



HEALTHCARE
CALIFORNIA

NEWS RELEASE

5709 N. West Avenue • Fresno, California 93711-2366 tel: 559.243.9990 toll free: 1.800.854.8958 fax: 1.800.670.0196 www.healthcal.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 13, 2009

Contact: Devin S. Nugent
Telephone: 559-243-9990
Fax: 1-800-670-0196
Email: dsn@healthcal.com

FRESNO ENTREPRENEUR SELECTED BY U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT FOR GERMANY PROGRAM

Dr. Harry G. Harris, President of **HealthCare California**, a Fresno-based health care company, has been selected by the U.S. State Department for its Public Diplomacy program.

Dr. Harris departs on October 17 for Germany on a one-week program to discuss the current American health care reform issue. The program was organized by the American Embassy in Berlin.

The program includes travel to Berlin, Frankfurt, Mainz, Stuttgart, Nuremberg and Heidelberg. Dr. Harris will address meetings of business leaders and government decision-makers, present a lecture at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg and deliver a speech at the prestigious Friedrich Ebert Foundation in Berlin.

The American Embassy in Berlin invited Dr. Harris primarily because of his successful business experiences as an entrepreneur in the health care industry as well as his knowledge of the American health care delivery system.

Germany has the world's oldest universal health care system whose origins date back to 1883. Currently, the system is decentralized with private practice physicians providing ambulatory care and independent, mostly non-profit hospitals, providing most of the inpatient care. Nearly 92% of the population is covered by a statutory health insurance plan. Germany's overall health care expenditures are about 11% of the Gross Domestic Product [GDP] and comparable to other western European nations. In contrast, the United States spends 17%.

The Public Diplomacy program serves to enhance understanding between the United States and other nations in a variety of subject areas.

###

HealthCare California is the central valley's largest Medicare certified home health agency, providing skilled nursing, physical/occupational/speech therapy and social services to homebound patients. With offices in Fresno and Visalia, it serves patients from Merced to Porterville. **HealthCare California** was recognized as a Homecare Elite Top Agency in 2008 based upon clinical results ranking it in the top 25% of home health agencies nationwide. For more information about **HealthCare California**, please visit www.healthcal.com.