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Health Plan of San Joaquin Celebrates Joanna Valenzuela

Health Plan of San Joaquin has announced that for the second year in a row, one of its local Health Careers Scholarship Program awardees has also won the prestigious ACAP scholarship award from the nationwide Association for Community Health Plans.

Joanna Valenzuela is currently a nursing student at Modesto Junior College and plans to transfer to California State University, Stanislaus to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing. Joanna is determined to become one of her generation's leaders in health care, dedicated to providing quality health care access for the Central Valley under-served families. Her ultimate goal is to work through the HPSJ provider network to serve as a nurse practitioner.

Joanna, who is bilingual, is also a graduate of University of California, Merced where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in her double major: Biology and Physics.

HPSJ's Health Career Scholarship Program, which just celebrated its 10th anniversary, awards scholarships

to aspiring medical professionals to increase the number of future nurses, physicians, and other clinical experts in San Joaquin and Stanislaus counties.

With HPSJ's ongoing combined scholarship and mentorship program, the nonprofit, public health plan is seeing that it can remain true to its long-term mission to advance well-being through community collaboration in the years to come, while also providing access to first-rate service for today's members.

Health Plan of San Joaquin is the major, nonprofit, managed care, public health plan in Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties serving almost 350,000 members who are mostly working families and children, as well as seniors and people with disabilities. High-touch and hands-on, HPSJ's over 300 dedicated staff are experts in health care and related business systems. Every HPSJ Health Career Scholar is awarded \$3,000 for their education career and provided with a mentor from among HPSJ staff.



HPSJ Health Career Scholar Joanna Valenzuela receives her ACAP Award from Health Plan of San Joaquin CEO Amy Shin, who hosted a November 1st presentation ceremony in HPSJ's Community Room.
-Goff Photography