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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 11, 2011

VALLEY VISIONS EVENT RAISES FUNDS FOR AND AWARENESS OF UCSF FRESNO

FRESNO – Approximately one-third of physicians practicing in the greater Fresno area were trained at UCSF Fresno Medical Education Program. Yet many people are unfamiliar with the program and the contributions it makes to health care in the San Joaquin Valley - from training physicians who stay nearby to practice to conducting research into regional health issues to creating a pipeline of students interested in careers in health and medicine.

To raise funds for and increase awareness of UCSF Fresno, the local medical education program will hold Valley Visions 2011 on **Saturday, May 21 from 6 pm to midnight at the Borba Family's Rancho Vista Del Rio (6440 N. Golden State at Hwy 99 and Ave. 7) in Madera**, along the picturesque San Joaquin River.

Highlights:

- Hundreds of physicians and other community leaders
- Food and wine sampling from across the Valley
- Live and silent auction items
- Dinner and dancing under the stars

Proceeds from Valley Visions benefit UCSF Fresno's efforts to train and retain physicians to care for Valley residents.

UCSF Fresno recently received three gifts totaling \$625,000. The contributions bring the planned UCSF Fresno Center for Clinical Research closer to fruition. The clinical research center will be located on the third floor of the UCSF Fresno Center and will consolidate many of the clinical studies already under way by UCSF Fresno faculty physicians and medical residents. Central California Faculty Medical Group and University Centers of Excellence pledged \$500,000 over five years. The Waterford Foundation, administered by the Assemi Family of Fresno, pledged \$100,000 over four years. The Borba Family of Fresno contributed \$25,000.

For more information, please call 559-499-6425 or visit www.fresno.ucsf.edu

UCSF Fresno Medical Education Program, established 36 years ago, plays a substantial role in providing healthcare services to residents of California's San Joaquin Valley and training medical professionals in the region. The medical education program has trained approximately one-third of Central San Joaquin Valley physicians. Annually, UCSF Fresno currently trains 250 medical

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residents in eight specialties, nearly 30 fellows in 12 subspecialties and about 200 medical students on a rotating basis.

UCSF Fresno faculty and medical residents engage in a broad spectrum of research addressing health issues pertinent to the Valley. UCSF Fresno faculty and residents also care for the overwhelming majority of the region's underserved populations. In addition, UCSF Fresno provides academic preparation programs for middle- and high school students interested in the health professions through the Doctors Academy and Junior Doctors Academy. UCSF Fresno is a key partner in the UC Merced San Joaquin Valley Program in Medical Education and is expected to play a significant role in the training of medical students in the program.

UCSF is a leading university dedicated to promoting health worldwide through advanced biomedical research, graduate-level education in the life sciences and health professions, and excellence in patient care.

For further information, visit www.fresno.ucsf.edu and www.ucsf.edu

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