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Monterey County owns and operates Natividad Medical Center in north Salinas.

Natividad offers a wide array of medical care

By **CHERIE STOCK**
For The Salinas Californian

Natividad Medical Center is a public community hospital offering a wide array of medical and surgical services, including obstetrics and pediatrics.

The 172-bed medical center, affiliated with the University at San Francisco School of Medicine, is fully accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals and Healthcare Organizations.

Natividad, which is owned and operated by Monterey County, is a modern medical center campus offering comprehensive inpatient, outpatient, diagnostic and specialty care. Natividad cares for high-risk infants in its certified Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and anticipates receiving California Children's Services certification of both its NICU and pediatric unit in April. The NICU is affiliated with the Children's Hospital at the University of California at San Francisco Medical Center.

Natividad's Family Medicine Residency Program, a three-year training program for physicians in the board-certified specialty of family medicine, has been affiliated with UCSF since 1975.

Specialized services at Natividad include the Sam Karas Acute Rehabilitation Center, which provides short-term in-patient therapy for patients with strokes, brain or spinal cord injuries, hip replacements and other surgeries. The Sally P. Archer Child

AT A GLANCE

- n **NAME:** Natividad Medical Center
- n **TYPE OF FACILITY:** Government public hospital
- n **ADDRESS:** 1441 Constitution Blvd.
- n **TELEPHONE:** (831) 755-4111
- n **ONLINE:** www.natividad.com
- n **CEO:** Lionel "Chad" Chadwick
- n **BEDS:** 172 beds
- n **STAFF:** 800-plus
- n **CORE SERVICES:** Family and maternal child healthcare

Advocacy Center offers the only child sexual-abuse screening clinic at its Bates Eldredge Clinic.

Californian Emergency Physicians Group, contracted to manage the emergency department in 2005, has successfully reduced the number of patients who leave the emergency department before being seen by lessening the wait time for emergency visits, which totaled 31,868 last year.

The Board of Trustees consists of nine members representing various county constituencies to improve the hospital's financial situation and provide ongoing stability.

"We are pleased to continue to offer the highest level of clinical care in a modern, well-equipped facility," said Chief Executive Officer Lionel "Chad" Chadwick.