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For Immediate Release

Menifee, CA – Loma Linda University (LLU) School of Nursing, LLU Medical Center-Murrieta, the City of Menifee and Mt. San Jacinto College (MSJC) are excited to announce a unified partnership that has led to LLU School of Nursing signing its first transfer agreement with a public college. The agreement will provide qualified MSJC students with seamless access to the School of Nursing's Registered Nursing to Bachelor of Science program so they can achieve their educational goals at the private, world-renowned institution.

Under the agreement, MSJC students who earn an associate degree in nursing and receive a registered nurse license will be able to transfer to LLU School of Nursing to earn their Bachelor of Science in nursing. In addition, a set number of clinical rotations will be guaranteed to MSJC students at LLU Medical Center-Murrieta to keep local students in the region once they achieve their nursing degree.

Ron Carter, PhD, Provost for LLU; Peter Baker, Senior Vice President for LLU Medical Center-Murrieta; and Dr. Roger Schultz, superintendent/president of MSJC, were joined on Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2018 by Menifee City Manager Armando Villa, Mayor Bill Zimmerman, Mayor Pro Tem Lesa Sobek, Council members John Denver, Greg August, Matt Liesemeyer, and Economic Development Director Gina Gonzalez, for a signing agreement and celebration at Menifee City Hall. Menifee officials were instrumental in bringing the private LLU and public MSJC together to discuss an agreement that will build a stronger workforce for the region, with a goal of increasing quality of life for students and residents in the region.

“The City of Menifee values our partnerships and is always looking for ways to connect resources to meet the growing needs of our expanding community and workforce,” said Mayor Bill Zimmerman. “As the fastest-growing city in the region, Menifee appreciates MSJC, Loma Linda University and its Medical Center-Murrieta for helping create quality jobs in the healthcare industry.”

“This is a landmark agreement for Mt. San Jacinto College, LLU Medical Center-Murrieta, LLU School of Nursing and our students,” said Dr. Roger Schultz, superintendent/president of MSJC. “We are honored that the School of Nursing chose us as a public partner to help further the goals

of our students. I am grateful to the city of Menifee and the members of MSJC and LLU School of Nursing for their vision in finding solutions that will help close the gap in the need for skilled health care workers in this region.”

“What an inspirational Nursing Education Pathway that has been created with MSJC and LLU! This partnership will reduce the nursing shortage in the Menifee community. LLU Nursing Education will be a tremendous benefit to our students. The caliber of our students is a good fit for LLU and we could not be more proud,” said Dr. Crystal Nasio, Interim Associate Dean of Nursing and Allied Health of MSJC.

“We are proud to have this agreement with LLU,” said Vicki Carpenter, MSJC Governing Board Trustee whose district includes Menifee. “LLU has a long history of innovative and groundbreaking medical advances. The prestige a diploma from LLU carries will certainly help our students secure great jobs in healthcare.”

The current demand in the region is for bachelors prepared nurses, and that is the problem LLU aims to help solve. “Providing an RN to BS is providing a completion degree,” said Peter Baker, “Most hospitals seek to reach magnet status, which encourages only hiring nurses with a completion degree.”

Mt. San Jacinto Community College District is one of California’s 114 community colleges and offers comprehensive higher education. A single-college district, MSJC serves a 1,700- square-mile area in Riverside County from the San Gorgonio Pass to Temecula. Locations: San Jacinto, Menifee Valley and San Gorgonio Pass campuses, the Temecula Education Complex, Temecula Higher Education Center and off-site locations. MSJC offers courses and programs that satisfy the transfer requirements of four-year colleges and universities; job skill and career training programs; Basic Skills and English as a Second Language (ESL); Online Education; and Continuing Education.