

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. (415) 554-5184
Fax No. (415) 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): 8

Full Name: Amelia Harmon

[Redacted] Zip Code: 94122
Occupation: Peer Supervisor

Work Phone: n/a Employer: RAMS, Inc.

Business Address: 1282 Market St Zip Code: 94102

Business Email: ameliaharmon@ramsinc.org Home Email: [Redacted]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Resident of San Francisco: Yes [X] No [ ] If No, place of residence:
18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

Throughout the last eight and a half years I have worked as a peer professional. First with Abode Services in Alameda County and now with RAMS, inc. in San Francisco, I work as a mental health professional within the capacity of someone with lived experience navigating the behavioral health system. My identity as a chronically ill, queer, mixed ethnicity Asian American woman comes second to the extensive experience I have both as a consumer of behavioral health resources and as a provider (and therefore a gatekeeper) of them. I have studied Public Health at CSU East Bay and believe in systemic change; my emphasis on working with the most vulnerable and underserved comes not from a savior complex but from a deep understanding of the whole population approach, in which we can better behavioral health services for all consumers, and therefore for society as a whole. I believe that improved service delivery only occurs within every individual's self empowerment. Whatever trauma they have experienced, including any combination of sexual, gendered, racial, classist, abelist, carceral, and exclusionary traumas, must be perceived, honored, and addressed in order to empower the individual through their own journey of recovery. Throughout my work as a peer advocate, mobile clinic operator, and now a crisis counselor, I utilize my rich context of lived experience, direct service, public health education, and crisis system navigation to aid the greater San Francisco community every day.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

In my career, I have contributed to two major pilot programs serving the seriously mentally ill and the chronically homeless. With the In-Home Outreach Team, I partnered with Alameda County Behavioral Health to reduce emergency department and homelessness recidivism. I subsequently joined Mayor Breed's 2021 Street Crisis Response Team initiative as a formative member. I have extensive experience coordinating communication and action among multiple city and county departments, including Fire, Police, Emergency Management, Public Health, and dozens of contracted community based organizations. I frequently engage with San Francisco citizens in this public-facing role; I am constantly synthesizing research, policy, and direct action into clear and concise dialogue. In addition, I have spoken at county and hospital led case conferences, fundraisers, memorials, and spoken on panels regarding behavioral health and homelessness. Overall, I have over eight and a half years of professional experience working within the mental health services field between Alameda County and San Francisco City and County.

**Civic Activities:**

My specialized studies in Public Health at CSU East Bay have deepened my commitment to policy work, motivating my transition toward a population approach for creating meaningful change. During this academic program, I worked as a tutor of Statistics for the Social Sciences, utilizing strong analytical skills to develop other students' ethical scrutiny of the complexities of statistical application. The unique obstructions in data acquisition and interpretation within the homelessness and behavioral health service fields inspired my participation in an ongoing focus group series with Public Health researchers at San Jose State University. The culmination of my education and employment earned me both a Public Health Agents of Change Scholarship and a U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship.

I have recently accepted the Bloomberg Fellowship to attend the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in pursuit of a Masters in Public Health with a focus in Violence. This program requires extended commitment to my personal cause of understanding, developing, and sustaining working relationships between Behavioral Health and First Response systems.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 4/29/26 Applicant's Signature (required): Amelia Harmon

*(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: San Francisco Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): Seat 8

Full Name: Athena Bing-Ying Ng

[Redacted] Zip Code: 94121
Occupation: Rams, Inc. Hire-Ability - Youth 2 You

Work Phone: N/A Employer: Rams, Inc. Hire-Ability

Business Address: 635 22nd Avenue Zip Code: 94121

Business Email: athenang77@gmail.com Home Email: [Redacted]

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18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No [ ]

