

Napa County Mental Health Board

A Tradition of Stewardship A Commitment to Service

BOARD APPLICANTS WANTED

The Napa County Mental Health Board is seeking individuals who are interested in volunteering to apply for an open position on the Board. We are interested in applicants who are or have been mental health consumers (adults with mental illness), family members of mental health consumers, and concerned citizens.

Members of the Board are appointed by the Board of Supervisors to review and respond to mental health issues in the community. The Mental Health Board provides education on mental health issues within the community and advocates for these issues. The Board also reviews and evaluates the mental health programs of the Napa County Health and Human Services Agency. The Board is ideally comprised of approximately equal numbers of mental health consumers, family members of consumers, and interested citizens along with a member from the Board of Supervisors. Serving on the Napa County Mental Health Board is one of the most effective ways citizens can influence services and policies about mental health. Of great value is the involvement of consumers and family members of consumers on the Board since they offer direct experience dealing with mental health issues and stigma, and provide valuable guidance regarding mental health treatment programs and services.

As a primary function of the Mental Health Board, members conduct site visits each year to a number of locations. In 2015-2016, Board members visited and reported on Progress Foundation's Bella House, Buckelew: Supported Living Program-Napa, Crestwood Psychiatric Health Facility in Vallejo, California Psychiatric Transitions, Delhi and Davis Guest Home, Modesto.

Throughout the past year, the MHB hosted a variety of speakers and panel forums on topics of interest to the Board that included mental health services in the jail system, substance abuse and mental health issues related to marijuana, employment services/resources for adults with mental illness, school based mental health programs, and access to mental health services.

CAN I APPLY?

Applicants to the Mental Health Board need not have any specialized or professional background. If you are interested in advocating for improvements in mental health services, then we encourage you to apply. *Note: There has been a recent change in California's Welfare & Institution Code allowing membership by mental health consumers who work for the Mental Health Division or one of its contractors.*

HOW DO I APPLY?

Visit the Napa County website: <u>www.countyofnapa.org/ceo/committeesandcommissions</u> for an application and more information about the Mental Health Board. You are also invited to attend our public Board meetings, which are usually held on the 2nd Monday of the month from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM at 2751 Napa Valley Corporate Drive, Building A, Room Oak. You may also call **707-299-2101** to inquire about applications.