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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**HEALTH PLAN OF SAN JOAQUIN (HPSJ) CONTINUES TO ENCOURAGE CENTRAL VALLEY'S
FUTURE DOCTORS, NURSES AND PHARMACISTS THROUGH HEALTH CAREERS
SCHOLARSHIPS.**

(French Camp, CA) – Since 2015, Health Plan of San Joaquin's (HPSJ) scholarship program to encourage young students with an interest in pursuing a health or medical careers that would lead them back to the Central Valley – the HPSJ Health Careers Scholarship Program (HCSP) – has partnered with seven local schools and programs to award to scholarships of \$2,500 to each location.

Nine of the scholarships available for 2017 have already been identified by HPSJ's program partners, here are the announced awardees and their area of heal career concentration:

The San Joaquin Medical Society – Decision Medicine

- **D'Angelo Martinez**, future physician.
- **Maha Siddiqui**, future geriatric nurse.

San Joaquin Delta College – Nursing program

- **Mahedia Zadran**, future nurse.
- **Phylsia Gipson**, future pediatric nurse.

Health Careers Academy High School

- **Jose Aguilar**, future cardiologists.
- **Kranesh Kumar**, future physician.

CSU Stanislaus, School of Nursing

- **Debra Simon**, future nurse.

Modesto Junior College – Nursing Program

- **Ashley Lee**, future pediatric nurse.
- **Ricardo Olvera**, future intensive care unit nurse.

(more)

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The remaining HPSJ Health careers Scholarships, through program partners University of the Pacific School of Pharmacy and Grace M. Davis High School Careers Academy, as well as the second for CSH Stanislaus Nursing School, will be announced at a later date.

Beyond continuing to invest in scholarships for Central Valley's future doctors, nurses and pharmacists, HPSJ will continue the mentorship program begun in 2016. Each Health Careers scholar is assigned a volunteer mentor from HPSJ staff who is available throughout their academic year to offer encouragement, perspective and the benefit of their own experiences navigating academia and the professional health care world.

About HPSJ

HPSJ, a not-for-profit health plan, has been serving members and the community since 1996. Located in the heart of California's multicultural Central Valley, HPSJ is the leading Medi-Cal Managed Care provider in San Joaquin and Stanislaus counties. HPSJ offers a broad network of providers and works closely with physicians to develop programs and services to ensure quality health care for over 346,000 members.

HPSJ is currently one of only 12 health plans in California with NCQA Accreditation for a managed care Medi-Cal program. Medicaid is known as Medi-Cal in California. Only 160 Medicaid/HMO plans in the U.S. had this NCQA seal at the time of HPSJ's 2015 Accreditation.



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NCQA Accreditation Seal: Formats available at – http://www.hpsj.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/NCQA_accreditation_seal_HPSJ_June.17.2015.zip

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