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My qualifications represent the Transitional Age Youth (TAY) group of ages 16-25 as I, myself, being of 18 years of age, am apart of this group and can understand the hardships in which those within said age range face. Furthermore, I represent the first generation Asian-American community of San Francisco, a group that requires more representation in the behavioral health field as there is stigma against both mental health and behavioral health within the community. Growing up Chinese in the Richmond District, I am not only part of, but connect culturally to this neighborhood that consist predominantly of working class individuals and to the vibrant culture of Chinese Immigrants that make up the greater city of San Francisco.
I identify with the LGBTQ community and am familiar with the struggles that come with being apart of the community. I recognize that even within such a diverse city as San Francisco, there are still numerous challenges LGBT residents face regarding discrimination and judgment from the public. These struggles are something which I am able to connect to from personal experiance and hope to confront moving forward.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

I am currently a student at the University of San Francisco, pursuing an education in Chemistry. In 2024, I interned with Opportunities for All (OFA) with the Psychology and Mental Health Cohort where we focused on public outreach and spreading information/resources to the underfunded communities of San Francisco. During my time with OFA, we developed a comprehensive map of places low income individuals could receive professional therapy and presented the importance of Mental Health. As of 2025, I work with Rams, Inc. and Hire-Ability in their YOUTH 2 YOUTH program which focuses on Peer Counseling Training and prepares youth interested in Behavioral Health to go into the the field professionally.

**Civic Activities:**

Over the years I have accumulated over 100 hours of volunteering at both the Veteran Affairs Hospital (VAMC, Richmond District) and UCSF Medical Center in San Francisco. While volunteering, I assisted patients with non clinical tasks such as patient reception and assisted staff by handling non clinical activities. These roles gave me the opportunity to regularly work with a diverse scope of patients, including low-income, seniors, those with disabilities, and veterans. Being able to get first hand experieance working with the residents of San Francisco and neighboring cities strengthened my commitment to public service and allowed me to connect personally with the people in my community.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 11/14/2025

Applicant's Signature (required):



*(Manually sign or type your complete name.*

*NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): Seat #8 or 9

Full Name: Bradford Smallwood

[Redacted] San Francisco, CA Zip Code: 94116

Occupation: Marriage and Family Therapist

Work Phone: 415-343-5254 Employer: Self

Business Address: 4155 24th St. San Francisco, CA Zip Code: 94114

Business Email: brad@bradfordsmallwood.com Home Email: [Redacted]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Resident of San Francisco: Yes [X] No [ ] If No, place of residence:
18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

As a Marriage & Family Therapist serving clients across San Francisco, my professional background reflects and engages directly with the City's broad diversity of communities, identities, and lived experiences. My clinical work spans teenagers, young adults, parents, mid-life adults, and families navigating life transitions, anger, trauma, addiction, and relationship challenges—issues that cut across ethnicity, race, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, and family structure. Over the course of my career, I have worked in settings that serve some of the city's most diverse and vulnerable populations, including community-based mental health agencies, juvenile justice programs, inpatient psychiatric units, and college counseling centers. These roles required deep cultural humility, fluency in working with clients from varied racial and ethnic backgrounds, LGBTQ+ youth and adults, immigrant families, individuals with disabilities, and people who have experienced significant systemic inequities. I have extensive experience coordinating care with schools, community providers, and multidisciplinary teams, which has strengthened my familiarity with the needs of families from across the city. neighborhoods, including those navigating limited access to resources or

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

I have worked in the San Francisco behavioral health field since 2008. Prior to opening my private practice, I held clinical and supervisory roles at Edgewood Center for Children and Families as well as Seneca Family of Agencies. I've worked across a wide range of settings, including community-based mental health agencies, inpatient psychiatric facilities, juvenile correctional centers, and colleges, serving diverse populations.

