

A Safe Place

Walking through the front doors, and the environment changes from chaotic to peaceful. The bright white lights make me feel safe, with clean floors. I admire the environment and how everyone is respectful. They quietly sit in arranged seating and people walking are able to get by. Children are also respectful as well despite the fact that visiting the doctor can be scary for them. I admire that I have come to South Cove every year since I was born. As I get my annual checkup, I can feel the sense of expertise in the nurses and doctors, making me feel safe, and making me know that I will walk away and receiving medication to make me healthy again.

South Cove has impacted my family and I by providing affordable health services to make my family healthy again. As a normal patient, I tend to have really dry skin and it would lead to many rashes. I also have a lot of acne as a growing teenager all over my face and my body. My doctor provides me with the right medication for my acne and my dry skin in order to return my skin back to normal and healthy. During my annual check ups, they make sure to do regular checks such as taking my blood pressure, measuring my height, measuring my weight and testing my eyesight. Doctors at South Cove also decide the necessary shots that I should take to prevent the spread of diseases, such as the flu shot to prevent the flu from spreading. Although this may seem scary and nerve-racking to most people and children, it actually makes me feel better because it gives me a chance to be protected from infectious diseases that may be harmful to me and my community.

I believe that the South Cove Community Health Center has made me feel less intimidated because it does not have the environment of a hospital. The South Cove Community Health Center has impacted me because it has also made me feel safe. Since it does not have the feeling of a hospital, it is more relaxing. I also think that the environment makes patients feel like they are being treated as humans instead of ill patients because the doctors are really friendly and the interior shows more of a community health center instead of a hospital. The environment is very familiar and the community is full of other people who are just like me,

Asian American. Because of this I can really feel comfortable and safe in an environment where most of the other patients have similar backgrounds to mine. Not only does South Cove provide a safe place, but also provides many health services and patient services, such as providing translations from English to Chinese and vice versa. South Cove has provided a health center to mostly Chinese immigrants, and children of these immigrants. As Asian immigrants, we are not provided with a lot of opportunities and health services. However South Cove has really made a great health center for those in need of medical services.

The South Cove Community Health Center has not only impacted me with prescribed medication, but also improved my vision with glasses. At a young age, my vision was no longer perfect. However, the eye clinic of the South Cove Community Health Center provided me with glasses to support my vision. This has impacted me because my glasses have allowed me to see clearly. As always the environment was also very safe. I believe that other places that also provide health services do not have as comfortable environments as South Cove does because their community is too diverse and when a community becomes too diverse, it can start becoming uncomfortable for many patients since they do not have someone who can understand their experiences.

Walking into South Cove has always been really convenient because it is in Chinatown. Its location in Chinatown has made it convenient to my daily and I as well as many other Asian American families. I am very glad to be part of the South Cove Community Health Center's community because it has impacted my health overall. I feel very privileged to have all the benefits and help from South Cove because it shows me that my health is important and the community makes me feel safe.