KAISER PERMANENTE ANTELOPE VALLEY CELEBRATES 50 YEARS & AWARDS MORE THAN $5 MILLION IN GRANTS TO LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Lancaster, CA (November 18, 2018)—In 1968 Lyndon B. Johnson was president of the United States; the space race was in full swing; and Kaiser Permanente came to the Antelope Valley. Kaiser Permanente Antelope Valley officials and guests celebrated the health care provider’s 50 years of community partnerships and service in the Antelope Valley.

The celebration was a chance to share the accomplishments of the past 50 years and to look toward the future. Kaiser Permanente Antelope Valley started with two physicians on Division Street. The nonprofit health care group now has about 134,000 members in the Antelope Valley, 1,000 employees, and 170 doctors from all specialties. “We’re very, very proud of what we’ve done,” Chief Administrative Officer Linda Lawson said.

Assemblyman Tom Lackey presented certificates from the state Assembly and state Senate, on behalf of state Sen. Scott Wilk. “We’re very proud to recognize the efforts and partnership of Kaiser Permanente,” said Assemblyman Lackey. “Being here in the Antelope Valley for 50 years is quite a feat and accomplishment.”

Representatives from Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Congressman Steve Knight, the city of Lancaster, and Lancaster Chamber of Commerce also presented certificates in honor of Kaiser Permanente’s 50th anniversary.

In June 1971 Kaiser Permanente AV opened its own building on 15th Street West off Avenue L in Lancaster. The facility is now home to Kaiser’s primary care. In 2003 Kaiser opened a facility in Palmdale. There are now six locations in the Antelope Valley, including the state-of-the-art building off Avenue L. The three-story, 136,000-square-foot building opened four years ago.

“We’re proud and honored to care for many of you, your families, and your employees,” Dr. David Kohl said. More than 200 health care providers including physicians, pharmacists, nurses, and ancillary staff support this effort.

Maybelle Liquigan, administrator of Hospital and Health Plan Operations, thanked Kaiser Permanente’s partners for their commitment to making lives better in the Antelope Valley.

Amy Wiese, Kaiser Permanente’s Community Benefit Manager, said Kaiser Permanente improves the health of the communities it serves by participating in charitable care and coverage including providing care to those most vulnerable.
Through its support of local nonprofits, community-based organizations, and schools, Kaiser Permanente provided more than $139,000 this year in community benefit grant funding. Those partnerships include the Antelope Valley Boys and Girls Club, Antelope Valley Family YMCA, Mental Health America of Los Angeles, and Palmdale Community Foundation.

Over the past 50 years, Kaiser Permanente provided more than $5 million in grant funding to its partners.

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**About Kaiser Permanente**

Kaiser Permanente is committed to helping shape the future of health care. We are recognized as one of America’s leading health care providers and not-for-profit health plans. Founded in 1945, Kaiser Permanente has a mission to provide high-quality, affordable health care services and to improve the health of our members and the communities we serve. We currently serve more than 12.2 million members in eight states and the District of Columbia. Care for members and patients is focused on their total health and guided by their personal Permanente Medical Group physicians, specialists and team of caregivers. Our expert and caring medical teams are empowered and supported by industry-leading technology advances and tools for health promotion, disease prevention, state-of-the-art care delivery and world-class chronic disease management. Kaiser Permanente is dedicated to care innovations, clinical research, health education and the support of community health. For more information, go to [kp.org/antelopevalley](http://kp.org/antelopevalley).