



NEWS

ANTELOPE VALLEY'S
HEALTHCARE
NEWS RESOURCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ANTELOPE VALLEY HOSPITAL SPONSORS
“THANKSGIVING ON THE MAYFLOWER”
FOOD DRIVE
Friday, November 16 through Sunday, November 18**

(LANCASTER, CA –November 7, 2007)— Antelope Valley Hospital (AVH) employees have once again demonstrated their belief in the adage that it is better to give than to receive with their latest charitable project—**10th Annual Thanksgiving on the Mayflower**, a community food drive hosted by Mitchell Chase and sponsored by Antelope Valley Hospital.

Beginning **Friday, November 16 at 5:00 pm through Sunday, November 18 at 8:00 pm**, AVH employees will help Mitchell Chase collect turkeys and non-perishable food items which will be donated to four Antelope Valley Shelters. The food drive will be held in the **Albertson’s parking lot on the corner of Palmdale Boulevard and Tierra Subida (10th Street West) in Palmdale.**

“There are many families in the Antelope Valley that have a difficult time during the holidays,” said Mitchell Chase. “This is the 10th year my family has hosted the food drive. The hospital employees have been a great partner in the food drive for several years and, together, we’ve made sure that many of these families have turkey dinners with all the trimmings for Thanksgiving.”

The four Antelope Valley shelters that will be the beneficiaries of the Thanksgiving on the Mayflower food drive include Grace Resource Center, SAVES (South Antelope

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AVH / Thanksgiving Food Drive

Page 2 of 2

Valley Emergency Services), Lancaster Community Shelter, and Valley Oasis Domestic Violence Shelter. The shelters will distribute the holiday food items to people in need throughout the Antelope Valley.

AVH CEO Edward Mirzabegian noted, “As always, we’re proud but not surprised by our employees’ willingness to participate and give. They demonstrate their selflessness not only during the holidays, but throughout the year.”

The annual food drive averages about 250 turkeys and 25,000 pounds of food each year. Volunteers will collect donations of canned goods and other non-perishable food items, including classic Thanksgiving Dinner ingredients (canned fruits and vegetables, stuffing, gravy, etc.), cereals, soups, pastas, and other protein sources (peanut butter, tuna fish, beans, etc.). In addition, a refrigerated food truck will be on site to safely store turkeys and hams.

“We’re accepting monetary donations as well,” commented Chase. “We’ll do the grocery shopping for anyone who wants to donate but doesn’t have time to shop.”

For more information, contact Mitchell Chase at 661-789-7979 or Laura Young, AVH community relations manager, at 661-949-5230.

About Antelope Valley Hospital

Celebrating more than 50 years of caring for the community, Antelope Valley Hospital, a facility of Antelope Valley Healthcare District, is a non-profit, 420-bed hospital that was founded in 1955. The hospital is dedicated to providing quality care and services to everyone in the Antelope Valley. AV Hospital is located at 1600 West Avenue J in Lancaster, California. For further information, please visit www.avhospital.org or call (661) 949-5000.

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