



**HEAL Initiative**  
Health, Equity, Action & Leadership



# California HEAL Program

## Social Medicine Fellow Role Description: Loma Linda

### Position Title:

California Social Medicine HEAL Fellow

### Organization:

**Social Action Corps (SAC)** began in the late 1960's as an outreach effort from students and staff at Loma Linda University and Medical Center. Over the course of 30 years, these volunteers offered temporary medical clinics in donated spaces within the San Bernardino community. In 1992, SAC began to look for a permanent location. The Norton Air Force Base was closing and provided an opportunity for SAC to acquire a medical facility.

Three years later, SAC was incorporated into a 501(c)(3) community healthcare corporation and became "SAC Health", a three-clinic system of community clinics in the City of San Bernardino. In 2012, SAC Health became a look-alike Federally Qualified Health Center and a year later received a Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education Program designation for Family Medicine, Pediatrics, and Psychiatry, resulting in one of the nation's largest programs. In 2015, SAC Health became a fully Federally Qualified Health Center, and a year later, the 150,000-square-foot San Bernardino G Street location opened.

In 2019, SAC Health opened three Indio locations to provide primary care, dental, and behavioral health services in the Coachella Valley. In 2022, the opportunity to serve patients in the desert areas allowed SAC Health to open two more locations in Barstow and Blythe.

SAC Health is currently the largest specialty-based and teaching federal clinic in the nation. SAC Health is affiliated with Loma Linda University Health for physician services and residency teaching.

SAC Health's newest and largest clinic opens in July 2025 in San Bernardino. This campus will allow SAC Health to care for 300,000 patient visits in the next five years.

Loma Linda University Health is an academic medical center operating six hospitals, a physician practice corporation, remote clinics in the western United States, and affiliate organizations around

the world. These medical services interact with the eight schools that make up our healthcare-focused university. This mutual pursuit of excellence leads to outstanding care for our patients and great learning opportunities for our students.

## Department:

Loma Linda Department of FM/IM/Peds

## Position Description:

This program position will consist of clinical duties at Sac Health (inpatient at Loma Linda Medical Center and outpatient through RUHS Community Health Centers) and mentored responsibilities in social medicine through the Riverside County [Office of Service Integration \(Health & Human Services\)](#), or a specific project at Sac Health including addiction medicine, or blue zone work.

- A primary goal of the social medicine experience for the Social Medicine (SM) HEAL Fellow is immersion in community-based health services that impact social determinants of health with direct mentorship (i.e. street medicine, addiction medicine, academic programs through UME/GME).
- The majority of clinical duties occur in the outpatient setting and will consist of a combination of direct patient care (primary care clinic), indirect care (precepting/chiefing resident physicians), and administrative/teaching time.
- Inpatient duties consist of a rotating schedule of seven days with our family medicine teaching service; the patient census is primarily adults and newborn infants.

### **HEAL Program Role and Responsibilities:**

- There will be an initial 5-10 day training in July at the beginning of the fellowship with other California Regional Hubs, as well as our other international cohorts.
- A Zoom call 2x per month: A Pod of several fellows will have a call focused on well-being, project work, and work reflections.
- Journal club discussion post 1x per month.

### **Clinical Duties (70%):**

- Clinical hours per week: 30-40
- Administrative hours per week: 4 hours (one-half day/week)
- Any after-hours calls or weekends?: Yes, while on inpatient (typically 5-6 weeks per year)
- What is a typical clinical schedule on a given week?

(This is a general breakdown, the actual day assignments may switch, based on preference)

- AM: 8a to 12p, PM: 1p to 5p
- Monday: Primary Clinic AM; Primary Clinic PM
- Tuesday: Primary Clinic AM; HEAL Social Medicine PM
- Wednesday: HEAL Social Medicine (AM/PM)

- Thursday: Precepting AM, Admin PM
- Friday: Primary Clinic AM, Primary Clinic PM
- Saturday: Off (unless inpatient coverage)
- Sunday: Off (unless inpatient coverage)
- Will fellows carry panels or will this be walk-ins/urgent care?
  - They will have a panel of patients but also be expected to see same-day visits as needed for access.
- Do fellows see any patients via telehealth?
  - Yes, both video and phone visits occur in our system.
- How does this compare to full-time site employees?
  - The fellow schedule is the same half-day template as full-time employees.

