

You are invited to honor

***WALLY GHURABI, M.D.***

by joining a group of friends, colleagues, and fellow philanthropists  
to support the **UCLA Arline and Henry Gluck Stroke Rescue Program**  
and the **UCLA Health Mobile Stroke Unit**



*UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica as seen from 15th Street;  
Nethercutt Emergency Center entrance is in the lower right corner.*

Dr. Wally Ghurabi has devoted his career to serving patients, fellow faculty, and the Santa Monica community. He has led the Nethercutt Emergency Center that treats more than 50,000 patients every year and through which he has mentored and trained hundreds of ER physicians. Most recently, Dr. Ghurabi has been instrumental in helping to establish the UCLA Health Mobile Stroke Unit that provides rapid stroke response and delivers expedited treatment to victims of stroke.

**To advance stroke rescue, Dr. Ghurabi is helping to raise at least \$500,000 for a five-year demonstration project examining the efficacy of rapid administration of clot-busting drugs by the UCLA Mobile Stroke Unit team. The results of this study will help to establish new protocols for mobile stroke rescue vehicles.**

Dr. Ghurabi's dedication to his patients, colleagues, and trainees has inspired UCLA to launch a campaign in his honor. All funds raised will support the new Mobile Stroke Unit that will serve the residents of Santa Monica with rapid response care for acute stroke victims. This specialized ambulance is operated by highly trained personnel and provides rapid delivery of brain-saving medications to stroke patients who might otherwise face debilitating delays in treatment.

**Please join us in honoring Dr. Ghurabi with a gift to support the UCLA Arline and Henry Gluck Stroke Rescue Program—the cause about which Dr. Ghurabi is so passionate.**

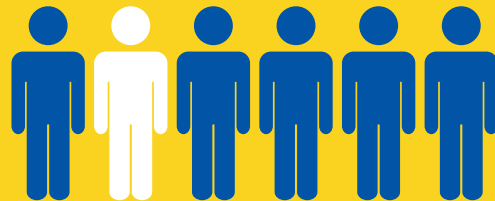


*Detail of the current Meditation Garden to be renamed the Ghurabi Garden.*

**Your support of this vital program will enable UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica to name a garden in Dr. Ghurabi's honor. The Ghurabi Garden—a lush respite for patients and staff from the stress and intensity of emergency health issues—is a fitting tribute to his life-long work. During his 37 years on the Santa Monica campus, Dr. Ghurabi has considered the hospital garden a favorite space to relax, reflect, and heal.**



**EVERY 40 SECONDS  
SOMEONE HAS  
A STROKE.**



**ONE IN SIX PEOPLE WILL  
EXPERIENCE A STROKE IN  
THEIR LIFETIME.**



**EVERY FOUR MINUTES  
SOMEONE DIES OF  
A STROKE.**

**Three-quarters of strokes occur in people over the age of 65. The likelihood of having a stroke nearly doubles every 10 years after age 55.**

These are startling figures, and it is important to note that stroke outcomes are driven by time:

**For every minute that treatment is delayed, millions of brain cells are lost, potentially leading to irreversible, devastating disabilities.** Quick access to treatment will dramatically improve a patient's ability to survive a stroke and maintain independence.

## ***THERE IS HOPE.***

UCLA has partnered with the Henry and Arline Gluck Foundation, the Santa Monica Fire Department, and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to launch a new UCLA Mobile Stroke Unit (MSU) to expedite the

diagnosis and treatment of stroke, and help patients preserve good quality of life after a stroke.

**Time saved is brain saved.** Accelerating diagnosis and treatment will save brain cells and help reduce the risk of disability following a stroke.

UCLA Health is participating in a clinical trial to measure the effectiveness of expedited diagnosis and faster delivery of clot-busting drugs. The university anticipates that the results of this trial will help make mobile stroke care a standard practice in Los Angeles and in communities across the nation.

The UCLA Mobile Stroke Unit is a key tool in the university's vision to improve patient outcomes and provide service to the community. UCLA is committed to working with its community partners and delivering the best possible care.



