

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Bettylu Smith
Sequoia Union High School District
(650) 369-1411, ext. 2361

GRAND OPENING OF TEEN WELLNESS CENTER CELEBRATED

REDWOOD CITY, Calif., June 22, 2009 - The grand opening of the Sequoia District Teen Wellness Center will be marked on Tuesday with a private celebration that brings together partners involved in the Center: Redwood City 2020, San Mateo County, San Mateo Medical Center and the Sequoia Union High School District.

Operated by the San Mateo Medical Center in facilities provided by the Sequoia district, the Teen Wellness Center provides confidential health care services to youth 12 to 21 years of age. Located on the Sequoia High School campus at 200 James Ave., Redwood City, the Center serves students enrolled in Sequoia district schools, incoming freshmen and other youth in the local community.

Originally established in 2004, the new center provides a more spacious, permanent facility, including 2,880 square feet with four exam rooms, four offices, a nursing station, laboratory, reception area and other facilities. Amenities include a separate private entrance for mental health patients and hallway sound barriers to protect the confidentiality of patient conversations behind closed doors.

Services provided in the center include physical exams, care for acute illnesses and other medical services; pregnancy prevention and reproductive health care; crisis management; individual and small-group health education; case management; and referral to other community services.

Currently, approximately 400 patient visits are logged in each month. Services are provided by physicians specializing in pediatric and adolescent health, nurse practitioners, and a psychologist, social worker, eligibility worker and other health care professionals.

The new center was designed by Cody Anderson Wasney Architects, Inc. of Palo Alto, and built by Designed Building Systems, Inc. of Dublin, Calif.