
Setting the Standard in Health Care Excellence

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**Ventura County Health Care Agency Stands with technology for
*Startup Weekend Ventura County***

Ventura County, Calif. – Ventura County Health Care Agency encourages physicians and healthcare professionals to bring their ideas on improving health care to *Startup Weekend Ventura County*, which will be held on March 11, 12 and 13, at Rancho Campana High School in Camarillo, located at 4235 Mar Vista Drive. The event is organized by Dignity Health St. John’s Hospitals and Camarillo Chamber of Commerce and is sponsored by both the private and public sectors in Ventura County, including the County of Ventura. *Startup Weekend Ventura County* will give entrepreneurial physicians, healthcare professionals, agriculturalists, farmers, engineers, programmers and system developers to address healthcare and agricultural needs with innovative Internet of Things (IoT) solutions.

“Every day many people in our community face obstacles to accessing health care,” says Barry Fisher, Health Care Agency Director. “Imagine the benefits that remote monitoring and diagnostics can bring. By allowing a patient to use a mobile medical device to perform routine tests and send the data to a healthcare professional in real time, we can significantly increase access to care and decrease healthcare delivery costs.”

Engaging patients while meeting their complex needs for chronic disease management and preventive care is a daunting task for the healthcare industry. The Internet of Things emerges as a solution for some of healthcare’s most challenging patients, including those with diabetes, heart failure, and other long-term conditions that require everyday lifestyle changes, constant management, and frequent attention from physicians. A proof of concept project undertaken by Applied Wireless in Camarillo shows clearly the promise of ‘big data’ in health care.

“Approximately 30% of hospital patient falls result in physical injury, with 4-6% resulting in serious injury,” says David Nichols, President & CEO of Applied Wireless. “Falls occurring in hospital settings can cause severe emotional and physical injury to patients, as well as increased healthcare costs for the hospitals, patients and their families.”

Current intervention techniques have helped, but it's believed more can be done to solve this important problem. By combining remote monitoring, advanced sensor technology, patient health records, demographic information and sophisticated analytics, it should give healthcare professionals the ability to predict a potential fall.

“I call on all the entrepreneurial physicians and healthcare professionals to participate,” adds Tim Patten, Health Care Agency Chief Deputy Director. “In your daily practice of health care, I am sure you have come across ideas that you believe could improve patient care, decrease response time and maximize efficiency. Take these ideas to Startup Weekend Ventura County and team up with engineers, programmers and system analysts. They are like-minded entrepreneurs and they can help you turn your ideas into reality.”

For more information and to register, please go to <http://startupweekendvc.com>

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