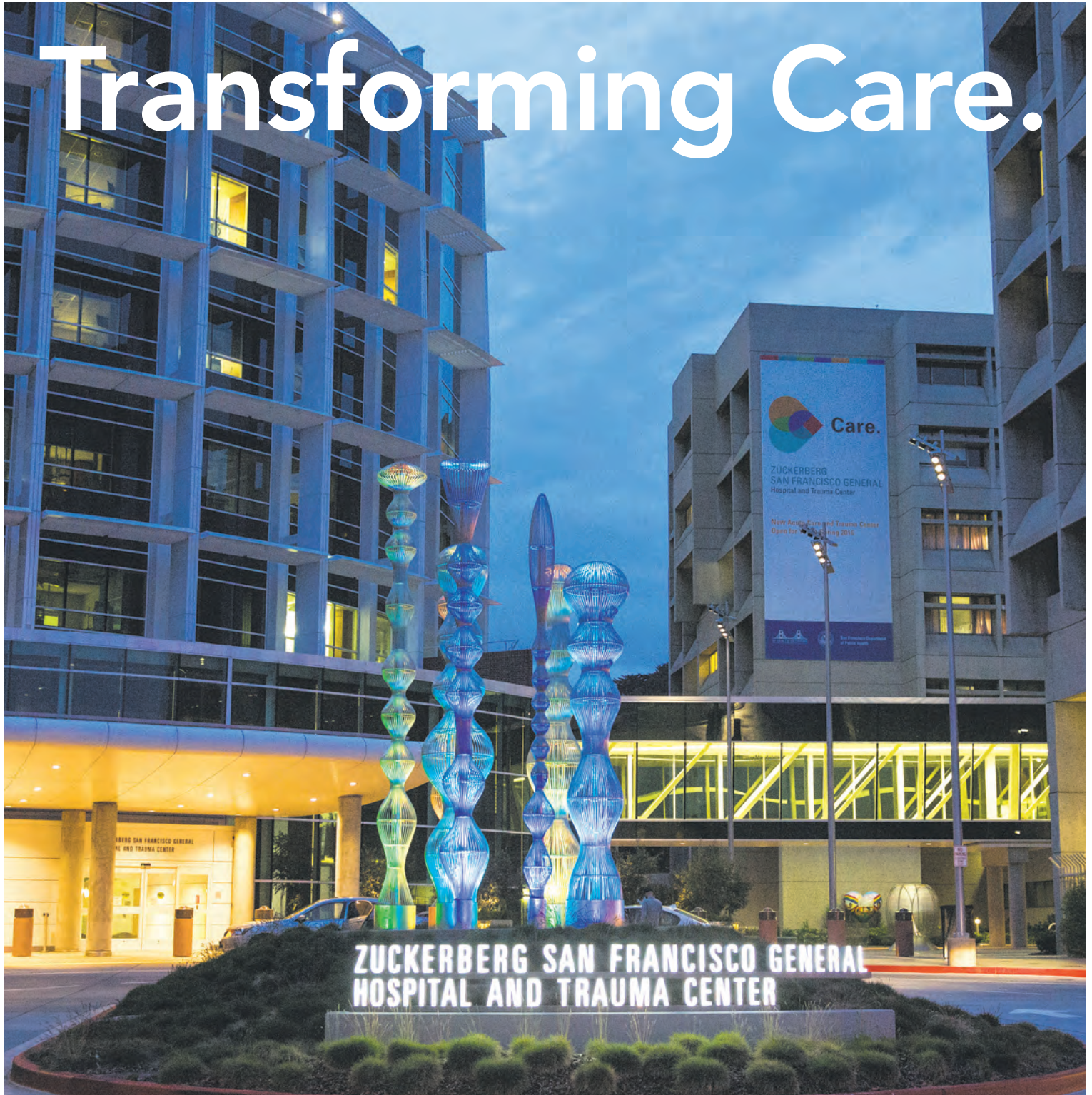


ADVERTISING FEATURE OF THE SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

Transforming Care.



