

DONALD KIMZEY, MD

Assistant Physician-in-Chief, Central Valley Area



When I came to Modesto in 2000, Kaiser Permanente did not have its own physicians or facilities in this community. Our 50,000 Modesto members were receiving care in contract facilities from contract physicians. These were fine physicians, but my first job was to get them more aligned with the way Permanente physicians provided care and service.

I then helped establish a hospital-based specialist program in which our hospitalized members were seen by physicians dedicated solely to inpatient care. It was also my honor to help Kaiser Permanente build and open our first facilities in Modesto, yet another step in giving us more control of our members' total health care experience.

We now have multiple facilities and will be opening our own hospital in 2008. We've grown from one Permanente physician to more than 100, many of whom I had the privilege to help recruit and hire.

Our growth in any community is all about providing the best possible care. Helping with this growth represents everything I hoped to accomplish as a physician and so much more.

"OUR GROWTH IS ALWAYS ABOUT PROVIDING THE BEST POSSIBLE CARE."

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INTERNAL MEDICINE, CENTRAL VALLEY AREA



2007 Cecil Cutting, MD LEADERSHIP AWARD

Like a skilled architect, a talented leader builds a solid foundation to support growth, innovation and success. If anyone deserves the title of "architect" of Kaiser Permanente Modesto, it's Donald Kimzey, MD.

In 2000, Dr. Kimzey arrived as the newly appointed Assistant Physician-in-Chief for 50,000 Modesto members being cared for by contract physicians in contract facilities.

Dr. Kimzey quickly negotiated major contract changes that required KP network physicians to meet the same expectations as TPMG physicians. He was instrumental in establishing a hospital-based specialist program, and in developing KP's first medical office building in the area.

Today, there are several KP medical facilities in Modesto, along with a brand new, award-winning "green" medical center staffed by more than 100 TPMG physicians.