

Giving Back to the Community

CHA Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center Celebrates the Korean American Women's Association

A Special Gift

For more than 30 years, the Korean American Women's Association (KAWA) has been a special part of the CHA Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center family, especially in the lives of our newest members. A group of dedicated volunteers has been sewing baby blankets and gowns for each baby born at the hospital. This loving tradition has been carried out twice a month, every month, by the many KAWA members at the hospital.

In a spacious conference room at the hospital, sewing machines are abuzz as the KAWA volunteers sew each item. More than 40 blankets and 60 gowns are affectionately made each month then presented to the newborns in our Maternity Department. CHA Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center has one of the busiest maternity departments in all of Los Angeles County, and each new arrival is given one of these loving items.

"The volunteers of KAWA have been such a special part of our hospital for so many years," says Gabriela Duran-Lopez, Manager of Patient Relations, who remembers the first days of KAWA's introduction to CHA Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center. "The blankets and gowns they sew for our newborns are very much appreciated by the parents, some of whom may not be able to afford such a special gift," she says.

Their History

KAWA is not only an integral part of CHA Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center, but for many organizations and communities around the world. KAWA is a membership-driven organization committed to serving the community by developing leadership skills and empowering Korean women through Christian beliefs and values.

Since its inception, KAWA has been very active throughout the world with volunteerism and support. They've assisted with relief efforts, such as in 2005's Hurricane Katrina which devastated New Orleans, the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, and the 2011 tsunami/earthquake that struck Japan.

KAWA also believes in empowering women and assisting them in becoming greater leaders of the community by offering various seminars and workshops. They fulfill their dedication to those in need of social services, such as assistance with citizenship paperwork and healthcare insurance information.

Special Thanks

“We are exceptionally grateful for the generosity KAWA provides our patients and families,” says Gerald B. Clute, President and CEO. “We are honored by their efforts and celebrate having them at CHA Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center for many more years to come.”

As part of our appreciation of KAWA and their dedication to our hospital, CHA Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center hosted KAWA members to an appreciation luncheon held on September 15, 2016. This date also coincides with the celebration of Chuseok, one of the largest and most widely celebrated holidays in South Korea. This holiday is a time of happiness and reconnecting as families gather, chat, and have great feasts.

“On behalf of CHA Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center, we would like to extend our gratitude and appreciation to KAWA for their continued dedication and support of our hospital and entire community,” says Jae Chung, Vice President of Strategy and Business Development. “It is KAWA’s commitment that helps us continue the traditions and meaning of Chuseok – honoring our past, celebrating the families that come to our hospital, and building our future together.”