



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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SAN DIEGO COUNTY DIABETES PROGRAM WINS AWARD

Project Dulce Honored by San Diego County Taxpayers Association at Annual Dinner

A money-saving County of San Diego program designed to manage diabetes complications earned honors from a local taxpayers' group on May 18.

A San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) County Medical Services program through [Project Dulce](#), which is targeted to low-income, ethnically diverse populations that are disproportionately impacted by diabetes, won the "Regional Golden Watchdog Award" at the San Diego County Taxpayers Association's annual awards dinner.

"Our goal is to deliver critical services in a cost-effective manner, and Project Dulce is an excellent example of reaching that goal," said San Diego Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Pam Slater-Price. "We're pleased that the Taxpayers Association also recognizes the value of this program."

Project Dulce teaches patients to manage their diabetes, resulting in better health for participants, as well as projected cost reductions of \$912,000 over a three-year period.

"We've seen dramatic reductions in blood pressure, cholesterol and LDL levels among participants," said Jean Shepard, HHS Director. "This means fewer trips to emergency rooms – a huge plus in today's challenging healthcare environment."

About 750 CMS patients are participating in Project Dulce at this time. Nurses and dietitians work with the patients to help them manage their conditions.

A partnership with [Scripps Health-Whittier Institute for Diabetes](#) and the County of San Diego helped make Project Dulce possible.

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