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UCSF-Fresno encourages high school students to become valley's future doctors at Medical Mania conference

FRESNO, *Calif.*—Medical Mania comes to Fresno from 8am to 12pm on Saturday, April 28, in the student union at California State University, Fresno. Approximately 150 to 200 people are expected to attend this daylong conference focusing on encouraging high school students to study medicine. The event, sponsored by University of California San Francisco, Fresno Medical Education Program (UCSF-Fresno MEP) and California State University, Fresno, (CSUF) invites valley high school students, including this year's Sunnyside High School Doctor's Academy recipients, to participate in workshops that focus on garnering the skills necessary to become a doctor.

"We need to encourage our youth to reach out and grab hold of their dreams," said Deborah Stewart, MD, and Associate Dean for UCSF-Fresno MEP. "We host this event to encourage valley high school students to study medicine, in hope that they become the valley's future doctors."

Presentations focus on a series of student seminars with an event kick off speech by Dean Stewart at 9am. Medical Mania workshops discuss topics ranging from teen nutrition and communication skills needed to become future health professionals, to problem solving techniques for preparing for medical school.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for students to speak to physicians from a variety of disciplines about what the journey to become a doctor," said Stewart. "We want to encourage our valley youth to grab hold of their dreams and go for it."

For more information about Medical Mania or to attend the conference contact UCSF-Fresno's Latino Center for Medical Education and Research at 559.241.7670, or contact Cara Peracchi Douglas at 559.2433606.

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