

Subject: STORY: Chula Vista student wins full ride scholarship to fight local healthcare disparities

To: San Diego News Producers and Assignment Desks

Why Cover This: A 35-year-old Chula Vista native has just beaten out more than 500 applicants across California and Arizona to win a full ride, \$15,000 scholarship. Bryan Harmon, a top honor roll Medical Assistant student at UEI College, won the competitive "Be The Change" award for his powerful essay tackling racial disparities and systemic inequality in local healthcare.

This is a highly visual, feel good story about a former youth camp director who pivoted to medicine after a family tragedy. Bryan is now dedicating his life to breaking down cultural and racial barriers to medical access in the South Bay community.

Compelling Visuals and Interview Opportunities:

- **On Camera Interview:** Bryan Harmon can share his moving story of starting over at age 34, losing his nephew, and how he plans to use his medical training to advocate for underrepresented patient populations.
- **Campus Visuals:** Capture high energy footage of Bryan working in the hands on medical training labs at the Chula Vista campus, running vitals, and collaborating with fellow students.
- **Executive Insight:** Serica Martinez Ervin, Campus Executive Director, is available to discuss the critical need for diverse, career ready medical professionals in San Diego County.

The Background Context: According to data from the California Health Care Foundation, minority communities continue to face disproportionate barriers to quality medical care and lower life expectancy rates. Bryan's story highlights a timely national trend of adult learners returning to vocational schools to fill these urgent, high demand local healthcare gaps.

Event and Location Details:

- **What:** Interview and B roll opportunity with national scholarship winner Bryan Harmon.
- **Where:** UEI College Chula Vista, 1261 3rd Avenue, Chula Vista, CA 91911.
- **When:** Available for morning or afternoon broadcast windows this week.

Please let me know if you can send a reporter or a photographer to the campus, and I will gladly coordinate full access for your crew.

Best regards,

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