### **HEAL Social Medicine Time (30%):**

- Is there an expectation to participate in projects, committees, or other activities outside clinical duties? Yes. Every SM HEAL fellow will participate in ~30% of dedicated social medicine time, as listed in the schedule above. The Social Medicine work opportunities will be coordinated through the Office of Integrated Services (Health & Human Services), with several options, based on the interest of the fellowship, the timeline, and mentorship capacity.
  - [Integrated Service Delivery Initiative](#) (Riverside County)
  - [Blue Zone locations \(RUHS Public Health\)](#)
  - [Community-based participatory research](#) with UC Riverside SOM faculty
  - Riverside Free Clinic / Coachella Valley Free Clinic / Inland Empire Street Medicine

### **Additional Details:**

- Direct supervisor for clinical services: Family Medicine Residency Program Director
- Lead for the HEAL Program in Riverside: HEAL Riverside Site Director or Loma Linda Faculty Director
- Is there any formal or informal mentorship for new clinicians at this site?
  - HEAL Fellows will be connected to a physician and administrative staff in our clinic for formal mentorship.
- How are schedules made? Is there flexibility for shift or schedule requests?
  - Schedules are made approximately 90 days in advance. Time-off requests are expected before 90 days. The faculty physician group is able to accommodate shift swaps as needed for time-sensitive matters.
- Are there connections to the global work HEAL does?
  - HEAL runs a global fellowship, as well as local leadership cohorts across Mexico, Indigenous nurses in the Navajo Nation, and East Africa. The CA Health Equity

Leadership program will overlap training with some of these global cohorts. There will likely be opportunities to participate in training globally following the completion of the 1-year program.

- What happens after the year?
  - Opportunities may become available for full-time positions either within the County Health System (clinical or medical education), UC Riverside, or the public health department. Our goal is to help you find and create opportunities to continue having protected time for social medicine work. Through mentorship, you will be accompanied through discussions of what is next.

## Job Requirements:

By 1 July 2026 applicants must have completed residency training at a US-based residency program. Applicants must be able to provide highly competent inpatient and ambulatory care and have a clear passion for serving the underserved. Additionally, they should have the desire to interact with and teach medical learners.

## The HEAL Initiative:

The HEAL Initiative is a global health organization that connects, trains, and mentors local healthcare professionals in resource-denied communities to strengthen care delivery and lay the foundation for enduring, systemic improvements in healthcare worker resilience and patient outcomes. HEAL believes health is a human right and works to increase access to quality healthcare around the world through centering equity, justice, and solidarity for vulnerable populations. Through global and local programs, HEAL empowers interdisciplinary healthcare professionals to address the needs of resource-denied communities globally, including California, Mexico, Southwest Indigenous communities, and East Africa.

## Compensation and Benefits:

The compensation for the California SM HEAL Fellow is up to \$160,000.

Fellows will be credentialed and employed by UCSF GME, and eligible for a comprehensive benefits package at low or no additional cost. These benefits include:

- Health, Dental, and Vision Insurance
- Retirement plan including a Pension plan
- Medical Malpractice Insurance
- Life, Accident, Disability Insurance
- Access to UCSF and UC faculty support
- Additional benefits and perks

Visit the UCSF Human Resources Page for detailed information on [Benefits for Residents and Clinical Fellows](#)

## Serving the Inland Empire:

Riverside and San Bernardino County is a massive expanse of land that makes up one-half of the "Inland Empire" of southern California, stretching from Orange County to Arizona. As folks pass through our major highways to stargaze in Joshua Tree National Park or visit Palm Springs and Big Bear Lake, they cannot miss the thousands of warehouses that flood our region's landscape. This recent proliferation of commerce distribution centers has earned us the unofficial title of "America's Shopping Cart" and creates additional strain on the physical, economic, and social health of the people of our under-resourced communities; these families struggle to keep up with rising costs of limited housing and nutritious food.

As a SM HEAL Fellow, you will work directly with this diverse and dynamic population of San Bernardino County to identify creative solutions to these structural barriers through a partnership with Sac Health, Loma Linda School of Medicine, and the County of Riverside (Office of Service Integration). The HEAL program will provide mentorship and a curriculum that aligns our core values with the community-based work in the Inland Empire.