

Can We Have a Heart-to-Heart?

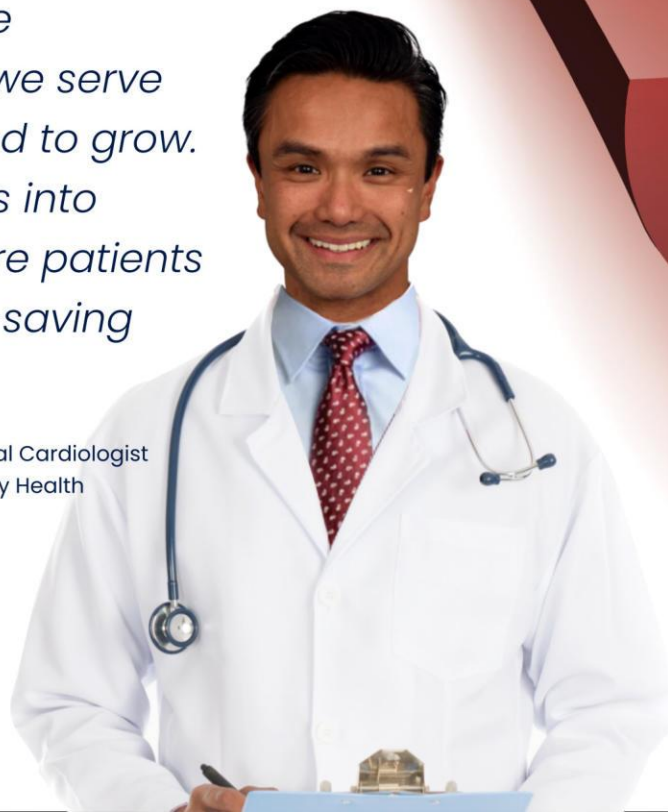


The Heart of the Matter



“Just like hearts, medical equipment has a lifespan, and our first cath lab’s equipment is about to expire. At the same time, the communities we serve have continued to grow. That translates into more and more patients in need of life-saving procedures.”

Cardiologist / Interventional Cardiologist
Mark Villalon, M.D., NorthBay Health





At NorthBay Health, we are in the business of saving lives in Solano County. Nothing presents a bigger threat to our community's health than heart disease. It's the No. 1 cause of death in the United States, for both men and women. In Solano County more than 900 people die each year from heart disease.

That's why NorthBay began offering catheterization services in 1992. In 2009 we greatly expanded services by opening a Heart & Vascular Center, bringing together highly skilled surgeons and clinical staff, equipment and advanced procedures such as open heart surgery.

In the years that followed:

- **NorthBay was named Solano County's first nationally accredited Chest Pain Center.**
- **NorthBay was designated a STEMI Receiving Center.**
- **NorthBay added a cardiac catheterization lab.**
- **NorthBay began providing vascular and interventional radiology procedures.**

Catheters are used to insert balloons or stents to expand arteries, implant and extract pacemakers, and even replace heart valves. With two cath labs and a state-of-the-art heart and vascular surgical suite, NorthBay experts perform open and beating heart surgery, valve replacement, interventional heart procedures, lung mass resection and endovascular procedures, such as treating diseased blood vessels, aneurysms, blood clots and more.

Now is the time to upgrade aging equipment.

An Opportunity



NorthBay began to build a case to replace aging equipment and address increasing need several years ago. In 2019, when the North Tower opened with eight new surgical suites, it left a vacancy on the hospital's first floor – the perfect location for an upgraded, expanded heart and vascular center. Then the pandemic happened, putting all plans on hold. It did not lessen the need for life-saving services, however. In the first six months of 2022, for example, NorthBay treated nearly 850 patients in the cath lab.

Now, it's three years later, and our cath labs are in dire need of an upgrade.



Our Plan

In this remodeled space, we envision bringing together our interventional radiology and vascular programs, echocardiogram and stress testing, and an electrophysiology program into three state-of-the-art suites. We would create a space that is workflow friendly and welcoming for our patients. We know we can keep three labs busy every day of the year.



As part of the discovery process, our teams worked with our vendors to build full-size mock-ups using cardboard, tape and imagination, to help identify best work-flow and patient experiences. This is proving to be a vital and invaluable step in the planning.



Why Now?

NorthBay – like many health care systems across the country – is challenged post-pandemic, with rising inflation, labor costs and more. We are taking action across the system to regain financial stability to ensure that we can remain a nonprofit, independent health system for years to come. **So why would we move forward with this project now?**



NorthBay Health's excellent doctors and clinicians have brought some of the latest medical advancements into the organization's two cath labs, making them busier than ever.

Our Pledge for This Project

NorthBay Health Foundation is committed to partnering with our generous community of philanthropists and volunteers to support our local, independent health care system. We recognize the need for top-notch care and have embraced this effort to create a state-of-the-art Heart and Vascular suite at NorthBay Health Medical Center.

The Foundation's roots reach back to the late 1950s, when a group of community leaders and volunteers went door to door to collect funds

for a Fairfield hospital. Now, 62 years later, our health care system includes two hospitals, a cancer center, primary care and numerous specialty care clinics, including highly acclaimed heart and vascular, orthopedics, neuroscience and spine programs.

Our newly formed Foundation is about to embark on an exciting journey to propel us toward a strong future where we continue to provide "Compassionate Care, Advanced Medicine, Close to Home."

Very Simply, Because We Cannot Afford to Wait.

Our county continues to grow and so does the need. Our commitment to Compassionate Care, Advanced Medicine, Close to Home demands that we move forward, even in uncertain times, because we have to prepare for the future.

Not only will creating a state-of-the-art cath lab be a solid investment from a financial perspective, but there are simply too many lives at stake to put this on hold any longer.



For a person experiencing a heart attack, placing a stent can immediately restore oxygen flow to the heart muscle, sparing further tissue damage. This is one of the many life-saving procedures NorthBay's doctors will perform in a new, state-of-the-art catheterization suite.

Want to Learn More?

Email Paul McGinty at Paul.McGinty@NorthBay.org or call (707) 646-3288 for more information.





“*Imagine getting a diagnosis – being told you needed a life-saving procedure ... and then having to wait a month or longer because of the backlog. It’s just not right to make patients wait for life-saving care. That’s why we need to start this project today.*”

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