



News

For Immediate Release

Contact:
Celine Petrossian
818.952.2213

VHH Staff Member is Inspiration to All

(GLENDALE, CA – September 29, 2008) – “I never get tired of my job or my Verdugo babies,” says Angie Frachou, CNA, who has worked in Verdugo Hills Hospital’s (VHH) Perinatal Services Department for 30 years. “I don’t call this work; it’s like my second home. I come here to have fun and feel good. Our department is a great unit.”

A native of Cuba and a grandmother of three, Frachou says she enjoys working with her coworkers in the maternity unit. “I love my job. I love my coworkers. They are like my family,” she says. “When my coworkers ask me, ‘When are you going to retire?’ I say, ‘Retire for what?’ I never feel that I am working, so why should I retire.” However, she laughs: “I may take a long vacation, but I will never retire.”

Before moving to the United States from Cuba in 1965, Frachou was a piano teacher in her home country. “To me, when the babies cry, they make music and I will never change this music for the seven notes on the piano,” says Frachou, who is also famous for her “fabulous” Cuban chicken and rice.

During the last three decades, Frachou says VHH’s Maternity Department has grown in diversity. “Our community has grown to be much more diverse, so we see a lot of diversity now, such as Spanish-speaking and Armenian-speaking patients and families.”

While there is cultural diversity at VHH, the Maternity Department still continues to provide one-on-one care to new moms and their families – making the Verdugo birthing experience unique and personalized. “It makes me so happy when I see patients going home happy and with a smile on their face, and you feel good when a patient goes home happy, and we want to continue to provide that special care.”

Frachou, who lives in Victorville with her husband, also says that the VHH nurses and physicians are very “warm” and that there is a close-knit connection within the Department. “We are like one family,” she adds.

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Frachou's passion and dedication and her loyalty to VHH are greatly appreciated by her fellow coworkers.

"There is nobody that doesn't love Angie," says Robin Williams, RN. "When I need an opinion, this is who I come to (as she points to Angie)."

"If I have Angie helping me on the floor, I have to race to keep up with her," says Mindi Rub, RNC. "We love our Angie."

"Angie is an inspiration to all of us in the Perinatal Department," says Sandi Davis, Clinical Director of Perinatal Services at VHH. "She sets the highest standard of care for her patients, and she is admired by her coworkers and our physicians."

About the Hospital:

Verdugo Hills Hospital is a 158-bed nonprofit primary care facility nestled in the foothills between Glendale and La Cañada Flintridge. The hospital features all private rooms, 24-hour emergency services, comprehensive inpatient and outpatient diagnostic and treatment facilities, and a family birthing center. It is the only independent, free-standing hospital in the greater Foothills community and was voted "Foothills' Best Hospital" for 2008 by readers of the *Glendale News-Press* for the fifth consecutive year. For more information, please visit www.vhhospital.org. For more information about funding initiatives or to support the hospital, please call the Foundation at 818.952.2226.

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