

Memo

To: Members, Board of Supervisors
From: Rich Gordon^{RG} and Adrienne Tissier^{AT}
Date: August 11, 2005
Re: Appointments to the Mental Health Advisory Board.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Felicitas Rodriguez and Francisco Vera be appointed to Public Member positions on the Mental Health Advisory Board. These appointments would be effective October 1, 2005 for a term to end on September 30, 2008

BACKGROUND:

There are presently three vacancies on the Mental Health Advisory Board (MHAB). One is designated for a family member or consumer. The other two are available for the general public.

There were four very qualified applicants for these three openings. Current members of the Mental Health Advisory Board joined us in the interview process.

There were no applications from consumers at this time. It is preferable that the position for a family member or consumer be filled by a consumer, as there are currently more family members than consumers filling these positions on the MHAB. Therefore, we are recommending that the vacancy for a family member/consumer remain open while there is a continuing recruitment in the consumer community.

Felicitas Rodriguez is recommend for a Public Member position even though she is a family member. Her ability to communicate in Tagalog, her residency in North County, and her outreach capabilities to the Filipino community are all attributes that will help diversify the MHAB.u

Similarly, Francisco Vera will bring diversity to the MHAB. He immigrated to the United States at age 18 and spoke only Spanish prior to his arrival. He has completed a degree in law at new College of California and is a candidate for the California Bar. He resides in San Mateo and currently is involved in mediation and conflict resolution activities while he awaits the results of the bar exam.