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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ventura County Health Care Agency Partners with Keck School of Medicine of USC to Bring New Opportunities to Current and Prospective Learners

VENTURA, CA— As part of a comprehensive process to identify strategies that enhance our ability to deliver exceptional patient care, as well as attract and retain talent to best serve our community, over the last year the Ventura County Health Care Agency (VCHCA) has established new relationships with regional partners of aligned vision and values.

VCHCA is excited to announce an Academic Affiliation with The Keck School of Medicine of USC which will bring forth new opportunities for both USC and Ventura County Medical Center Family Medicine Residents, learners and faculty.

"This is an important first step in establishing a relationship that has the potential to grow and further strengthen our ability to provide access to, and ensure delivery of, high quality clinical care," said Barry Zimmerman, Director of the VCHCA.

Over the past several months, through a Joint Oversight Committee, The Keck School of Medicine of USC and VCHCA discussed and outlined an Academic Affiliation Agreement that allows both institutions to provide new learning and cross-training prospects, particularly in Family Medicine, as well as continue to explore further opportunities for collaboration.

"We are excited that, through this partnership, we expand the opportunities for our learners to gain exposure to the full breadth of Family Medicine practice," said Jehni Robinson, chair and clinical professor of family medicine and associate dean for primary care at the Keck School of Medicine. "Through collaboration, we believe that we can accomplish more together in ways that will benefit patients, communities and the next generation of health care clinicians."

Ventura County's #1 Family Medicine Residency Program will remain a premier site for full spectrum, unopposed Family Medicine residency training, independently operated by the County of Ventura Health Care Agency.

VCHCA is a public health system, managed by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, providing community based health care services in an innovative, integrated, and culturally competent manner. VCHCA encompasses, two full-service, acute care hospitals, 35 clinics, a Behavioral Health and Public Health Department, and a Knox Keene licensed Health Care Plan. VCHCA operates the Ventura County Medical Center, which is home to the Nation's #1 Family Medicine Residency Program (FMRP). Since 1928, as one of the original Family Medicine Training Programs, FMRP offers a breadth of maternity, inpatient, and emergency training, in addition to providing skills to work anywhere, especially with the medically underserved.

For more information on VCHCA's Family Medicine Residency Program, visit: www.venturafamilymed.org

Founded in 1885, the <u>Keck School of Medicine of USC</u> is one of the nation's leading medical institutions, known for innovative patient care, scientific discovery, education and community service. Medical and graduate

students work closely with world-renowned faculty and receive hands-on training in one of the nation's most diverse communities. They participate in cutting-edge research as they develop into tomorrow's health leaders. The Keck School faculty are key participants in the training of 1200 resident physicians across 70 specialty and subspecialty programs, thus playing a major role in the education of physicians practicing in Southern California

For more information, visit: <u>www.keck.usc.edu</u>

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