**Civic Activities:**

I have served on the board of City Youth Now, contributed to the MeWater Foundation by developing clinical content, and taught Brazilian Jiu Jitsu to youth through the San Francisco Police Activities League (PAL), combining my clinical expertise with community engagement and youth development.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 11/21/2024

Applicant's Signature (required):



*(Manually sign or type your complete name.*

*NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): 3

Full Name: Brandon Michael Fountain

[Redacted] Zip Code: 94114
Occupation: Product Manager

Work Phone: (678) 662-3553 Employer: Google

Business Address: 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway Zip Code: 94043

Business Email: fountainb53@gmail.com Home Email: [Redacted]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Resident of San Francisco: Yes [X] No [ ] If No, place of residence:
18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:
As a young, Black, LGBTQ resident of San Francisco who consumes mental health services in the City/County of San Francisco, I have a firm grasp on the current challenges and ultimate potential of the behavioral health apparatus in our city. I have deep passion to use my time and resources to improve access to behavioral health services; not only for citizens with access to private services, but especially for victims living in the intersection of mental health and drug addiction challenges. I believe (and citizens agree) that this is the #1 problem affecting our amazing city, and I'm passionate about a long term commitment to making impact.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

I have many years of experience in product/project management in tech, which grants me experience in long term strategic planning, user research, budgetting, staffing, reporting, and more. I also sit on the board of 2 nonprofits, both of which are well-established, maintain healthy funding, and work to bring education access to underrepresented students in the area.

**Civic Activities:**

I chat regularly with my Supervisor, attend town hall meetings, and am becoming active with democratic clubs.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: June 30, 2025

Applicant's Signature (required):



*(Manually sign or type your complete name.*

*NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): 8, 11

Brian Ernest Borsari



Zip Code: 94131

Occupation: Clinical Psychologist

Work Phone: 415-559-860 Employer: San Francisco VAHCS

Business Address: 4150 Clement St. Zip Code: 94121

Business Email: brian.borsari@va.gov Home Email: [Redacted]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

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I have been a clinical psychologist at the San Francisco VAMC and a resident of San Francisco for the past ten years. These years have been tumultuous ones, and I have seen the damage that mental illness and substance use can wreak as a resident of this city, as the deputy director of the Addiction Recovery and Treatment Service (ARTS) at the VA, and as Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences (DPBS) at UCSF. I am well versed in veteran clinical care for mental illness and substance use, and train others in empirically based treatments that can reduce the pain and suffering that mental illness and substance use can cause. I want to facilitate and consideration of the adaptation and adoption of these VA practices in other contexts that may benefit and, in turn, learn about ways to refine and improve the care we provide veterans at SFVA. I want to coordinate with other programs and the community to ensure that no veteran eligible for care is not enrolled at the VA, and also learn about the concerns and stigma that may prevent veterans from engaging in VA or other services. I am also interested to learn from the other members of the board and all those it interacts with on how to facilitate longer-term recovery and integration in the community after safety and stabilization has been established.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

I received my PhD in clinical psychology from Syracuse University in 2003 following my completion of an internship at the Boston Consortium of Clinical Psychology. In 2005, he completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies at Brown University, and joined the Providence Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) in 2007. Since 2015, I have been a Health Behavior Coordinator and Psychologist Clinician Investigator at the San Francisco VA and Professor in Residence in the Department of Psychiatry Behavioral Sciences at UCSF. I have been continuously funded by the National Institutes of Health, Department of Defense, VA RR&D and other funding sources since 2001. I have published over 200 peer reviewed articles over the past 25 years on topics such as alcohol use in university settings, the assessment and treatment of addictive behaviors, in-session processes of motivational interviewing that are related to behavior change, the development and implementation of brief motivational interventions addressing mental illness and substance use in a number of different populations, and the development and evaluation of motivational interventions using mobile technology. As a licensed clinical psychologist at the SFVA, I maintain a panel of patients with substance use disorder, major depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and deliver a wide variety of empirically-based psychotherapies. I am actively engaged in the training of clinical psychology interns, postdoctoral fellows, and addiction psychiatry residents.

