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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ventura County Cleft Lip and Palate Specialist Team Recognized as ACPA Approved

Ventura, CA – The cleft lip and palate team of specialists at the Ventura County Health Care Agency have recently been certified as an American Cleft Palate Association (ACPA) team by the American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association (ACPA). Our team is one of only 185 approved teams in the U.S. and Canada that have been recognized for meeting the Standards of Team Care for Cleft and Craniofacial Teams.

The ACPA Commission on the Approval of Teams has determined that we provide cleft and craniofacial care in a coordinated and consistent manner, and that care provided by our team follows the proper sequence and takes place within the framework of the patient's overall developmental, medical and psychological needs.

Started by longtime Ventura plastic surgeon Dr. William Starr, the team now features pediatric fellowship-trained plastic surgeon Dr. Robin Evans. The multispecialty team provides coordinated surgical, speech, hearing, dental and ear, nose, and throat (ENT) follow-up services for children born with cleft lip and palate defects. Cleft lip and cleft palates, defined as birth defects that occur when a baby's lip or mouth do not form properly during pregnancy, require a comprehensive treatment approach, including social service support.

"We are fortunate to have the only team of its kind between Northern California and Los Angeles offering these services right here in Ventura County", Dr. Robin Evans MD, FRCSC. "This accreditation is a testament to the quality of care we have been providing for decades."

For more information on the cleft lip and palate team and their services, or to schedule an appointment, call 805.641.0141, option 3 or visit: <https://www.pdcventura.org/cleft-lip-palate/>.

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