



P A J A R O V A L L E Y  
**COMMUNITY**  
**HEALTH TRUST**

*Improving health and quality of life for all people of the greater Pajaro Valley*

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In the natural world, winter is a time for rest and restoration: when cover crop blesses agricultural fields and begins to work its magical alchemy, rebuilding soil; when birds migrate elsewhere in order to maximize their chances for long, healthy lives; when trees shed their leaves, extend their roots deeper, and pull nutrients deep from the earth. Within the Health Trust, we're circling around the planning table as an internal team and with individuals and organizations that share our vision of a healthy, flourishing Pajaro Valley. We look forward to involving you in this work and sharing our progress when spring dawns. Read on to learn what we've been up to!

*~Caitlin Brune, MPH, CEO, PV Health Trust*

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## Thank You!

On Friday, January 26th, the Health Trust hosted an open house to share and celebrate our newly upgraded [King Community Room](#). Thanks to those who joined us to warm this space and enjoy the evening! And special thanks to local artist Jaime Sanchez for his extraordinary contribution to the beautification of this community resource. Stay tuned for the addition of more amenities, including installation of a projector, screen and upgraded audio-visual system.



*Mayor Lowell Hurst & local artist Jaime Sanchez*

*The Pajaro Valley Community Health Trust makes its Community Room at [85 Nielson Street](#) available for use to nonprofits at no cost and to for-profit organizations for a nominal fee. If you are interested in booking the space for your next event [click here](#).*

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## Congratulations!



Please join us in congratulating Health Trust staff member [Martha Quintana](#), RN, who successfully certified as a trainer in [The Empathy Effect](#). The Empathy Effect is brand new curriculum developed by the [Institute for Healthcare Communications](#) to improve patient-provider interactions and relationships, especially where implicit bias (our own

inherent prejudices) may influence quality of care. In her capacity as Trainer, Martha will be co-leading (with Maritza Lara of [Health Improvement Partnership of Santa Cruz County](#), HIP) a push to roll out this curriculum across Santa Cruz County, with the aim of training approximately 275 professionals over the next nine months. The [Diabetes Health Center](#) and [HIP](#) staff completed training under Martha's and Maritca's guidance. California is the pilot state for this innovative approach to improving health outcomes, and Martha is part of the pioneers in implementing this effort.

CONGRATULATIONS and thank you for investing many, many dedicated hours to prepare yourself for this new role, Martha.

Cheers also to [Teresa Martinez Rodriguez](#),



who is stepping up to play a leadership role in Diabetes Health Center operations and oversight of all Health Trust community outreach activities. As Office & Community Outreach Manager, Teresa will be leading more intentional data monitoring and reporting back to the DHC team, to support Quality Improvement and more purposeful and pro-active

outreach to allies in the business and nonprofit community.

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## Grantmaking

With the passing of the mid-year mark for our FY 16/17 grant cycle, the Health Trust convened representatives from each of its [current grantee partners](#) to pilot a new reporting format. Together in the [King Community Room](#), representatives discussed their progress, strengths and challenges. The Health Trust is also currently reviewing 22 new grant proposals. The deadline for announcing FY 17/18 grant awards this April. *Stay tuned!*

## Save the Date!

**15th Annual Diabetes Health Forum, March 23, 2018, 8am-12pm in the [King Community Room](#)**

The Fifteenth Annual Diabetes Health Forum will provide an important opportunity to organizations across the Pajaro Valley to learn about and identify actions that can be taken to reduce health inequalities by addressing the social determinants of health.

The forum will communicate that improving population health and achieving health equity will require broader approaches that address social, economic, racial/cultural and environmental factors that influence health. Speakers will also share local strategies that have addressing the social determinants of health in our region. Consult the [Health Trust's website](#) for more details in the coming weeks.

## On the Horizon

**Call for nominations for the 2018 Phil Rather Award for Leadership in Healthcare**



*2017 Rather Awardee organization, FoodWhat?!*

The Health Trust created the Phil Rather Award for Leadership in Healthcare in 1999. The award was inspired by its namesake and first recipient, Phil Rather, whose volunteer leadership in healthcare spanned more than 30 years in the Pajaro Valley.

The Rather Award recognizes and honors individuals and organizations in the community whose contributions of time, effort and /or philanthropy have helped make a difference in the quality of our community's health. Please help us select this year's winner(s) by nominating an individual or organization [HERE](#).

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