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April 5th, 2017

To Whom It May Concern,

If you have someone in your graduating class that is interested in a career in one of the most beautiful coastal areas of California, please pass a copy of this letter on to them and/or post on your career board.

Redwood Coast Medical Services (RCMS) located in Gualala, CA, is looking for Registered Nurses and Family Nurse Practitioners to work in our primary and urgent care departments. A new nurse at RCMS would have a great deal of support.

RCMS, located on the Northern Sonoma and Southern Mendocino Coast of CA, opened in 1977, became incorporated and licensed as a community health center in 1978 and was designated in 1999 as a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). The mission of RCMS is to provide high quality, family-oriented, community-based health care services to area residents and visitors. As a not-for profit health center receiving public funds, RCMS provides services to qualified individuals on a sliding fee scale, as well as to patients with MediCal and Medicare coverage, private insurance and self-pay status.

Our group of providers currently includes 3 physicians, one PA, and two FNPs in primary care and two PAs who staff our Urgent Care Department. We also have the luxury of having a full time clinical psychologist and LCSW, as well as a psychiatrist who works one day a week.

RCMS serves approximately 5000 patients per year for a total of 23,000 visits annually between all three RCMS facilities for primary care, dental and behavioral healthcare. The largest of the RCMS health centers is located in Gualala and 14 miles north is the RCMS Point Arena Dental and Medical centers. RCMS also runs a busy Urgent Care Department. RCMS is designated by the state as an Interim Stabilization Facility, allowing the health center to receive ambulance transports. The comprehensive health services of RCMS are a vital resource for area residents.

At RCMS, as a Federally Qualified Health Clinic (FQHC), one can also work to receive loan forgiveness through either Federal or State programs. We offer a competitive salary, signing bonus, relocation expense coverage, and other assistance. All nurses who work with RCMS qualify for the Federal Loan Repayment Program.

We are somewhat remote (about 2.5 hours North of San Francisco), with the closest hospital about 90 minutes away. Some patients needing transfer from our Urgent Care will take a 20 minute helicopter ride to either John Muir in Concord or Memorial Hospital or Sutter Hospital in Santa Rosa. With our remoteness comes an incredible lifestyle and climate. From the Gualala Health Center you will not only see the waves crashing on the beach, but will literally hear them as they are only about 500 yards away. Along with our unique challenges of living in a remote area also comes the reward of



View out the RCMS backdoor

a great climate and a unique lifestyle with culturally diverse populations and a great mix of places and activities for recreation. There is an eclectic mix of people that make up the patient population and as the sole healthcare provider in the area, RCMS has the opportunity to help everyone from the underserved to the more affluent residents.



Mouth of the Gualala River at the Regional Park

We have big plans for the future including an alliance with robust medical centers in Santa Rosa. In order to achieve our goal of improving our primary care delivery model, expanding urgent care services, adding visiting specialists, and improving our diagnostic equipment capabilities, RCMS has formed the Mendonoma Health Alliance (MHA). The MHA is an integrated network between RCMS, Coast Life Support District (the regional ambulance service) and Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital, that will establish an infrastructure to expand access, coordinate, and improve the quality of healthcare services to the community. The mission of the MHA is to

improve local access to wellness education, prevention services and quality healthcare through creative solutions in collaboration with our community. Through the formation of the MHA, we can begin to address looming health care issues for our population such as our growing aging in place population, increasing demands on more Urgent Care Services, and access to specialists.

While an underserved population comes to us for care, RCMS also has patients who are multimillionaires with advanced degrees. We also serve a very hard working family oriented Hispanic community. Speaking Spanish is a plus, but definitely not required, as we have excellent translation from several of our bilingual staff members.

This is a very diverse community that offers tremendous support to our health centers here in Gualala and Point Arena. I consider it a rare gift to be able to work here.

For those who are interested in learning more about RCMS and the services that we offer, please visit our website at www.rcms-healthcare.org or call us at 707-884-4005 for more information on how to apply. Our HR Coordinator, Sheila Mofrad can give more details on our salary and benefit package. For more information, please email her at smofrad@rcms-healthcare.org. I am happy to answer more questions about my experience at this great health center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Black".

Jennifer Black, RN, BSN, MSN, CRNI
Chief Operations Officer
jblack@rcms-healthcare.org

