

**Santa Clara County Mental Health Board**  
**System Planning & Fiscal Committee**  
**Larry Blitz, Hilbert Morales – Co-Chairs**

**Meeting Summary – February 7, 2014**

The Systems and Planning Committee met on Friday February 7, 2014 at the Downtown Mental Health Center. A very rich discussion centered on the Integration of Mental Health Department (MHD) and the Department of Alcohol and Drugs Services (DADS). Representatives of both departments, Dr. Nancy Peña (MHD) and Bruce Copley (DADS) were present and led the discussion.

This very substantive interface between the above two Directors, the committee and interested parties and attendees involved the current dynamic realignment of both Department's services, the changes happening in Federal, State and local public entities, changes in the private insurance markets, and the positioning of all healthcare providers given the provisions of the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Of most importance is how this committee and the SCCMHB can become involved with the present and future changes of this environment, our role in this change movement, and ideas of how the MHB can have a supportive and effective position in assessing and supporting MHD and DADS efforts to provide the most meaningful and cost effective programs . Among the various topics discussed were the following:

- ✓ ACA rollout
- ✓ State reaction to the rollout
- ✓ County affect
- ✓ Becoming more involved with the continuum of care
- ✓ Providing programs and interventions that provide community members with the right care, at the right time, at the right place and the right cost
- ✓ Private sectors reaction to change and opportunities that may surface due to the substantial programs offered by the public sector
- ✓ Recent and future grant opportunities
- ✓ Supply and Demand issues

Consensus among the attendees and Board members was that the MHB System Planning & Fiscal Committee has a vital role to provide information and education to the MHB regarding the above issues, shall concentrate on the integration effort but also provide input and support

for efforts to improve existing conditions, and become involved in an advocacy role. Future meetings will be dedicated to meeting the above issues and provide to the MHB comprehensive recommendations and suggestions for program and financial improvement.