

HEALTH COMMISSION

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

RESOLUTION NO. 37-90

**RESOLUTION OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION DECLARING ITS POLICY TO
SUPPORT METHADONE MAINTENANCE AS A TREATMENT FOR HEROIN ADDICTION
WHEN USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER DRUG TREATMENT OPTIONS**

WHEREAS, expert testimony was presented at the October 16, 1990 Health Commission meeting that methadone maintenance is an efficacious treatment in a comprehensive, multimodality substance abuse/drug abuse recovery program; and

WHEREAS, methadone maintenance is only one of several opiate addiction treatment modalities which is available in the comprehensive substance abuse/drug abuse system; and

WHEREAS, the goal of methadone maintenance treatment programs is preventing relapse and ultimately the elimination of the need for methadone maintenance and the abstinence from substance abuse; and

WHEREAS, methadone maintenance is effective in slowing the spread of the HIV virus among drug abusers, their sexual partners and infants; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous new AIDS cases contracted through the use of intravenous needles (opiate addicts generally inject their drug of choice); therefore, AIDS and HIV disease information and education must be accessible; and

WHEREAS, recent data is showing that women of child-bearing age are increasingly in need of methadone maintenance treatment; and

WHEREAS, methadone maintenance providers continue to have opiate addicts waiting for treatment; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Community Substance Abuse Services is to reduce the overall consequence of substance abuse in San Francisco by assessing needs, setting goals, identifying priorities and implementing a continuum of programs; and

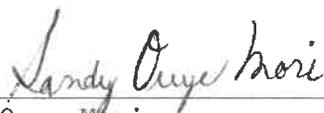
WHEREAS, Community Substance Abuse Services is committed to providing quality substance abuse prevention, intervention, treatment and aftercare for residents of San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, all Community Substance Abuse Services methadone contractors provide a spectrum of services such as drug-free counseling and treatment; primary medical care; psychiatric services; social services; vocational services; AIDS education; family planning and/or other supportive services in conjunction with methadone maintenance treatment services; and

WHEREAS, the Health Commission only supports those methadone maintenance programs whose goal is the reduction and elimination of methadone maintenance and which have a spectrum of services in conjunction with methadone; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Health Commission requests the Finance Committee of the Board of Supervisors to release all reserves which were placed on funding for methadone-related services from January 1, 1991.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Health Commission at its meeting of Tuesday, November 6, 1990.



Sandy Ouye Mori
Secretary to the Health Commission