

**WESTERN SIERRA MEDICAL CLINIC TO OPEN PENN VALLEY
HEALTH CENTER ON FEBRUARY 21**

Medical, dental services available at new health center in center of community

PENN VALLEY – Western Sierra Medical Clinic will open its first health center in Penn Valley on Feb. 21, helping meet the increasing demand for health care in the foothill community.

The new health center, located in the center of the community at Penn Valley Drive and Spenceville Road, will offer medical and dental services. The health center will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday.

Western Sierra recently completed a renovation of the 3,650-square-foot building at 10544 Spenceville Road, across the street from the Fire Station and near restaurants, shopping and a hardware store.

The health center will provide medical and dental services for the 1,500 Penn Valley-area residents who already receive care at Western Sierra's primary health center in Grass Valley, about 10 miles away, and be available to serve about 10,000 area residents.

"We're excited to fulfill our long-term plan to bring health care to Penn Valley," said Western Sierra CEO Scott McFarland. "The health center allows us to provide many of the community's health care needs closer to home, a critical issue since many of our patients in Penn Valley are seniors."

The health center is several miles from Lake Wildwood, a senior community in Penn Valley. Several other senior communities are within walking distance of the health center. Western Sierra also specializes in pediatric dentistry.

"The health center is in the heart of the community, and we want to be the choice for Penn Valley residents who are looking for quality care," said Dr. Heather Lucas-Ross, Chief Medical Officer of Western Sierra. "The health center will open with medical and dental, but we are always assessing needs and exploring how to expand services in the future."

Western Sierra emphasizes preventive care and educational programs that help empower patients to make better and more informed health decisions.

The Penn Valley health center is the fifth for Western Sierra, and its third in Nevada County. Western Sierra has a health center in Downieville and recently opened facilities in Auburn. A Kings Beach (Tahoe) health center is expected to open during the next few months.

"We greatly appreciate the efforts of Nevada County Supervisor Hank Weston who has worked tirelessly to make sure the health center became a reality," McFarland said.

Supervisor Weston said the new health center will help meet the need for health care in the community.

“Health care is vital to the well-being of the community,” Supervisor Weston said. “Many people, especially seniors, don’t have transportation and have a difficult time getting to their medical and dental appointments. We appreciate and welcome our new partners, Western Sierra Medical Clinic.”

Western Sierra is the largest outpatient provider in the region, with more than 20,000 patients.

“We want to thank Supervisor Weston, the Penn Valley Chamber of Commerce and other community members for their input and support for Western Sierra,” McFarland said.

About Western Sierra Medical Clinic

Western Sierra Medical Clinic provides comprehensive medical, dental and behavioral health care in Nevada and Sierra counties, and recently expanded to Placer County with two Auburn health centers. Western Sierra will also open a health center in Kings Beach. Founded in 1975, Western Sierra emphasizes preventive care, education and empowering patients to make informed decisions. You can learn more about Western Sierra Medical Clinic at www.wsmcmed.org and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WesternSierraMedicalClinic

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