



November 18, 2016

Florence Dunn
California Health Sciences University
120 N. Clovis Avenue
Clovis, CA 93612

Dear President Dunn,

As President/CEO of the Fresno County Economic Development Corporation, I am writing in support of California Health Sciences University's (CHSU) proposal to open a medical school in our community.

The *Fresno County Economic Development Corporation* is a private non-profit organization established to market Fresno County as the premier location for business prosperity. We strive to not only facilitate site selection for new businesses within Fresno County, but we also assist in the retention and expansion of local businesses. Having a qualified workforce and high quality of life are major components in our efforts to attract new business to Fresno County. The opening of a new medical school would contribute to that, as well as benefit our citizens and community.

Additionally, the San Joaquin Valley has a severe shortage of primary care physicians and historically our students have had to leave the community to attend a medical school. The dilemma is that many of our students do not return to the San Joaquin Valley to practice medicine.

With your vision to recruit and retain local students to help remedy the shortage of health care providers in Central California, CHSU has provided our community with greater access to higher education, health care, and has helped stimulate the local economy.

You have demonstrated a commitment to the San Joaquin Valley by recruiting approximately 60% of the 160 CHSU pharmacy students from our region, making it more likely that they stay in the region and practice locally.

We wholeheartedly support your efforts in creating these wonderful opportunities for our Central Valley citizens. If you require any further information, please contact me at 559.476.2513.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lee Ann Eager".

Lee Ann Eager
President/CEO

LAE/mp