

February 9, 2024

Suresh Gunasekaran
President and CEO
UCSF Health, Box 0296
1800 Owens Street
San Francisco, CA 94143

Kerry Heinrich
President and CEO
Adventist Health
ONE Adventist Health Way
Roseville, CA 95661

Dear Mr. Gunasekaran and Mr. Heinrich:

We write to offer our strong support for the partnership between UCSF Health, Adventist Health, and Madera County to reopen and operate the Madera Community Hospital (MCH). The three entities would come together to create a high-quality community hospital that restores healthcare services in Madera County.

Last year's closure of MCH was devastating for our community, leaving over 100,000 residents without a local hospital. Access to quality, local health care is essential for all Californians, including those in Madera County and the San Joaquin Valley, which is a medically underserved area. Our diverse patient population lives with higher incidences of chronic health conditions, and many lack reliable transportation or experience language barriers.

The closure of MCH has challenged the ability of surrounding hospitals to deliver high quality care. The nearest hospitals in Fresno are, at a minimum, 30-minute drive away. Minutes matter when it comes to treating life-threatening conditions such as cardiac arrest, stroke, and high-risk pregnancies.

We are confident that UCSF Health's experience operating an extensive academic health system will bring much-needed expertise for the clinical oversight of the hospital, and will enable MCH to reopen with improved quality and safety standards aligned with UCSF Health's nationally ranked care standards. Adventist Health's expertise in managing rural and community hospitals will enable the MCH to reopen with improved operational efficiency and patient experience. Partnering with Madera County to align with the health care needs of the community, both organizations are committed to restoring life-saving critical care services in Madera County and building a safe, sustainable and high-quality care infrastructure that the region can rely on for decades to come.

We fully support the efforts of UCSF Health and Adventist Health to create a sustainable model that keeps health care local and in a vibrant medical center that the Madera community needs and deserves. Thank you for your commitment to improving healthcare access in Madera County and the San Joaquin Valley.

Sincerely,



Patricia Taylor, Executive Director
Madera County Transportation Commission