



Mayor Edwin M. Lee

Jo Robinson, MFT  
Behavioral Health Director  
1380 Howard Street, 5th floor  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
(415) 255-3440  
FAX: (415) 252-3079  
[Jo.Robinson@sfdph.org](mailto:Jo.Robinson@sfdph.org)



## **Monthly Director's Report** **NOVEMBER 2015**

### **1. PLEASE JOIN US IN WELCOMING THE AOT CARE TEAM!**

Dr. Almeida is excited to be heading the Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Care Team. She joins the Department of Public Health with a wealth of information and experience working with individuals with severe mental illness. In her previous role as the Deputy Director of Jail Health Reentry Services in the San Francisco County Jail, Dr. Almeida worked closely with the community and courts (including Behavioral Health Court) to ensure continuity of care between the forensic and community systems of care. Additionally, she has experience working with families and is an adjunct professor at a local university.

Charles Houston enthusiastically joins the AOT Care Team with a great deal of experience working at a local outpatient mental health center as a peer educator, systems navigator, and health and safety associate. He is well versed in working with drug treatment programs and has participated in committees to promote recovery and wellness within the San Francisco Department of Public Health. Mr. Houston is passionate about supporting families and working with community programs to ensure that individuals are receiving the support needed.

Cedric Fotso is thrilled to join the AOT Care Team as a strong contributing member of the San Francisco Department of Public Health. He was introduced to mental health services seven years ago and since then has worked as a passionate member of various mental health organizations in the Bay Area. Mr. Fotso is knowledgeable in psychological first aid and developing recovery plans. He strongly believes in recovery and has witnessed the power of engagement into services. Mr. Fotso supports the journey to a stigma free society and access of care for all.



(Left to right: Charles Houston, Angelica Almeida, Cedric Fotso)

## 2. **MEET THE STAFF FROM THE OFFICE OF QUALITY MANAGEMENT**



Back row, left to right: Charles Simons, Harold Baize, Ryan Reichel, Joe Turner, Shamsi Soltani, Ritchie Rubio, Elisa Gill, Tom Bleecker, Juan Ibarra, Seth Pardo, Stephanie Nguyen.

Front row, left to right: Monica Rose, Deborah Sherwood, Diane Prentiss, Melissa Bloom, Lucy Arellano, Michelle Meier. Not pictured: Edmund Carnecer, Jackie Cordero

The Quality Management Team is responsible for Quality Improvement, Performance Measurement, Program Evaluation (including MHSA Evaluation and Grant Evaluation), Documentation Improvement, and Risk Management.

*Keep up the good work!*



## 3. **ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS: RAMS Peer Specialist Mental Health Certificate Advanced Course**

RAMS is excited to announce that the Peer Specialist Mental Health Certificate Program is now accepting applications for its NEW 8-week Peer Specialist Mental Health Certificate Advanced Course, with classes set to begin on Tuesday, January 26th, 2016!

Funded by the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), the Peer Specialist Mental Health Certificate Program (part of the Division of Peer-Based Services at RAMS) provides training for consumers of behavioral health services or their family members who are interested in becoming peer counselors/peer specialists in the field of community behavioral health. In addition to the Peer

Specialist Mental Health Certificate Entry Level Course that is currently offered, RAMS has designed its Advanced Course to support and educate individuals who are providing, or have recently provided peer-based services to clients in the community (or possess relevant training, volunteer and/or educational experience), and would like to obtain more specialized peer counseling training and professional development opportunities.

We are looking for individuals who:

- Are at least 18 years of age and a resident of San Francisco,
- Have successfully completed at least a High School education or GED, and
- Are able to attend 8 weeks of classes, which will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays (3PM-6PM).
- This program is funded by MHSa through San Francisco Behavioral Health Services. As such, the course is targeted to individuals with personal experience with the Community Behavioral Health System of Care and family members.
- Individuals with current or past work experience, education, and/or training (including volunteer and advocacy work) in the peer counseling field are highly encouraged to apply

Application and Course Timeline:

