

**Santa Clara County Mental Health Board Executive Committee  
Chair's Report, June 28, 2013**

- **Mental Health Board developments:**
  - **Ethnic Cultural Community Advisory Committee (ECCAC):** On May 29, 2013, Dr. Peña and I met with members of Santa Clara County's LGBTQQI community to discuss the forming of a LGBTQQI ECCAC. On June 26, 2013, a second meeting was held and progress continues on forming this peer support committee. Enthusiasm and interest are very high.
  - **Annual Mental Health Board Report:** A cover letter was drafted, signed and submitted to the Board of Supervisors.
  - **Mental Health Board opening:** Board member Aida Crosby recently resigned and earlier today the Recruitment Committee met to discuss possible candidates. We will make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors with this open position, but would welcome others encourage possible candidates to submit an application.
- **American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and resolution:** On June 13 the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) members conducted an advocacy day in Washington DC with congressional members/congressional members' staff. Discussions were held with all Senators and House of Representatives.

AFSP requested support for two pieces of legislation -- National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) and Mental Health First Aid (MHFA). NVDRS is currently supported by 17 states, not California, and President Obama has included full funding to expand this program to all fifty states in his proposed budget. MHFA is currently practiced/provided in Santa Clara County, but not nationally. Senate Bill 264/House of Representatives Bill 274 legislate this program be provided nationally. Additional bills supported were the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act (S 116) and The Mental Health in Schools Act (S195/HR628) along with several other proposed pieces of legislation. .

Currently, some local congressional representatives have co-supported some or all of these bills. (Congresswoman Anne Eshoo is a co-sponsor of all of these bills)

I propose the Santa Clara County Mental Health Board pass a motion supporting of the above legislation and encourage our Board of Supervisors pass a supporting resolution. I further suggest our motion, if approved, be sent to all other California Mental Health Board Chairs and the CALMHB/C Chair. If the BoS adopts our request I recommend this resolution be sent to our local congressional members and to other California BoS.