

Free Clinic named Nonprofit of the Year

NP Westminster Free Clinic and Community Care Center, a Thousand Oaks-based provider of healthcare services to disadvantaged residents, was named Nonprofit of the Year by Sen. Monique Limón's of the state's 21st District.

The clinic, established in 2001, provides free healthcare and health-supporting services to address patient needs, and serves as a training site for students exploring careers in healthcare.

Westminster's medical and preventive services are coordinated out of three clinic sites in Ventura County: in Thousand Oaks, serving East County; in Oxnard, serving the Oxnard Plain, and in Santa Paula, serving the Santa Clara River Valley.

Each year the clinic gives more than 15,000 free health services to the low-income residents of Ventura County. Services are provided by a multigenerational team of volunteer healthcare professionals with assistance from more than 230 high school students enrolled in the clinic's teen healthcare training and internship program. Student interns gain hands-on clinical experience, mentorship, and professional development.

"This award is a testament to the incredible hard work and dedication of our volunteers, staff, student interns, and community partners who make our work



Courtesy photo

GIVERS—Left, Lisa Safaeinili, CEO and executive director Westminster Free Clinic. Right, Senator Monique Limón representing California State Senate District 21.

possible," said Lisa Safaeinili, Westminster chief executive.

"This recognition inspires us to continue building a healthier Ventura County," Safaeinili said.

Now in its tenth year, the California Nonprofit of the Year initiative gives each state legislator the opportunity to honor a nonprofit making a significant impact in their district. The program culminated in a celebratory luncheon at the State Capitol on California Nonprofits Day, which was May 21.

—Acorn staff report