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Health Care

Patient need drives clinic expansion

Chris Rauber

La Clínica de la Raza, an Oakland-based network of nonprofit clinics for uninsured and low-income patients, is midway through construction of a 17,000-square-foot Concord clinic that will more than triple its current capacity in the vicinity.

The new \$10.6 million La Clinica Monument facility, at 2000 Sierra Road in Concord, should serve 15,000 patients, compared to 4,000 in La Clinica's current facility at 2100 Monument Blvd. in nearby Pleasant Hill.

It's slated to open in January, and employ 60 full-time workers, says Development Director [Amy DeBower](#).

Officials at the 40-year-old nonprofit say there's been a 50 percent jump in the "Monument corridor" Medi-Cal population since the recession began in 2008, stretching La Clinica's capacity at its existing clinic there.

Two years ago, it began a capital campaign to replace the Pleasant Hill facility by garnering \$2 million in seed money from the John Muir Mount Diablo Community Health Fund, Thomas J. Long Foundation, [Kaiser Permanente](#) and HEDCO Foundation. It also won \$3.9 million in support from UnitedHealth Group, which invested the funds in La Clinica's tax-exempt bonds and provided \$700,000 in grants to pay for bond-issuance costs.

The clinic also won about \$1 million in federal stimulus funding.

The new Monument clinic, about a mile from the old one, will provide expanded medical, dental and vision services as well as health education, chronic disease management and senior services, according to [Jane Garcia](#), La Clinica's CEO.



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