



Media Contact:
Andrew Bennett or Janis MacKenzie
drew@mackenziesf.com
Office: 415.403.0800
Cell: 415.691.5346

FOF IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PENINSULA HEALTH CARE DISTRICT DISTRIBUTES \$2.15 MILLION IN GRANTS
TO SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH-FOCUSED ORGANIZATIONS**

BURLINGAME, CA, January 26, 2012: The Peninsula Health Care District Board of Trustees will distribute \$2.15 million in community health grants this year to organizations advancing the health and well-being of residents in San Mateo County. Today, at San Mateo City Hall, the District will distribute 19 grants and honor three “Community Health Champions” for their leadership, advocacy, and service in support of the District’s mission to ensure education, prevention and access to needed health services by County residents.

Created by state legislation and launched by local voter approval in 1947, the Peninsula Health Care District serves the communities of San Bruno, Millbrae, Burlingame, Hillsborough, San Mateo and Foster City by responding to local priorities and allocating resources to programs and services that address the health care needs of these communities. Over the last five years, the District has distributed more than \$11 million to health-focused organizations in San Mateo County. Grant recipients are chosen annually based on a review of local health care needs and reflect the evolving priorities of these communities. This year’s grants support a diverse range of community organizations serving District residents of all ages, ranging from the American Red Cross San Bruno Resource & Recovery Center to the StarVista Insights Program and Crisis Center. Of note, the 2012 grant to the Children’s Health Initiative will cover 100 percent of the cost of providing health insurance to all eligible children living within the District.

“The Peninsula Health Care District relies on these dedicated community partners to help us achieve our mission,” said District Board Chair Dan Ulliyot, MD. “We commend their efforts and commitment to providing residents with high-quality and effective health education, prevention and care. Because of their leadership, San Mateo County is at the forefront of delivering accessible, affordable health services to all those in need.”

In addition to its grants program, each year the District honors exemplary individuals who have made significant and lasting contributions to the health of their communities. Recognized this year as Community Health Champions are Dr. Stuart Viess, medical director at Samaritan House; Rosalyn Koo, a lifelong volunteer and community activist; and Alani Douglas, a high school senior at Crystal Springs Upland School.

2012 Peninsula Health Care District Grant Recipients

- American Red Cross, San Bruno Resource & Recovery Center

- California Donor Transplant Network
- Catholic Charities, Adult Day Health
- Caminar, “Bridges to Wellness”
- Children’s Health Initiative
- Community Network for the Underserved
- The JFCS Seniors-at-Home Program
- Mid-Peninsula Boys & Girls Club
- Mills-Peninsula Senior Focus
- North Peninsula Neighborhood Services
- Ombudsman Services of San Mateo County
- Pathways - Chronic Disease Management
- PJCC – Seniors “Get Up & Go Program”
- Peninsula Rebuilding Together – “Safe at Home”
- Peninsula Volunteers Adult Day Health
- Samaritan House Medical/Dental Clinics
- San Mateo County SMART Program
- San Mateo Medical Association – Hep B Free Program
- StarVista Insights Program and Crisis Center

The Peninsula Health Care District Board of Trustees will honor the 2012 grant recipients and Community Health Champions at its regular meeting today, January 26, at 5:45pm in the Council Chambers at San Mateo City Hall, 330 West 20th Avenue, San Mateo. Media are welcome and encouraged to attend. Dan Ulyot, MD, Board Chair, and Cheryl Fama, CEO, are available to discuss the importance of health care leadership and proactively investing in community health resources. Please contact MacKenzie Communications at 415.403.0800, drew@mackenziesf.com to arrange interviews.

For additional information on the Peninsula Health Care District, please visit www.peninsulahealthcaredistrict.org.

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