADO DE FIESTA



**THANKS  
JIM!**



## Tardeada

**\$100 was donated to the El Rio Foundation for each car sold Saturday, April 15th!**



**EL-RIO**  
FOUNDATION

El Rio Foundation  
*Supporting*  
El Rio Community Health Center  
839 W. Congress Street  
Tucson, AZ 85745

We're on the web

[www.elrio.org](http://www.elrio.org)

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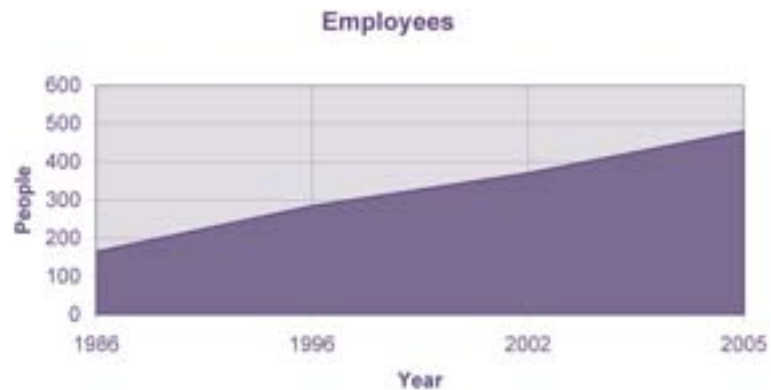
**EL-RIO**  
FOUNDATION

... a picture of health

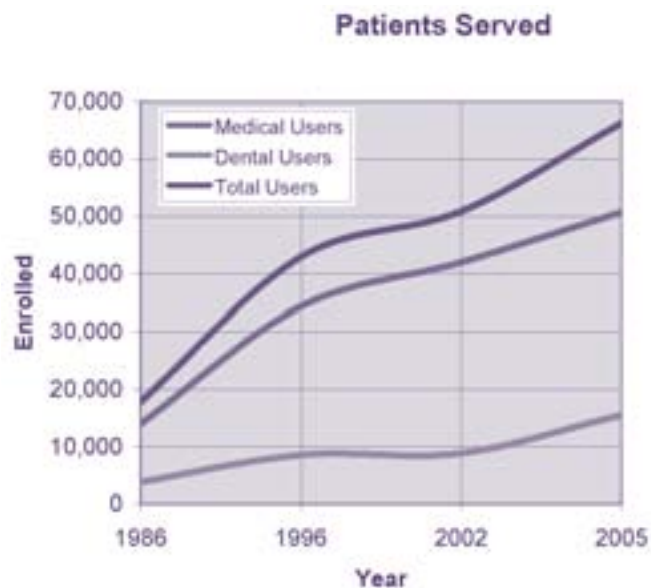
## El Rio Community Health Center & Foundation

El Rio Community Health Center (El Rio) was founded in 1970 to provide community-based primary health care to residents of Pima County with special emphasis on advocacy, health education and meeting the needs of the underserved.

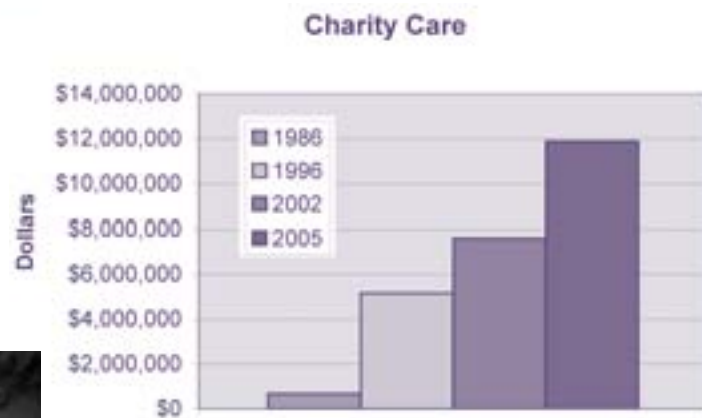
El Rio is now the largest provider of medical and dental services to the uninsured and Medicaid populations in Pima County. We presently operate eleven sites throughout the west, northwest and south sides of Tucson and are the 14th largest community health center in the nation.



We are sensitive to the cultural differences of our community and are dedicated to improving the health and well-being of every individual by delivering affordable, comprehensive quality medical and dental services in an atmosphere of compassion, respect and dignity.



The El Rio Foundation is dedicated to providing financial support for El Rio Community Health Center through individuals, private foundations and corporate philanthropy.



**EL-RIO**  
FOUNDATION



**EVEN YOU CAN LEAVE A LEGACY...**

**THIS YEAR TAKE A \$10,000 TAX DEDUCTION BY MAKING A GIFT TO EL RIO FOUNDATION**

**50 YEARS FROM NOW YOUR GIFT COULD BE WORTH \$538,794**



### Become a Legacy Society Member!

You can become a Legacy Society Member at any time by notifying El Rio Foundation of your planned gift or bequest. If you have already made provisions for El Rio in your will and have not informed us, please let us know. Your gift will be kept confidential.

