



womens  
community  
clinic

# The Annual\* Examiner

“It’s such an exciting time to be involved with the Clinic.”

—Brenna Reichman, HYSTERIA 2008 attendee and Clinic volunteer



Photo: Justin Akers, studioxpop.com

Caroline Rhea keeps the crowd laughing at HYSTERIA 2008.

## Hysterical for Women’s Health! Women’s Community Clinic Benefit Raises \$80,000

By: Julie Orio, Event Chair

Who knew a fundraiser could be so... funny? Over 450 supporters gathered at the Jewish Community Center on April 17 for HYSTERIA 2008: Redefining Women’s Health, a benefit for the Women’s Community Clinic. Guests mingled over delicious food and drink as they bid on more than 150 silent auction items, including romantic getaways and private tours of the area’s finest wineries. Even celebrity guest performer Caroline Rhea joined in the

fun, trying to outbid guests on her favorite items.

After brief remarks by Clinic supporters, including District Five Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi, Caroline Rhea kicked off her comedy performance by (literally) rolling onto the stage from the audience. The daughter of a gynecologist, Caroline had plenty of sexual and reproductive health humor to keep the crowd in hysterical laughter. Caroline touched on dozens of side-splitting subjects, including childbirth, the pitfalls of dating sensitive

## We’re Moving! Clinic Will Relocate to Fillmore Street in Early 2009

By Carlina Hansen, Executive Director

The Women’s Community Clinic’s free, client-centered model of care is built on providing women with a warm, welcoming environment where they can feel safe and respected getting the health care they need. Although much of that warmth and safety comes from our fabulous Health Workers and Clinicians, it is critical that our physical space is consistent with our overall vision of improving the health and well-being of women and girls.

After an extensive search in the Western Addition

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Photo: Rebecca Meyer Photography

The Clinic’s new facility will be over three times the size of the Clinic’s current space.

men, and impersonations of her boyfriend’s snoring and Mother Superior in the Sound of Music.

“This event has such great energy,” said Brenna Reichman, event attendee and Clinic volunteer. “It’s such an exciting time to be involved with the Clinic and it’s fun to all get together to celebrate and raise money for such a worthy cause.”

HYSTERIA 2008 raised over \$80,000 for the Clinic to provide free health care and outreach services to women and girls.

Thank you to our Champion Sponsor Kaiser Permanente. We are grateful for the many ways that Kaiser Permanente staff and providers have supported the Clinic over the years. We would also like to thank our Major Sponsors: Blue Shield of California, Better World Advertising, California Pacific Medical Center and Community Clinics Initiative. We are grateful to the following individuals, companies, and organizations for their generous

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Photo: Justin Akers, studiovoxpop.com

Caroline Rhea chats with Kaiser Permanente's Yvonne Gallot, Bonnie Gradstein, Ayana Day & Lara Sallee.

sponsorship of the event:  
7 x 7 Magazine • Anchor Brewing • Association of Reproductive Health Professionals • Barefoot Cellars • Becky Layton, Pacific Union Realtor • Bradley Defoor • Cabot Cheese Cooperative • Cathy Gianni • Cole Hardware • Craft Distillers • Diana Taylor and Jay Folberg • Girlfriends Do Good • Diane Sabin • Dixie

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Thank you to our Event Host Committee, Volunteers, Staff, and all our Silent Auction Donors. Get ready for HYSTERIA 2010!



Photo: Justin Akers, studiovoxpop.com

Board member Kim Dempsey and her husband Garrett.



Photo: Justin Akers, studiovoxpop.com

Tina Sharkey, Honorary Committee Member Tiffany Shlain, Volunteer Roni Jacobs & Host Committee Member Emalie Hurliaux.

## Clinic Offers Hepatitis C Testing to At Risk Clients

By: Yvonne Piper, Clinic Manager

In an ongoing effort to better meet the needs of our clients, the Women's Community Clinic has integrated *Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)* testing into our HIV counseling and testing program. We are able to offer this service as part of our ongoing partnership with the San Francisco Department of Health AIDS Office.

More than 4 million people are infected with HCV in the United States. This is about four times greater than the amount of people who are infected with HIV. Co-infection with HIV and HCV is very common because of the shared route of transmission of these viruses.

Although Hepatitis C infection is

pervasive in our community, there is a lack of available health education information, testing and treatment services. The Clinic seeks to fill this gap by providing testing services, health education workshops and support to women who are at-risk and/or infected with HCV.

Currently, the Clinic Outreach Program provides Hepatitis C education workshops in the county jail, referrals to HCV testing and treatment locations, and distribution of hygiene and safer drug use supplies.

"The Outreach Program works with homeless and marginally housed women, many of who are at risk for or are infected with Hepatitis C," said Leah Morrison, Outreach

Director. "Offering HCV testing, counseling and referrals to primary care provides valuable continuity of care to our clients who are at risk for both HIV and HCV."