- Friday, November 13th: Application Release
- Thursday, November 19th & Tuesday, December 1st: Optional Program Open Houses
- Wednesday, December 16th @ 5PM: Application Submission Deadline
- Week of January 4th, 2016: Notification of Application Status
- Friday, January 15th, 2016: Registration Forms Due for Accepted Applicants
- Tuesday, January 26th, 2016: First Day of Class
- Thursday, March 17th, 2016: Last Day of Class & Graduation

Attached are the Peer Specialist Mental Health Certificate Advanced Course Brochure, Open House Flyer, and Application Form. Kindly distribute this to those in your network and interested parties, as applicable. Please feel free to contact Program Coordinator, Kristin Snell, at (415) 579-3021 x102, or via email at [kristinsnell@ramsinc.org](mailto:kristinsnell@ramsinc.org) should you have any questions or would like any additional information. Materials are also available for download at: <http://www.ramsinc.org/peer.php>.

We look forward to receiving applications for the Advanced Course Winter 2015-2016 session, and beginning a great class!

(see Attachment 1)

(see Attachment 2)

(see Attachment 3)

#### **4. CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES (CYF)**

##### Chinatown Child Development Center

The Chinatown Child Development Center continues to partner with Gum Moon Residence Hall/Asian Women's Resource Center and the NICOS Chinese Health Coalition in planning and promoting the annual Chinatown Community Health Fair. Bilingual general health information and free health screenings were available to participants who attended this year's free event. In addition, important outreach information on outpatient mental health services offered at CCDC was also provided by 6 bilingual licensed clinicians/staff. This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the health fair. The event was held on October 17<sup>th</sup> at the Chinatown YMCA and was well attended by many community families.

##### Comprehensive Child Crisis Services

Besides staff's ongoing dedication to the San Francisco residents who may be experiencing acute psychiatric crisis, a number of Child Crisis staff also extended their availability and capacity to serve those children and families affected by the Lake County Fire. During their deployment, they were very instrumental in providing mental health services and groups to the local schools to both teachers and students. At the camp sites our Spanish speaking staff provided groups in Spanish to parents. Our staff assisted with identifying some of the basic needs of the residents and assisted with the organization of a van pick up for the students who did not have transportation to school. Crisis staff also was very active in collecting donations and distributing the donations to the different camp sites and schools. We are very proud of the way our staff showed trauma informed care, flexibility, initiative, compassion and dedication when providing services to the individuals and families in need. A big thanks to our donors and to our staff, Marqui Hick, Rosa Serpas, Alta Monroe, Bethany Brown, Krystle Cansino and Cheryl DeoCampo for representing San Francisco County Behavioral Health Services in a positive light.

##### LEGACY

Our Youth Development Team Coordinator, Victor Damian, along with three transitional aged youth (TAY), performed at the Trauma Summit on October 29<sup>th</sup>, in the Green Room at the San Francisco Opera House. The TAY shared their personal experiences with trauma through such mediums as song, dance spoken words and poetry. The event was truly inspiring and included such speakers as Mayor Ed Lee and Dr. Nadine Burke.

LEGACY is supporting two SF HOPE communities by providing technical assistance to Healthy Generations in Potrero Hill and the Bayview Family Resource Center at Huntersview. The FIT and YDT are providing bi-monthly training to their peer leaders.

LEGACY's next Family Support Night will be a Thanksgiving celebration on November 16<sup>th</sup>. Our Children, Our Families Council will be presenting to our families and asking them what the City and the school district can do to better support them and their children.

##### Mission Family Center

Mission Family Center (MFC) continued to refine our Vision, Mission & Values during the month of October and will have a final product before the end of the year. The MFC director attended the bitter-sweet closing ceremony for Urban Trails, a collaboration between the Native American

Health Center, Instituto Familiar de la Raza, and the Department of Public Health. While this collaborative will no longer be funded in the same manner by SAMHSA, the Native-Indigenous Community remains strong and will continue to provide system of care services to indigenous children, youth and families, particularly through the Blanket Weavers, youth services, and Asociación Mayab. The youth presentations, IllumiNatives, and the video productions were amazing! MFC had the pleasure of hosting a presentation by UCSF and DPH staff on Intensive Family Therapy Community Reflecting Teams. MFC is excited to begin hosting a community based reflecting team in January of 2016. The MFC director participated in the Art of Coaching with colleagues from HSA and DPH, and the MFC QI Team participated in the system-wide training held at LHH. We continue to host the Unaccompanied Minors Provider work group on a monthly basis. And finally, MFC staff and families created a beautiful altar in honor of our loved ones in preparation for the celebration of Día de los Muertos. A huge thanks in particular to Ana Magaña and Jose Hipólito for all their creativity and beautiful offerings!

