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Operation Mend – Care For Injured Soldiers Beyond the Military Community

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 23, 2011 – “**Operation Mend**,” a unique partnership between Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, and the V.A.-Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System, has been established to help treat U.S. military personnel severely wounded during service in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The project was launched with the help of philanthropist Ronald A. Katz, a well-known inventor and Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center board member, who recognized that providing excellent care to injured soldiers need not be limited to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the Armed Services. The project aims to serve as a model for other medical institutions interested in helping additional wounded Service members. The program still, however, relies strongly on philanthropic donations from members of the business community and public donors to continue its mission of caring for our military's Wounded Warriors.

“‘Operation Mend’ represents an extraordinary collaboration between the surgeons and staff of Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and Brooke Army Medical Center,” said Katz, whose Katz Family Foundation will fund all uncovered costs associated with the project, including lodging patients and family members at UCLA's Tiverton House, a hotel on the hospital campus designed to meet the needs of patients receiving treatment at UCLA.

“We believe this is a great opportunity to partner with the specialists at UCLA Medical Center as we strive to always provide the best outcome for each of our wounded servicemen and women,” said Brig. Gen. James Gilman, commander of Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC).

The surgeries will be led by Timothy A. Miller, Chief of the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at UCLA, who is also a military veteran.

“It is a privilege for UCLA Medical Center to assist our country's men and women in the military,” said Dr. David T. Feinberg, Chief Executive Officer and Associate Vice Chancellor of the UCLA Health System. “We are honored to partner with Brooke Army Medical Center to help heal several of America's Wounded Warriors.”

If you would like to learn more about the Wounded Warriors currently involved with Operation Mend, you can read about them on their [website](#).



GEN Petraeus and Operation Mend founder, Ronald Katz. Photo credit: Operation Mend



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