

HEALTH COMMISSION

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

RESOLUTION NO. 014-85

RESOLUTION ASSERTING A POLICY FOR ACCESS TO PSYCHIATRIC EMERGENCY FACILITIES.

WHEREAS, all persons in San Francisco who are in need of emergency health care services deserve to receive those services in a timely, professional and caring manner; and

WHEREAS, the City and County of San Francisco is committed to the highest standard of care, whether the problems be medical or mental health in nature, for all patients who are brought to its health care facilities; and,

WHEREAS, a situation has now evolved which periodically results in the psychiatric emergency treatment facilities of San Francisco's community mental health network being closed; and

WHEREAS, this situation results in the virtual denial of proper and timely care to patients in need of emergency psychiatric treatment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Health Commission of the City and County of San Francisco avows its commitment to quality mental health services; now therefore be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Health Commission asserts a policy that San Francisco's mental health system must maintain a capacity to carry out one of its most fundamental public health responsibilities, namely the provision of psychiatric emergency level care as needed; now therefore be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Health Commission therefore directs the Department of Public Health to adopt those management approaches that will enable redirection of existing fiscal and staff resources as necessary to carry out this policy.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Health Commission at its meeting of April 16, 1985.

David W. Wadsworth, MD  
Secretary