



City and County of San Francisco  
Edwin M. Lee  
Mayor

## San Francisco Department of Public Health

Barbara A. Garcia, MPA  
Director of Health

# MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** May 1, 2014

**TO:** Dr. Edward Chow, Health Commission President, and Members of the Health Commission

**THROUGH:** Barbara A. Garcia, MPA, Director of Health *BA*

**FROM:** Colleen Chawla, Deputy Director of Health and Director of Policy & Planning *CC*

**RE:** May 6, 2014 Meeting of the San Francisco Health Commission  
CARE Task Force Final Report and Recommendations

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In his 2014 State of the City Address, Mayor Edwin M. Lee observed that "While we have the strongest social safety net in the nation, we still have far... too many people unable to make the choices they need to save their own lives because of severe mental health and substance abuse problems." In an effort to ensure recovery and success for this population, Mayor Lee tasked the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH) with convening a community process to determine how to engage and maintain in appropriate behavioral health treatment severely mentally ill, and often dually diagnosed, adults that current programs have failed to successfully treat or adequately engage.

In response, SFDPH convened the CARE (Contact ▪ Assess ▪ Recover ▪ Ensure Success) Task Force, a 21-member body comprised of a broad range of community stakeholders. Co-chaired by Jo Robinson, SFDPH Director of Community Behavioral Health Services, and Lani Kent, Mayor Edwin M. Lee's Senior Health Advisor, the CARE Task Force developed a series of policy and programmatic recommendations designed to enable the CARE population to engage and participate in tailored, appropriate treatment in the least restrictive setting possible. Attached, please find the Task Force's final report and recommendations. A corresponding draft resolution is also attached for your consideration.

CARE Task Force co-chairs Jo Robinson and Lani Kent will present the body's report and recommendations to the Health Commission at its meeting on May 6, 2014.

### Attachments

- CARE Task Force Final Report and Recommendations
- PowerPoint Presentation, "CARE Task Force Report and Recommendations"
- Draft Health Commission Resolution

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The mission of the San Francisco Department of Public Health is to protect and promote the health of all San Franciscans.

We shall ~ Assess and research the health of the community ~ Develop and enforce health policy ~ Prevent disease and injury ~

~ Educate the public and train health care providers ~ Provide quality, comprehensive, culturally-proficient health services ~ Ensure equal access to all ~

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