

**Local Mental Health Board  
Mental Health Director's Report  
March 27, 2017**

**Public Guardian transition-** The Public Guardian transition continues to focus on balancing clean up and casework. HHS has provided a great deal of additional personnel assistance from fiscal staff, to APS workers, to Wex volunteer and employment staff. We expect to add a conservatorship officer for the coming fiscal year to accommodate referrals and ongoing cases. The Ombudsman complaint form and flyer are finalized. The website is live and there is a dedicated email and toll free number associated. [\(see flyer and complaint form attached\)](#)

**17-18 Strategic Plan** – Our goals for the coming fiscal year continue from last year; Improve Outcomes for Clients and the Community, Ensure Fiscal Health, Strengthen Integration and Make Data Informed Decisions and Create a Culture of Quality. However, our strategies associated with each goal have changed. Some of the highlights of relevance to this board include; Increase community based access points for outpatient specialty mental health services and creating a coordinated entry system for our homeless services. [\(see strategic plan attached\)](#)

**17-18 Budget-** Our budget for the 17-18 fiscal year for behavioral health services continues to be bleak. Current fiscal year shows an overrun in our hospital contracts so we are focusing our efforts for the coming fiscal year on strategies to reduce hospitalizations and lengths of stay. The Governor's proposed elimination of CCI could dramatically impact our behavioral health services. Additionally, should the President's attempts to overturn the ACA be successful, our financial outlook, as well as our services would be dramatically impacted.

**Pine Tree Gardens-** County staff will be meeting with Turning Point to discuss how we can support Pine Tree Gardens. They continue to struggle and the current structure may not be sustainable. Obviously, we don't want to lose this resource and will do what we can to support their success.

**Personnel-** We hired a new Manager for our Access and Triage Services. Harjit Singh Gill comes to us from John George Hospital in Alameda County. We are extremely excited to have him join our team and look forward to working with him to continue to improve access and outcomes. Additionally, we have a very strong Psychiatrist candidate interested in working full time for the County. We are negotiating salary etc and hope that it all works out. As I'm sure you are all aware, we have been recruiting for a full time Psychiatrist for over four years. Over the past two months, we have increased the salary to be more in line with other counties and received approval to offer loan repayment to assist with recruitment. Loan repayment was included in the current MHSA plan as was Psychiatric recruitment and retention.