Thank you!

Questions? Contact...  
Brenda Goldsmith, Executive Director  
El Rio Foundation  
205-4948

## A Picture of Health

This newsletter is filled with articles about exciting new initiatives, partnerships and special events... as well as honors and awards that El Rio has received for innovation and excellence in its programming. We are extremely proud of all our staff and volunteers for their commitment to meeting the primary health care needs of people throughout our community. We are grateful to those of you who have helped us achieve these milestones through your generous financial support and in-kind contributions.



There have also been many exciting changes for the Foundation, Administrative Staff and Member Services Department. We recently moved into new offices which encompass the second floor of the Romanoski Glass & Mirror Building on Midvale Park Road, just south of Valencia Road. Sixty staff members have relocated to this facility from the Congress Street Clinic which has freed-up valuable office space for additional patient care. On behalf of everyone at El Rio, we wish to express our sincere thanks to *Jim and Sonja Romanoski*, who donated the use of their building, for a period of three years, for free!

It is only through on-going community support that El Rio is able to continue serving the primary health care needs of our community. We strive to ensure that everyone who comes through our doors receives the highest quality medical and dental care possible with a spirit of utmost respect and dignity. Last year, that meant serving the needs of over 66,000 Tucsonans – an increase of over 30% in just 3 years. In fact, the level of charity care we provided in 2005 was \$11,000,000.

Through individuals, private foundations and corporations, El Rio Foundation works hard to develop the charitable resources necessary to enhance existing programs, launch special projects, make capital improvements and provide financial security for the future. Our success is truly a reflection of everyone in our community and is a living testament to what we can achieve when we all pull in the same direction and share the same vision.

Thank you for your commitment to El Rio.  
You have truly helped us become "a picture of health."

*Brenda Goldsmith*

Brenda Goldsmith  
Executive Director  
El Rio Foundation

## THE Project

### Life Skill and Health Development Program gets a boost from Qwest!

We are truly grateful for this opportunity to partner with Qwest Foundation to recruit additional community volunteers and enhance our Life Skill training program. Qwest understands that an essential ingredient to improving the health of the entire community stems from increasing opportunity for all its members.

*“Qwest is very aware of the wonderful work being accomplished at El Rio Health Center. Education and skill-building will help many underserved people in Southern Arizona to develop a greater sense of hope and their ability to achieve the quality of life we all want to reach.”*

– Pat Quinn,  
Qwest President for Arizona

According to THE Project Director, Gay Evans, El Rio has 55 trained community volunteers conducting 75 education classes per month in transitional living facilities and prisons throughout Tucson. “We are always looking for volunteers. Right now, we especially need people who are bi-lingual... and they don't need a health care background to participate.”

Since 1990, THE Project oversees site, curriculum and material development for 40 different health and life skill



**THE Project Director, Gay Evans (right), pictured with volunteer Sandy Stein.**

topics. More than 3,400 people benefitted from classes last year. “Many of these people have lost everything – their families, their jobs and their freedom – due to drug abuse,” Evans said.

When El Rio partners with businesses, such as Qwest, to support people learning and building new skills, everyone wins!

**For information about becoming a volunteer, call Gay Evans at: 256-2874.**



Ventanilla de Salud



in Tucson

Ventanilla de Salud (VDS) is a unique partnership between the US-Mexican Border Health Commission, Mexican Consulate and local Community Health Centers. VDS is staffed by Community Health Workers, who provide critical health prevention and referral information to people receiving services at Mexican Consulates in cities throughout America.

#### Ventanilla de Salud...

- was officially launched on February 1st in Tucson.
- helps to educate, prevent and solve community health problems.



**Alma Castel De Oro (right) cuts the ribbon at the Ventanilla de Salud office at the Mexican Consulate on Stone Ave.**

In January, Alma Castel De Oro accepted the position as Health Care Advocate and Coordinator for El Rio at the Mexican Consulate on Stone Avenue in Tucson.

**Alma can be reached at: 520-882-5595 ext. 122, Monday through Friday.**



**From left to right: Dr. Jaime León Varela (Estado De Sonora), Juan M. Calderón-Jaimes (Cónsul de México) and Héctor Xavier Martínez (US Mexico Border Health Commission).**



## Right From the Start!

The American Dental Association partners with El Rio on a new program to reduce severe dental decay in infants and children through education, intervention and proper oral care. "Right From The Start!" was one of 47 programs selected from approximately 350 applications to receive the Harris Fund grant, for its work with pregnant mothers, new parents and their infants.

El Rio pediatrician, Dr. Ray Wagner, who is spearheading "Right from the Start!" is passionate about helping families prevent Early Childhood Caries (ECC). Every day, pediatricians at El Rio see infants and children with severe caries.



Dr. Wagner shows a young mother how to use a xylitol wipe.