A vibrant history of caring for others

By Kyla Cathey

At 5:12 a.m. April 18, 1906, a violent earthquake shattered the San Francisco morning. Many of the buildings that survived the quake fell to the fires that roared through the city. The citizens of San Francisco were left refugees in their own city. Disaster brought disease in its wake.

But one building survived the earthquake: San Francisco General remained standing on Potrero Avenue and brought medical care and comfort to the city's shell-shocked residents.

The hospital, now the Priscilla Chan and Mark Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center, has a tradition of helping San Franciscans in need that goes back to its earliest days. From disasters like the 1906 earthquake and fire, to epidemics of cholera, plague, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS, the hospital has been a bastion of care.

Recent years have brought big changes to Zuckerberg San Francisco General.

"The biggest change, of course, is the new hospital, which has state-of-the-art equipment, so we can continue to provide the kind of diagnostic and inpatient services that are available at the best hospitals, anywhere in the country," said Dr. Sue Carlisle, PhD, MD, Vice Dean, UCSF School of Medicine at Zuckerberg San Francisco General.

In the 35 years Dr. Carlisle has been at Zuckerberg San Francisco General, she has watched the hospital evolve from a medical center and teaching hospital with limited resources to a state of the art research facility and a leader in a number of global health initiatives.

Another change: As many as 40 percent of the hospital's patients were once uninsured. With the advent of the Affordable Care Act, that number is down to about 7 percent, Dr. Carlisle said. Many are on Medi-Cal, which while not the same as private insurance, is an improvement over the city having to fully cover costs of patients who could not



COURTESY ZUCKERBERG SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL HISTORICAL ARCHIVES

Above: The San Francisco General Hospital expanded in the 1920s. Below left: The original hospital was on Potrero Avenue. Below right: The hospital provided nurse training and some of the first medical internships.



COURTESY ZUCKERBERG SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL HISTORICAL ARCHIVES



COURTESY OF SAN FRANCISCO HISTORY CENTER, SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY

afford treatment.

Those aren't the only positive changes she's seen. In her early days at the hospital, it was the first in the world with an inpatient HIV/AIDS ward — one in which patients came to live out their final days, because the virus could not be treated at that time. Now, the hospital no longer has an inpatient ward, because most of its HIV/AIDS patients have been living long, full productive lives after their diagnosis. The San Francisco model of care — pioneered at Zuckerberg San Francisco General — has been

adopted worldwide.

At the same time, some things have stayed the same — such as Zuckerberg San Francisco General's partnership between UCSF and the city's Department of Public Health, which goes back more than 140 years.

"We feel that we're a very important hub not only for clinical care but for research and education as well," Dr. Carlisle said.

With so much going on at the hospital, especially with new disease research and a focus on creating policy for care and treatment of underserved popula-

tions, it's a partnership that is more vital than ever, for patients, students, residents and faculty alike.

"It's a very active place for UCSF staff to be," Dr. Carlisle said.

Here are some key moments in the hospital's long and illustrious history:

▶ **1851:** The roots of the hospital stretch back to the earliest days of the city, when the population was growing rapidly. Crises like the cholera epidemic of 1849 —

which reached San Francisco in late 1850 — were difficult to treat in the tent hospitals that existed in the city at that time. On April 30, 1851, the State Legislature of California passed an act creating a State Marine Hospital in San Francisco, with \$50,000 earmarked for its construction.

▶ **1855:** The State Marine Hospital building became the City and County Hospital of San Francisco, with Dr. Hugh Toland, a doctor from South Carolina, serving as the hospital's surgeon.

▶ **1857:** The City and County Hospital purchased the North Beach School, transforming it into a 150-bed hospital. The beds were filled quickly, and the hospital was often overflowing with up to 400 patients at a time.

▶ **1873:** The Toland Medical College was gifted to the University of California system, becoming the university system's medical school.

▶ **1874:** The regents of the Medical Department of the University of California, as UCSF was then known, passed a resolution allowing women to attend the medical school. Teacher Lucy Wanzer was the first to take advantage of the new opportunity, graduating in 1876.

▶ **1895:** The hospital started a horse-drawn ambulance service.

▶ **1897:** Physicians at the City and County Hospital began distributing a diphtheria antitoxin to San Franciscans free of charge. Diphtheria had been a leading cause of death among the city's children throughout the city's history.

