

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2011 MAR 30 A 10:15

March 14, 2011

CHAIRPERSON

Luis Garcia, PsyD

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Ann Arneill-Py, PhD

Supervisor Dick Monteith  
1010 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 6500  
Modesto, CA 95354

Dear Supervisor Monteith:

The California Mental Health Planning Council (CMHPC) has conducted a study of compliance with the statutory composition requirement for local mental health boards and commissions (MHB/Cs). The CMHPC is mandated by Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 5772 to provide oversight of the public mental health system.

There are two composition requirements for MHB/Cs: one related to race/ethnicity representation and one related to consumer and family member representation. Pursuant to WIC Section 5604(a)(1), the board membership should reflect the ethnic diversity of the client population in the county. Pursuant to WIC Section 5604(a)(2), 50% of board membership shall be consumers or the parents, spouses, siblings, or adult children of consumers who are or have received mental health services. At least 20% of the total membership shall be consumers, and at least 20% shall be families of consumers.

We contacted all the county mental health departments and conducted a survey of all the MHB/Cs to determine the proportion of members who were consumers and family members and to determine the ethnic composition of the board. We have data on the client population for your county from fiscal year 2006-07 that we used to determine if the ethnic composition of the MHB/C in your county matched the ethnic composition of the client population in your county.

These composition requirements are very important. MHB/Cs were designed to be consumer and family member driven organizations benefiting from the lived experience of both consumers and family members. In addition, having a culturally competent mental health system is a high priority. Having members on the board that reflect the race/ethnicity of the client population will provide valuable insight into the needs of ethnic populations.

Enclosed is the analysis of the composition of your board. Your board meets the composition requirements for consumers and family members.

Regarding race/ethnicity, you have 4 Hispanics, but you need 6. Using your 2 vacancies to appoint Hispanics would help your ethnic composition come into compliance.

We hope that you find this information helpful in improving the effectiveness of your MHB/C. If you have any questions, please contact Ann Arneill-Py, PhD, Executive Officer, at (916) 651-3803 or by email at [Ann.Arneill-Py@dmh.ca.gov](mailto:Ann.Arneill-Py@dmh.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Ann Arneill-Py, PhD  
Executive Officer

cc: Denise C. Hunt, RN, MFT

Enclosure

Mental Health Board Composition  
 August 2010  
 Stanislaus County

<b>Appointment Category</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>					
Consumer	4	25.00%					
Family member	7	43.75%					
Subtotal			68.75%				
Other	3	18.75%					
Vacant	2	12.50%					
Total	16	100.00%					
	<b>Client Population</b>		<b>MHB/C Composition</b>		<b>Number Target</b>		
<b>Race/ethnicity</b>			<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>			
White	5106	47.71%	8	50.00%		7.63	
Hispanic	3877	36.23%	4	25.00%		5.80	
African American	493	4.61%	1	6.25%		0.74	
API	424	3.96%	1	6.25%		0.63	
Native American	72	0.67%		0.00%		0.11	
Other	730	6.82%		0.00%		1.09	
Vacant			2	12.50%			
Total	10,702	100.00%	16	100.00%		16.00	