



## **Nonbinding Memorandum of Understanding**

This Nonbinding Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as "MOU") is made and entered upon the date of signature by and between George Fox University (George Fox) and Umpqua Valley Development Corporation (Umpqua) (each a "Party" and collectively, the "Parties").

**WHEREAS**, the demand for healthcare in communities across Oregon, including in Southern and Rural Oregon, continues to grow steadily; and

**WHEREAS**, significant current and projected workforce shortages exist in multiple allied health and behavioral health fields that pose serious healthcare access issues; and

**WHEREAS**, the lack of available trained allied health professionals restricts hospitals, clinics, and other providers from providing quality healthcare services, resulting in longer wait times to receive medical care; and

**WHEREAS**, aggressive and costly recruiting efforts have not helped alleviate allied health and behavioral health workforce shortages; and

**WHEREAS**, educational programs for high demand allied health and behavioral health fields/occupations are needed to reverse workforce shortages; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals who train in rural areas are more likely to work in rural areas; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a lack of educational opportunities in Southern and Rural Oregon for many allied health and behavioral health occupations; and

**WHEREAS**, accelerated educational programs are needed for veterans with active service medical training to obtain degrees and to practice in civilian settings, including medical facilities run by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; and


**WHEREAS**, hospitals, clinics, and medical facilities, including both in the private sector and those operated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, need a reliable pipeline of skilled healthcare professionals to provide adequate access to healthcare services.

**NOW, THEREFORE IN CONSIDERATION** of the foregoing, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

1. Parties shall enter into an exclusive collaborative partnership to evaluate working in cooperation to develop the Southern Oregon Medical Workforce Center in Roseburg, Oregon, that offers advanced degree programs.
2. Umpqua Valley Development Corporation hereby assumes primary responsibility of the following:
  - a. Coordinating acquisition of property of adequate size located in Roseburg, Oregon
  - b. Solicitation of an independent entity to assume full ownership of the college facility and facilitating a long-term lease agreement with George Fox University
  - c. Identification and pursuit of state, federal, private, and non-profit funding sources for use in the development of the Southern Oregon Medical Workforce Center and covering operational start-up costs
  - d. Securing in-kind contributions to build and equip the college facility
  - e. Facilitating ongoing involvement in the medical workforce initiative and its development among coalition partners, including the City of Roseburg, Douglas County local, state, and federal officials, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, CHI Mercy Health, Roseburg VA Health Care System and U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, in addition, regional healthcare providers and academic institutions and others
3. George Fox University hereby assumes primary responsibility of the following, provided there is no economic cost:
  - a. Determining college scope, degree programs, and framework
  - b. Estimating college facility size requirements and construction costs based on program needs
  - c. Determining estimated operational start-up costs and requirements
  - d. Supplying background and college concept materials to support fund generation efforts

- e. Providing testimony and other support for proceedings with local, state, and federal officials, agencies, and commissions
  - f. Evaluating and securing potential academic institutions as secondary partners to scope and manage selected degree programs and/or cover specific instructional needs
4. The term of this MOU shall be effective for 24 months or upon the date in which a final agreement is reached by both parties to pursue the development of the Southern Oregon Medical Workforce Center in Roseburg, Oregon, or if both parties mutually agree to extend this MOU.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, by their signatures below, the parties hereto execute this Memorandum of Understanding to be executed and effective as of the Effective Date.

By:   
Richard Heard, Board President  
Umpqua Valley Development Corporation

Date: 8/14/2020

By:   
Vicki Piersall, Chief Financial Officer  
George Fox University

Date: 8/14/2020