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La Clínica Expands Dental Care Services at School Based Health Center

OAKLAND, CA (December 13, 2010) – La Clínica is proud to announce the expansion of its school based health center at Roosevelt Middle School in Oakland. The expansion will bring dental services to the clinic, as well as broaden individual and group health education services. The grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony will take place on December 15, 2010 from 2:00-5:00 pm at the Roosevelt Middle School courtyard, located at 1926 19th Avenue, Oakland, CA 94606.

Despite progress in providing children with health insurance, California still has an estimated 800,000 children under the age of 18 who lack health insurance. Even when children and youth are enrolled in an insurance plan, many do not have access to quality services or a consistent source of primary care. The lack of access to health care can result in youth coming to school suffering from conditions that have a negative impact on their ability to learn and to succeed.

Over the years, La Clínica's Roosevelt Middle School Based Health Center has offered first aid and urgent care, physical exams, health education, reproductive health education, behavior health counseling, immunizations, management of chronic care illness, STI testing, counseling and treatment, social services and referrals. Last year alone, the clinic served 723 students with nearly 6,000 visits! The Roosevelt Clinic's expansion will allow the integration of vital dental care to the current services offered. For a number of students, this will be the first time they have had access to dental screenings, treatment and referrals.

"Our priority is to improve children and adolescents' health and well-being, serve as a support to families and improve academic performance by creating an access point to health care for children," said Jane García, La Clínica's CEO.

La Clínica worked collaboratively with key partners including Elev8, Oakland Unified School District, Alameda County and the City of Oakland to make this project a reality. This project was funded through the generosity of Atlantic Philanthropies.

The mission of La Clínica is to improve the quality of life of the diverse communities we serve by providing culturally appropriate, high quality and accessible health care for all. La Clínica's 25 clinical sites are located in Alameda, Solano and Contra Costa Counties. For more information about La Clínica, please visit us at www.laclinica.org