

Santa Clara County Mental Health Board
System Planning & Fiscal Committee Meeting Chair's Report
July 11, 2014

The MHB-System Planning & Fiscal Committee (SP&FC) met on July 11, 2014. In attendance were two Board members, Co-Chairs Larry Blitz and Hilbert Morales. Also in attendance was Dean Wiley, MH Executive Associate Director and other representatives from the MH Dept. as well as Consumer Affairs.

The SP&FC has become involved with the issue of behavior health citizens who occupy Board and Care facilities (Residential Care, Assisted Living, Adult Residential) – conditions of those facilities, treatment of clients, appropriate placement, care (case) management, financial realities, oversight, regulations, and the integration of the quality of care. The meeting was structured to establish a consensus reality of present conditions in non-licensed and licensed residential facilities and the numerous considerations involving such facilities. Representatives from the Law Foundation, as well as the disability community provided essential background information.

Strong consensus in the harsh realities that exist in housing and support services for Behavioral Health residents exists with all of the Committees attendees. It was recommended that an Ad Hoc Committee be established that continues to assess and recommend improvements in the existing system of care and housing for behavioral health residents. It is also recommended that the Santa Clara County Mental Health Board provide leadership and participation in this Ad Hoc committee. The Ad Hoc committee will entertain its first meeting in August, 2014 at the Willow Glen Home of SP&FC Chair Larry Blitz.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE MHB - Through the SP&FC the Mental Health Board will facilitate a community effort to assess and recommend to the Santa Clara Board of Supervisors action steps that will improve the housing and supportive services component of those who are afflicted with behavioral health challenges. This effort will be assumed by an Ad Hoc committee of interested community members.

MOTION: To support the efforts of the MHB-System Planning and Fiscal Committee to become involved in a community Ad Hoc committee dedicated to improving housing and support services in residential care settings.

Respectfully Submitted,

Larry Blitz
Co-Chair
System Planning & Fiscal Committee