▶ **1900:** In March, the first bubonic plague cases in the continental U.S. were recorded in San Francisco's Chinatown. The epidemic lasted four years and led to 113 deaths, mainly among Chinatown residents.

▶ **1906:** The historic San Francisco earthquake strikes, putting San Francisco General at the forefront as first responders.

▶ **1907:** In the wake of the earthquake and fire, a second epidem-

ic of bubonic plague swept through the city, this time spilling outside of Chinatown's borders. Rats infected with the plague were found in the hospital's buildings in 1908, and the hospital was condemned and burned. The hospital staff spent three years at the Ingleside Jockey Club.

▶ **1910:** Tuberculosis was the leading cause of death in San Francisco, and the city had the highest mortality rate from the disease among major U.S. cities.

▶ **1915:** A new hospital, called San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH), opened at the Potrero Avenue site with two buildings. The main building was for general hospital use, and a second building was to house tuberculosis patients.

▶ **1918:** The Spanish influenza epidemic reached San Francisco, and the hospital struggled with overcrowding and understaffing as doctors and nurses were infected.

▶ **1924:** The first psychiatric ward opened at San Francisco General.

▶ **1938:** The Maternity Hospital opened at San Francisco General.

▶ **1939:** San Francisco General opened the first blood bank in Northern California.

▶ **1960:** The hospital established a premature baby clinic after a large number of premature births.

▶ **1964:** San Franciscans voted to pass a \$33.7 million bond to replace the aging hospital, allowing it to expand to 563 general beds as well as provide space to 226 psychiatric inpatients.

▶ **1975:** UCSF and SFGH launched a nurse-midwifery service as part of the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences.

▶ **1976:** The Alternative Birth Center opened as part of SFGH.

▶ **1981:** San Francisco General Hospital first began documenting cases of Kaposi's sarcoma, pneumocystis pneumonia, and other unusual illnesses, primarily among gay men — the first AIDS cases in San Francisco. A



PHOTOS COURTESY ZUCKERBERG SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL HISTORICAL ARCHIVES

Above: San Francisco General Hospital started a horse-drawn ambulance service in 1895. **Below left:** Toland Medical College was gifted to the University of California system in 1873. **Below right:** The hospital had to convert horse stables into extra space for services.



grant from the American Cancer Society let researchers from SFGH and UCSF begin studying Kaposi's sarcoma.

▶ **1983:** In January, the hospital opened Ward 86, the first outpatient clinic in the country dedicated to AIDS patients. In July, Ward 5B, the first dedicated inpatient AIDS clinic in the U.S., also opened. It was later moved to the larger 5A.

▶ **1987:** The hospital and UCSF began running trials of the AIDS treatment drug AZT.

▶ **1989:** The first students entered UCSF's master's degree in nursing program.

▶ **1991:** San Francisco General Hospital Foundation is established by a small group of like-minded individuals that included local community leaders and health care providers, as an independent, nonprofit organization to raise philanthropic funds through individual, foundation and corporate donations to support what is now Zuckerberg San Francisco General.

▶ **1992:** The AIDS Clinical Research Center opened at the hospital.

▶ **2002:** San Francisco General and UCSF worked together with the World Health Organization

to develop guidelines for anti-retroviral treatment of AIDS that would be used worldwide.

▶ **2004:** The hospital opened the Avon Comprehensive Breast Care Center, providing care and breast cancer screening.

▶ **2007:** San Francisco General received "Baby-Friendly" status from the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization. Zuckerberg San Francisco General is the only Baby-Friendly certified hospital in San Francisco.

▶ **2008:** San Francisco voters overwhelmingly pass Proposition A, approving \$887 million

in general obligation bonds to build the new hospital. San Francisco General Hospital Foundation embarks on the Heart of Our City Capital Campaign to raise additional funds to equip the new hospital with life-saving equipment and furnishings.

▶ **2015:** Priscilla Chan and Mark Zuckerberg announce their \$75M gift, the largest single private gift from an individual to a public hospital in the United States and the largest gift San Francisco General Hospital Foundation has received since it was incorporated in 1994.