***Rapid response for stroke victims is essential to emergency care and leads to better outcomes for patients. I am thrilled that UCLA Health is at the forefront of bringing the MSU to Santa Monica and other Los Angeles communities. It has been my honor to be part of this lifesaving initiative and I hope you will join me in supporting this program.***

**—Wally Ghurabi, M.D.**

The UCLA Mobile Stroke Unit is the first of its kind on the West Coast and a central element of UCLA Health's Arline and Henry Gluck Stroke Rescue Program.

Staffed by a stroke neurologist, critical-care nurse, CT technologist, and paramedic, the MSU responds to 911 calls in collaboration with the City of Santa Monica and Los Angeles County fire departments. Equipped with a mobile CT scanner, the unit enables doctors to diagnose and treat strokes in the field with appropriate medications—often 30 minutes faster than waiting until the patient arrives at the hospital. In the second phase of the pilot program, a stroke neurologist will oversee stroke care via live video from Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. After administering the necessary emergency care, the MSU transports stroke patients to the nearest qualified stroke center for treatment.

As an L.A. County shared regional resource, the MSU hopes to continue to expand its geographic parameters for clinical care. The UCLA Arline and Henry Gluck Stroke Rescue Program is part of a national clinical trial that is gathering data on patient outcomes and the cost-effectiveness of accelerated field treatment.

**Positive results from the clinical trial may enable the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and other insurers to reimburse for mobile stroke care.**

***You can help advance stroke treatment by supporting this groundbreaking approach to rapid stroke care.***

**For more information contact:**

**Ellen Haddigan-Durgun**

**Senior Executive Director, Hospital Initiatives**

**ehaddigan@support.ucla.edu, (310) 206-3878**







## ***WALLY GHURABI, M.D.***

*Medical Director  
Nethercutt Emergency Center  
UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica*

Dr. Wally Ghurabi has been serving as Medical Director of the Nethercutt Emergency Center at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica since 1981 and is Co-Medical Director of the hospital's Primary Stroke Center. In his role as Medical Director of the Santa Monica Fire and Police Departments, he trains paramedics and other first responders on various aspects of emergency medicine, including pre-hospital care.

Dr. Ghurabi has been instrumental in the launch of a mobile stroke unit that will serve communities throughout Los Angeles County, including Santa Monica. He has served as a liaison between UCLA Health, which has led this pioneering effort, and the Santa Monica Fire Department, whose firefighters/paramedics will help pilot the program in their city.

Dr. Ghurabi has been at the heart of UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica's response to several major disasters, including the Northridge earthquake in 1994, the Farmer's Market tragedy in 2003, and the Santa Monica shootings in 2013. He directed activities at the Nethercutt Emergency Center, where victims of these incidents were taken for treatment. A founding member of the Medical Advisory Council tasked with planning for the reopening of Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital in Willowbrook, Dr. Ghurabi was elected chief of staff for the new hospital in 2015 and continues to serve in that role. He also chairs UCLA Health's Emergency Management Steering Committee and is a member of both the hospital's and health system's Board of Advisors.

A fellow in the American College of Emergency Physicians, Dr. Ghurabi completed his training and residency in Emergency Medicine at Michigan State University before coming to California in 1980. Over the course of his illustrious career, he has cared for tens of thousands of people and has helped save countless lives. In addition, he has trained hundreds of resident physicians and paramedics. He has been honored with WISE & Healthy Aging's Compassion in Caring Award and the American Red Cross of Santa Monica's Spirit Award for his work of promoting emergency preparedness, educating fire and police personnel, and caring for the Santa Monica community.

For Dr. Ghurabi, medicine is both a passion and a family affair. His wife, Hilda, is a retired nurse; his daughter, Tamar, works as an emergency nurse at Martin Luther King Jr. Community Hospital; another daughter, Micheline, is an emergency physician in Orange County; and his son, Raffi, is a specialist in Internal Medicine, practicing in Los Angeles.

