

An Apple a Day...

WE ALL KNOW that preventive healthcare is key to maintaining good health. *An apple a day keeps the doctor away.* Early detection makes all the difference in treating and managing disease.

For all of us, taking time for preventive care is often inconvenient. For those without insurance and who are low income, it is usually not even an option.

How do you convince people who are feeling fine to seek out healthcare – especially when they think they can't afford it and cultural norms don't encourage it?

The answer is to bring healthcare to people. At their church, at their school, at safe and familiar places.

QueensCare Health & Faith Partnership (QHFP) does just that. In more than 50 churches and schools across L.A. County, the partnership provides preventive care to the disenfranchised of Los Angeles. A QHFP nurse is available in the partnership facility one day a week and receives anyone in need of medical help. Among other services, she provides screenings for chronic diseases such as hypertension, diabetes, cervical and prostate cancer, as well as immunizations for children, health education and parenting classes.

Another innovative program at QHFP is the training of Healthcare Promoters. They are everyday people who are interested in helping others in their community. QHFP, along with many other organizations, trains them to provide health and nutrition education, health danger signs to be aware of, and more. Healthcare Promoters share this information with their neighbors and friends, under supervision of a doctor or nurse. It is a cost-effective way to reach out to people who do not have a healthcare "home" – a clinic or doctor. And, it works!

QHFP brings healthcare to people. At their church, at their school, at their community center, at their home.

Preventive care is key to healthier lives. All of us need access to it. Yet, it is making sure that everyone has easy access to preventive care – treating people BEFORE they get sick – that will help to enable people to live healthy lives despite the critical lack of easily accessible healthcare in our county.

As a faith-based organization, QueensCare strives to provide, directly and with others, accessible healthcare for the uninsured and low-income individuals and families living in Los Angeles County.



1300 N. Vermont Ave., Ste. 1002 • Los Angeles, CA 90027
323 953-7341 • www.queenscare.org