El Rio has brought together multiple community partners to raise awareness and help address the critical need for proper infant and child oral care. Through collaboration with Cox Media, oral health promotional messages will begin broadcasting this June. The Southern Arizona Oral Health Coalition and the Arizona Oral Health Collaborative will share the results of this project and offer information to aid in its successful replication throughout the community.

*"This is a problem that we can prevent and save a baby's health, gums, jaws and future teeth, as well as stopping unnecessary and painful surgery to repair the damage," said Dr. Wagner. "Every day, I see the misery in my young patients' faces that have advanced ECC. There are too many kids who suffer needlessly with this condition. We must work together to educate the community about the importance of establishing good oral habits with our children 'right from the start.'"*

ADA | FOUNDATION

American Dental Association Foundation

COX  
COMMUNICATIONS

## The Community Foundation for Southern Arizona Awards 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Innovation to El Rio

The Community Foundation for Southern Arizona (CFSA) honored El Rio's Pharmacy-Based Diabetes Management Program at its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Achievement Awards luncheon held at the Doubletree Hotel on April 6<sup>th</sup>. CFSA recognized excellence in local non-profits based on their impact and innovation. El Rio's Diabetes Program was awarded 1st place in the Innovation/Large Organization Category, which recognizes non-profits that break with culture and do things in a unique or different way – taking advantage of new opportunities and challenges.



(Left) Sandra Leal, Pharm.D., and (right) Marisa Soto, Pharm.D.



Since August 2001, over one-thousand patients have been seen in the program, which has had life-changing success for many people. The pharmacist intervention services have showed an almost 5-fold increase in the number of patients at target A1C (blood sugar) levels, with a mean reduction of 2.0%. A decrease in A1C of 2.0% yields an estimated savings of between \$2,100 to \$2,900/patient/year. Most importantly are the changes in individuals' lives – the impact on patients and their families!

Dr. Sandra Leal and Dr. Marisa Soto received the American Society of Health-System Pharmacy (ASHP) Best Practices Award for innovation and outstanding leadership in health-system pharmacy, at the ASHP national conference in December of last year. El Rio's pharmacy program was one of only six selected to receive this award from over 50 applicants nationwide.

Dr. Leal was also recognized as one of our nation's top five pharmacists by the American Pharmacists Association (APA) at its 2006 Pharmacy Today One-to-One Counseling Recognition Program convention in March. The APA convenes once each year to acknowledge pharmacists who demonstrate exemplary one-to-one counseling skills, resulting in better health, superior communication and improved patient outcomes.





# El Rio 12th Annual Golf Tournament

**Thursday, May 11, 2006**

**Canoa Ranch Golf Club, Green Valley**



Shotgun Start – 12:30 p.m.

Registration & Lunch – 11:30 a.m.

*Special thanks to Metro Restaurants, Inc.  
and our generous sponsors thus far...*

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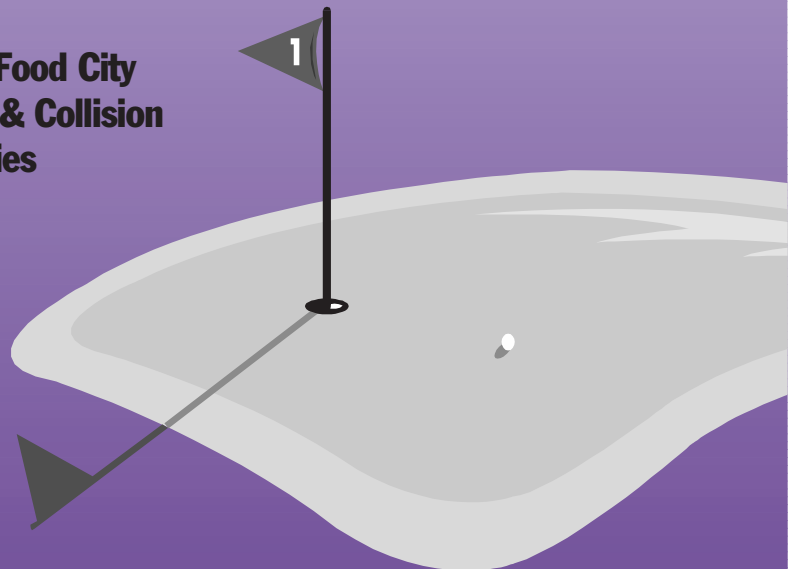
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For additional information please contact the Foundation Office at: **520-205-4947**



## **2006 Fiesta Bowl Spring Golf Classic**

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## **Benefitted El Rio Community Health Center**

*Thank You*

The Tucson Fiesta Bowl Committee presents several events to the City of Tucson each year. The Committee mission is to provide quality events that support local charity and scholarship programs, to create positive national exposure for the City of Tucson and support the college bowl system in the state of Arizona.

Proceeds from the Fiesta Bowl event will support  
El Rio's children's programs.