

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Central Valley Health Network Holds Youth Conference for 300 High School Students at CHSU Medical School

CLOVIS, CA – Over 300 Central Valley high school students from Merced, Mariposa, Fresno, Tulare, and Kings counties visited the California Health Sciences University College of Osteopathic Medicine (CHSU-COM) today for the 2026 Growing Health Leaders Youth Conference.

The annual event hosted by the Central Valley Health Network is designed to introduce the students to health care careers through hands-on activities, informative sessions, and immersion in the medical school Simulation Center and facility.

“At Central Valley Health Network, supporting the healthcare workforce is a top priority, as it strengthens our community health centers and the communities they serve. This event gives students valuable exposure to healthcare careers and opportunities to envision their future. We’re grateful to our partners, especially California Health Sciences University, for allowing us to host this event on their campus, which will inspire the next generation of healthcare professionals,” remarked **Jason Vega**, Chief Executive Officer for the Central Valley Health Network.

An inspiring welcome address was provided by John Graneto, DO, Dean of the CHSU College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Graneto hopes to see many of the Valley high school students at the event attend the CHSU medical school in the future.

“We are proud to collaborate with the Central Valley Health Network to bring events like this to our campus that help build a robust workforce of Central Valley physicians and health care professionals for our community,” stated **John Graneto, DO**, Dean of the CHSU College of Osteopathic Medicine.

CHSU faculty, staff, medical students, and other local health providers and representatives from hospitals, clinics, colleges, and organizations from around the region led stations to introduce the high school students to various career options:

Continued Next Page

- **American Ambulance** – Emergency Medicine
- **Camarena Health** – Dentistry
- **California Health Sciences University (CHSU)** – Food & Nutrition; Simulation Technology; Medical Student Panel
- **Family Healthcare Network** – Behavioral Health
- **Fresno State** – Sports Medicine
- **Hinds Hospice** – Social Work & Counseling
- **Valley Children’s Healthcare** – Clinical Lab Scientist; Non-traditional Nursing; Poison Control & Pharmacy

The students were introduced to representatives from other organizations during a resource fair that includes: CalViva Health, Family HealthCare Network, Gurnick Academy, Health Force, Impact Teen Drivers, Pacific Health Education, San Francisco Army Medical Recruiting Station, San Joaquin Valley College, UC Merced, UCSF Fresno, and the United States Navy.

The news media is invited to cover the event and may have the opportunity to interview CHSU Medical School Dean, health providers, and high school students in attendance. *Please contact Richele Kleiser at (559) 272-8192 or rkleiser@chsu.edu in advance.*

About California Health Sciences University

California Health Sciences University (CHSU) is accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC). CHSU is the first university of its kind in the Central Valley and offers a local option for medical school and a master’s in biomedical sciences to help remedy the shortage of health care services offered in the Valley.

The CHSU College of Osteopathic Medicine (CHSU-COM) is accredited by the American Osteopathic Association’s Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA). CHSU-COM now has about 630 medical students in attendance. Both the classes of 2024 and 2025 achieved a 100% residency match rate. The CHSU medical school will matriculate its seventh cohort in July 2026.

CHSU also offers a one-year Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences (MSBS) program at its College of Biosciences and Health Professions. The first two cohorts of MSBS students graduated in 2024 and 2025 with about 60% now attending the CHSU College of Osteopathic Medicine.

For more information about California Health Sciences University, visit chsu.edu or find them on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#). ###