**Civic Activities:**

I have focused the past decade on raising my two daughters, which left little time for formal civic activities. As they have gotten older, I now have time to formally assist the city in addressing the challenges posed by mental illness and substance use of its citizens.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

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Date: 11/21/2025

Applicant's Signature (required):

**BRIAN BORSARI**

Digitally signed by BRIAN BORSARI  
Date: 2025.11.21 13:40:32 -08'00'

*(Manually sign or type your complete name.*

*NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

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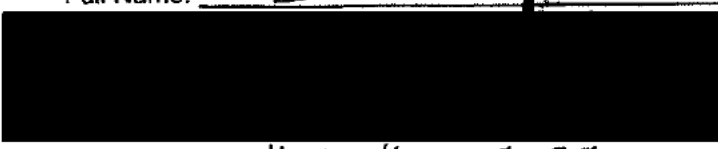
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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): 3 or 2 or 4 consumer

Full Name: Elisa Mapson



San Francisco Zip Code: 94102

Occupation: student College City SF

Work Phone: 415-407-8258

Employer: N/A

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Email: Sweetapple.ninja@gmail.com Home Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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Resident of San Francisco: Yes  No  If No, place of residence: \_\_\_\_\_  
18 Years of Age or Older: Yes  No

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I'm CA born and raised. A 29 year old non-Binary person with severe mental Health disorders, to list a few: Polyfragmented D.I.D., Autism, Major Depression. My sexual orientation is Bisexual. I understand the Hearts and Minds of the SF CA people. I am extremely intelligent, most never see my disorders as I'm highly motivated by self-control; but I understand the Needs and Behavior of Our People. I wish to Represent the Communities of San Francisco California. I know I can do this and do it well.

~Elisa Mapson

~As I am different so are they.~

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

I'm a full-time Student, at 3 Colleges. 2 online Colleges: Maestro AI University and Calbright College.  
1 in-person college: City College of SF. I'm pursuing 2 degrees in AI software Engineering and Applied Liberal Arts, major Music. Certificates in IT support and Cybersecurity. My long-term plan is to secure a position in Cybersecurity.  
I Volunteer with SPCA (animals) currently and attend RAMS. As well working with Goodwill. ~Elisa Mapson

**Civic Activities:**

I Volunteer with SPCA (animals) currently and attend RAMS. As well working with Goodwill.  
I look forward to having a seat on Behavioral Health Commission as I believe in it, helping the SF people, Our people. ~Elisa Mapson

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 12-18-2025 Applicant's Signature (required): Elisa Mapson  
(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)

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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: San Francisco Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): Seat #11 (Public Interest / Veteran Advocate)

Full Name: Gabriel Cervantes Okamoto \*\* Veteran, \*\*\*\* Consumer

[Redacted] Zip Code: 94112
Occupation: Salesforce Military Fellow (Financial)

Work Phone: Employer: U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundati

Business Address: 415 Mission St, San Francisco, CA Zip Code: 94105

Business Email: Home Email [Redacted]

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18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No [ ]

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I represent multiple communities of interest that reflect the diversity of San Francisco. As a U.S. Army Reserve Soldier, a Japanese-Mexican American, and a gay man, my lived experience intersects with several of the communities most impacted by behavioral health challenges.
I have been honored by CalVet for Latino Heritage Month and serve as a board officer of the Veterans Affiliated Council, where I elevate the voices of veterans from all backgrounds. Through my work with the Japanese American Veterans Association, I help manage national collaboration platforms for veterans, and I am an active member of the U.S.-Japan Council, which fosters cross-cultural leadership at the global scale.
As someone who has navigated the intersections of identity veteran, Latino, Japanese American, and LGBTQ+ I bring an inclusive perspective to the Commission. My professional background in the California State Senate and Salesforce allows me to pair this lived experience with skills in policy, fiscal oversight, and innovation.
LinkedIn Profile: https://www.linkedin.com/in/gabriel-okamoto/

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

Salesforce Military Fellow (2025–Present): Supporting Regional Vice Presidents in the Financial Services Growth Business, learning how technology and data can drive improved community outcomes.  
California State Senate – Rules Committee Consultant: Oversaw operations and constituent casework, including behavioral health and consumer protection matters. Advisor to the Office of Senator Scott Wiener.  
U.S. Army Reserve Soldier / National Guard Veteran: Managed multimillion-dollar budgets and personnel, while also leading soldiers through high-pressure situations with a focus on mental resilience. Supported the Deputy State Surgeon General.  
Fiscal Law and Ethics Certification (JAG Legal Center & School): Applied fiscal accountability in public-sector settings.

