



August 6, 2018

Garden Grove City Council
P.O. Box 3070
Garden Grove, CA 92842

Members of the City Council,

I am writing to request that the fee for renting the use of the Garden Grove Senior Center be waived so that we can provide a free Medicare Part D education and awareness event to the seniors in your community.

I am a pharmacist who lives in Orange County and a professor at Western University of Health Sciences (WesternU) in Pomona, CA. For the past 10 years, I have been involved in setting up Medicare Prescription Drug Plan events to the seniors in Orange County in partnership with the OC Council on Aging and the OC Pharmacists Association (OCPhA). At these events, trained pharmacy students from my school volunteer their time to help seniors maneuver through the Medicare Part D benefit so that these seniors can choose the best prescription drug plan for their needs. There are many insurance agents/brokers trying to “sell” these seniors one of over 50 different plans, but we provide them with unbiased information at these events. The last few years, we have focused our attention on the Vietnamese community, helping those who do not speak English as their primary language.

Last year, we held three events in Orange County and helped over 100 seniors potentially save over \$200,000 on prescription drug plan costs.

We used to hold some of these events at the Garden Grove Senior Center, but for the last few years we have been hosting all these events at the Westminster Senior Center because of the cost to rent the Garden Grove Senior Center. We do not charge the seniors to attend the event, so the cost to provide this service to the seniors comes out of my own account. The cost for me to rent the Garden Grove Senior Center is over \$600, even as a non-profit organization. We need a fairly large space because at any given time, we have about 30 volunteers (students, pharmacists, and Council on Aging volunteers) and 20 attendees.

We are requesting that the rental fee be waived for us to host an event on either October 20, 2018 or November 17, 2018 from 8am to 4pm. We will have seniors coming in from

August 6, 2018

Page 2

9am-3pm and would like an hour to setup and an hour to cleanup.

Also, if any of you would like to come visit the event to see what we do, you are more than welcome to attend.

I look forward to hearing back from you regarding this request. We would love to be able to come back to Garden Grove and provide this service to the seniors in your community. If you have any additional questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Micah Hata". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Micah Hata, Pharm.D
Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice and Administration
Western University of Health Sciences
College of Pharmacy
mhata@westernu.edu