#### Southeast Child Family Therapy Center

Trauma Transformed, also known as T2, had its big kick off celebration in the last week of October, T2 is a Bay Area Trauma Informed Regional Collaborative group comprised of 7 Bay Area Counties, working to respond to trauma on a systems level. We are proud that Dr. Clifton Hicks, one of our clinicians, was a great speaker presenting on “Reversing the Trends Related to Trauma: A Regional Approach”. It is great that SF DPH is involved in this important work.

We would like to welcome Dr. Yuri Iwaoka-Scott, child psychiatrist, to our SECFTC team at 100 Blanken Avenue. She completed her fellowship here last year and we are so grateful that she was able to join our staff. We would also like to recognize Dr. Kimmy Tsend, who worked at 100 Blanken Avenue for SE for four years. She provided comprehensive and compassionate psychiatric care to many clients. She will be missed! Fortunately, for our system, Dr. Tseng will be the Medical Director at CCDC.

#### **5. NEW DEPUTY DIRECTORS FOR JAIL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES**

Please join Tanya Mera, Jail Behavioral Health Services, in congratulating two new Deputy Directors. Mary Lefebvre, MFT will be the Deputy Director of Jail Behavioral Health and Melanie Kushnir, LCSW will be the Deputy Director of Reentry Services. Both of the individuals have a great deal of experience in forensic mental health.

6. **CBHS PHARMACY STAFF APPRECIATION CELEBRATION HONORING JANAЕ PEREZ-SIEDE'S 20 YEARS OF SERVICE!**

In October, the team CBHS Pharmacy and colleagues celebrated staff appreciation with special recognition to pharmacy technician Janae Perez-Seide for 20 years of service. Many of you may know Janae from CBHS Pharmacy or her work at Mission Mental Health, South of Market and Chinatown North Beach Mental Health. Janae is extraordinary in organizing medication rooms, ensuring medication accuracy, and providing care for our clients; and what about her wicked sense of humor? ;)



Here's a photo of our party, beginning with  
FRONT ROW from Left to Right:

Jennifer Behan (pharmacist- 2 years of service), Nerissa Huynh (pharmacy technician-6 years of service), Karen Hirschorn (intern pharmacist), Lisa Le (intern pharmacist), Nou Lee (intern pharmacist), Gloria Wilder (pharmacy director-7 years of service), Lee-Etta Palmer (retired volunteer-20 years of service), Evelyn Suson-Lee (pharmacy technician- 10 years of service), Janae Perez (pharmacy technician- 20 years of service!), Kim So-Che (pharmacist-3 years of service), Theresa Maranon (pharmacist-1 years of service), Ellie Maranon (guest), Marta Urbina (housekeeping-6 years of service)

BACK ROW from Left to Right:

Donavan Bingham (psychiatric technician Mission Mental Health), Edmund Carnecer (senior clerk-4 years of service), Stan Lowe (pharmacist in charge-17 years of service), Michelle Geier (pharmacist-3 years of service), Jason Wong (pharmacist- 36 days of service), Ana Gonzalez (medical director Mission Mental Health-guest), Suzannah Patterson (pharmacist-5 years of service), Sandra Suzaki (pharmacist-18 years of service), Lyka Manlangit (Youthworks Intern)

Not Present:

Reisel Berger (pharmacist-2 years of service)

**Tell us your clinic story and we will add it to the upcoming Director's Reports**

*Past issues of the CBHS Monthly Director's Report are available at:*

<http://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/oservices/mentalHlth/CBHS/CBHSdirRpts.asp>

To receive this Monthly Report via e-mail, please e-mail [vita.ogans@sfdph.org](mailto:vita.ogans@sfdph.org)