

RESOLUTION ON PRIMARY CARE

WHEREAS, the mission of the Department of Public Health is to provide each resident of San Francisco the opportunity to maintain adequate health; and,

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health maintains a comprehensive health service system to assure access to health care in San Francisco; and,

WHEREAS, increasing needs for public health care services are associated with the AIDS epidemic, substance abuse epidemic, growing immigrant population, the large numbers of uninsured and under-insured, and the increase in homeless and others at increased risk of illness; and,

WHEREAS, the Department must pursue appropriate measures to provide health service with a view both to economical and efficient use of resources and effectiveness of services provided; and,

WHEREAS, primary care is the foundation of health care services and offers the best opportunity for prevention and early intervention, continuity and coordination in health services, psychosocial support, and health promotion; and,

WHEREAS, primary care in the community is the key to containing costs of health care for it diminishes utilization of expensive emergency and acute care hospital costs; and,

WHEREAS, primary care can introduce health team approaches that optimally utilize the capabilities of physicians, nurses, social workers and other health care providers for comprehensive care; now, therefore, be it


RESOLVED, that it is the policy of the Health Commission to direct the community Public Health Services of the Department of Public Health to plan, develop, implement and coordinate primary care services in the community utilizing the five District Health Centers, Southeast and Potrero Hill Health Centers, Tom Waddell Clinic, and any other needed community-based resources; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the model utilize health team approaches involving physicians, dentists, nurses, social workers, nutritionists, health educators and mental health and substance abuse counselors, and cooperate to the fullest extent with other city departments such as the Department of Social Services, Recreation and Parks, the Commission on Aging, and the San Francisco Unified School District; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department's primary care services be principally directed to underserved populations, be sensitive to the cultural backgrounds of the patients and be oriented to the patient's family, support group, and neighborhood community; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Health Department's primary care services are coordinated with San Francisco General Hospital Medical Center as well as with other community based resources and the private sector provider community in San Francisco in order to enhance quality of care and access to health services for all citizens of San Francisco.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted unanimously by the Health Commission at its meeting of December 19, 1989.


Sandy Ouye Mori
Secretary to the Health Commission