**BACKGROUND**

The San Joaquin Valley Health Consortium is a private, non-profit 501(c) 3 corporation that was founded in 1972 to bring more physicians to the valley. Since that time it has strived to improve the quality of, and access to, healthcare for the Central Valley’s diverse population.

**MISSION**

The mission of the San Joaquin Valley Health Consortium is to improve healthcare in Central California by taking a proactive role to identify needs, acquire resources, coordinate the use of resources, disseminate information, promote health education, and respond to health opportunities.

**ROLE OF THE SJVHC**

In collaboration with individuals, communities, educational partners and other organizations, the Health Consortium seeks to identify healthcare needs in the community and provide innovative solutions to meet those needs. The programs administered by the Health Consortium fall into three main categories: Health Professional Education, Consumer Health Promotion, and Administrative Services. Funding for these programs comes from state and federal agencies, as well as private foundations.

**ACTIVITIES**

Since the San Joaquin Valley Health Consortium was founded in 1972, it has grown to administer more than 15 health care programs to an ethnically diverse population of 2.2 million within a seven-county area the size of West Virginia. In 1973, it was the first of eleven Area Health Centers funded nationally. Since that time it has grown to provide many programs and services including: Partnerships for Training, San Joaquin Valley Area Health Education Center, Pacific AIDS Education and Training Center, Central Valley Wellness Council, Childhood Immunization Partnership, Central California Asthma Project, Fresno County’s IMPACT (Tobacco Control), and Immunization.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Membership provides a broad base of participation and support. To ensure adequate representation and involvement, memberships are encouraged from organizations and individuals of varying background. Currently, suggested membership levels range from $75 to $1000. The benefits of membership include an annual membership gift, invitations to all program luncheons & workshops, quarterly newsletters and scholarship support. Membership is on an annual basis. Call the San Joaquin Valley Health Consortium at (559) 446-2323 for more information. You can find membership information on our website at http://www.sjvhc.org.

**FOR INFORMATION**

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