Previously, Clinic Health Workers would talk to clients about HCV but then have to refer them to other service providers, either in the Clinic or at another site, for testing. By integrating Hepatitis C testing into HIV testing appointments we are breaking down barriers to receiving testing services as well as increasing the availability of appointments for other services that can only be delivered by a clinician.

We will offer testing to clients who have ever injected any substance with a shared needle, cur-

rent and former injection drug users (IDUs), sexual partners of IDUs, and sexual partners of people with HCV.

HCV is a blood-borne pathogen that is most commonly spread through sharing injection needles or works with someone infected with HCV, though it can also be transmitted by needlesticks in a health care setting, being born to an HCV-positive mother, tattooing or piercing with improperly cleaned equipment, receiving certain medical, dental, or acupuncture services with improperly sterilized equipment, sharing personal care items (such as razors and toothbrushes) with HCV-positive people, and, rarely, unprotected sex with an HCV-positive partner. For more information on HCV, visit <http://www.hepcproject.org>.


# Clinic Notes

**Ladies' Night Volunteer Donna Freeman Named "Unsung Hero"**  
In honor of Women's History Month, KQED and Wells Fargo celebrated Clinic volunteer Don-

na Freeman for her outstanding contributions to the local community. Donna prepares meals for homeless women at Ladies' Night, a weekly drop-in offered by the Clinic in collaboration with local service agencies in the Mission District.

*The Clinic Celebrates*  
**Rhoda Nussbaum, M.D.**

Last June, over 200 guests mingled at the San Francisco Yacht Club to celebrate the retirement and 60th birthday of Dr. Rhoda Nussbaum, one of the Clinic's amazing volunteers. The evening raised \$10,000 to help the Clinic provide health care and outreach services to the women and girls in our community.



We would like to extend a special thank you to Rhoda and her friends, family, and colleagues for their generous support. Happy Retirement, Rhoda!

In her retirement, Rhoda will continue to volunteer at the Clinic.

**Clinic Receives TenderChamp Award**  
In April, Central City Hospitality House honored the Women's Community Clinic for our grass-roots community leadership in improving the lives of poor, homeless, and other marginalized people in San Francisco.

**Carlina Hansen Joins Clinic Leadership Institute**  
Executive Director Carlina Hansen has joined Blue Shield of California Foundation's inaugural class of the Clinic Leadership Institute, an innovative year-long program designed to galvanize the next generation of community clinic leaders.

**Carlina Hansen Named Young Executive Director of the Year**  
In recognition of her innovative leadership and commitment to social justice, Carlina Hansen was named the Young Nonprofit Professionals Network's Young Executive Director of the Year for 2007.

## Clinic relocation from page 1

neighborhood, I am pleased to announce that the Women's Community Clinic has found our future home at 1833 Fillmore Street. The 6250 square foot facility will be over three times the size of the Clinic's current space. The larger,

to offer 6200 additional appointments – doubling our current capacity! A conference room will allow us to host on-site community forums and health education trainings for the first time. Finally, the space provides a more aesthetically

tuned to hear more about how you can help us reach our \$1.8 million goal. We need your support in expanding the Clinic's vision of community-delivered, quality care.

**The new facility will enable us to see more clients, train more Health Workers, and expand our services.**

more contemporary facility will enable us to see more clients, train more Health Workers, and expand our programs and services to better meet the needs of our community. Between now and 2011 we expect

pleasing, accessible and welcoming environment in which to provide and receive care.  
Plans are in place to break ground this Fall and move into 1833 Fillmore in early 2009. Please stay



**Plans are in place to move into 1833 Fillmore in early 2009.**

## WHO WE ARE

Since 1999, the Women's Community Clinic has used an all-women, volunteer-based model of care to create a safe, welcoming environment where Bay Area women can access health services. We honor our mission to improve the health and well-being of women and girls by providing free: Sexual and Reproductive Health Services, Outreach Services and Health Training Programs.

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## Free health care for women by women

### *A project of the Tides Center*

#### **Clinic Hours**

Mon, Tue, & Thu: 5–9pm  
Wed: 9am–1pm; 5–9pm  
Sat: 9am–1pm  
(1st & 3rd Saturday of the month)

#### **Drop-in Hours**

Fri: Starts at 11am  
(come early, open until full)

#### **Business Hours**

Mon, Tue, & Thu: 11am–9pm  
Wed: 9am–9pm  
Fri: 11am–3pm

#### **Rapid HIV Testing**

By appointment only,  
please call to schedule

Women's Community Clinic  
2166 Hayes St. Suite 104  
San Francisco, CA 94117  
415 379 7800 tel  
415 379 7804 fax

[womenscommunityclinic.org](http://womenscommunityclinic.org)

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