

**SLO Healthcare Workforce Partnership
Funding & Advocacy Committee
August 21, 2024 Meeting**

Attendees: Michelle Shoresman (PH), Jessica Peckham (NP, North County), Lisa Fraser (CFS), Adam Butler (CenCal Health)

Discussion Results:

- **HCAI Healthcare Career Exploration Grant:**
 - Since Behavioral Health has 2 HPSA areas in the County and since Promotores are working side by side with behavioral health, they could be interested in participating in the development of this grant proposal.
 - **ACTION:** Lisa Fraser will join the grant subcommittee.
 - **Fiscal Action:**
 - **ACTION:** If we plan to submit a proposal, we need to determine which organization will be the fiscal agent. The County process to get permission to submit a grant is more complex than other organizations.
 - **Clinical Placements:** We need to start now and look for support in the community for clinical placements. Career pathways often fall apart at this point.
- **Fall Forum planning:**
 - **Panelists (3 panelists maximum):**
 - **Federal Level:** Michelle Shoresman reached out to Congressman Carbajal's office. He will be in the district on October 30th, so if that is the date, he is likely to come and speak. Asked for him to speak on what it would take to change the county's status from rural to urban, pending Medicare legislation, healthcare recruitment & retention initiatives at the federal level, or other federal topics that could benefit from local advocacy efforts. Things that would change reimbursement rates, incentives structures in the County, etc.
 - **ACTION:** Michelle will continue to follow up with the Congressman's Office.
 - **State Level:** Central Coast CHW collaborative advocacy component?
 - Libby (Lisa Fraser's contact) is available. Her role: works at Blue Path (consulting firm that is facilitating collaboratives around the state to support the implementation of CALAim, which is Medi-Cal focused). She is focusing on CHW role as well because of its role in integrating it into the health systems via CALAim. Santa Barbara already incorporating CHW's in this process. Advancing the initiative is the goal.
 - Since it is so MediCal focused, will they be able to speak on the larger system outside of CALAim?
 - Promotores was called upon 10 years ago to practice this CHW approach with mental health. Hugely successful program.
 - Community Health Worker Access Act:
<https://www.pih.org/article/congress-introduces-community-health-worker-access->

