

DONALD PALMER, MD

Assistant Physician-in-Chief and Chief of Staff, Diablo Service Area



Some of my most profound personal and professional moments occurred at our Walnut Creek hospital. It's the place my daughter was born and where I've had the pleasure of caring for hundreds of patients, so my ties and feelings for the hospital run deep.

It was an honor when I was asked to become the hospital's chief of staff in 1996. I especially welcomed the opportunity to help introduce and develop the state-of-the-art care our hospital now provides.

I believe our patients have benefited from our decision to use hospital-based specialists and from our efforts to make more hospital beds available for emergencies in the winter months when the demand is greatest.

We have recently made great strides toward providing emergency interventions to our community and members with acute heart attacks. The new services we've added in interventional cardiology, radiology, and vascular surgery have the potential to save many lives.

Walnut Creek is regarded as one of the best hospitals in our community. It took a great team to get us there, and I'm privileged to be a part of it.

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SURGERY, DIABLO SERVICE AREA

2007 Cecil Cutting, MD LEADERSHIP AWARD

Since becoming Walnut Creek's Assistant Physician-in-Chief and Chief of Staff in 1996, Donald Palmer, MD, has been a driving force behind the care and service improvements which have made the facility the best in the community.

The relationships he's built have helped launch many quality initiatives: the use of hospital-based specialists, increased hospital bed availability, and coordination of surgical services.

To smooth the delivery of emergency interventions for patients with acute myocardial infarction, Dr. Palmer led an innovative collaboration between Cardiology, Radiology, and Vascular Surgery services, in which the groups agreed to share equipment and facilities.