**Civic Activities:**

Veterans Affiliated Council (Board Officer, Junior Vice Commander): Lead major veteran events such as the San Francisco 9/11 Patriot Day Golf Fundraiser, Veterans Day Parade on Capitol Mall, and LA County Veterans Congressional Forum.  
Japanese American Veterans Association (Coordinator): Manage digital community and collaboration platforms, fostering knowledge-sharing and support across national veteran networks.  
CalVet Latino Heritage Month Honoree (2025): Recognized for service and leadership representing Latino veterans and families.  
U.S.–Japan Council (Member): Selected into an international leadership network focused on building resilient communities through cross-sector collaboration.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 08/29/2025 Applicant's Signature (required): Gabriel Cervantes Okamoto  
*(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

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**From:** [Gabriel Okamoto](#)  
**To:** [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Gray, Amber \(DPH\)](#)  
**Subject:** Thank you for returning my call  
**Date:** Friday, September 12, 2025 9:50:42 AM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good morning Mr. Young,

Thank you for taking the time to return my call earlier today and for confirming that my three new endorsements have been received through the Behavioral Health Commission clerk. I am grateful for your attention to my candidacy.

I also wanted to share that I attended both Behavioral Health Commission meetings on Tuesday. Doing so gave me a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities before the Commission, and it reinforced my commitment to serve thoughtfully and constructively.

In addition, my background in the California State Senate Rules Committee and my fluency in parliamentary procedure under Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure would allow me to contribute immediately to effective governance and deliberation.

Please let me know if there are any additional materials or documentation I can provide ahead of Monday's Rules Committee meeting.

Respectfully,  
Gabriel Cervantes Okamoto

cc: Amber Gray

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my privilege to recommend Gabriel Cervantes Okamoto whose leadership, vision, and forward-thinking approach to technology and community advancement have left a lasting impression on me and many others in California's civic and innovation space.

I have had the opportunity to witness Gabriel's work firsthand—both as a servant leader in public institutions and as a strategic unifier between civic institutions and innovation. Gabriel has a rare ability to connect the precision of structured government processes with the creativity and adaptability demanded by today's technology landscape. His unique perspective as both a U.S. Army Reserve soldier and a Salesforce Fellow positions him to lead San Francisco and beyond into a new age of civic innovation.

What sets Gabriel apart is his commitment to harnessing artificial intelligence and emerging technologies responsibly and strategically. While many speak about innovation, Gabriel pushes for it with clarity, urgency, and inclusivity. He understands that AI is not simply a tool for efficiency it is a platform for equity, transformation, and stronger citizen engagement. This vision aligns with the future of public service, where communities deserve government systems that are not only modernized but also transparent, human-centered, and trustworthy.

As San Francisco steps into an era defined by rapid digital transformation, Gabriel represents exactly the kind of leadership that is needed. His expertise in Salesforce's CRM and AI platforms, paired with his deep grounding in legislative processes and community advocacy, equips him to ensure technology adoption translates into meaningful outcomes for residents. He has already demonstrated this by championing projects that bring together civic leaders, innovators, and communities of color often left out of the technology conversation.

In short, Gabriel is a change agent advancing the future. He embodies integrity, vision, and impact, and I wholeheartedly support him as a Salesforce Fellow and civic innovator committed to shaping San Francisco's future.

Sincerely,  
Eva Robinson, PMP



## JAPANESE AMERICAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION

PO Box 341198, BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20827

WWW.JAVA-US.ORG

**HONORARY CHAIR**  
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**PRESIDENT**  
HOWARD S. HIGH

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
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LTC MARK T. NAKAGAWA, USA (RET)  
LTC ROBERT VOKAC, USA (RET)  
MAJ LYNN MARIANO, USA (RET)  
DAVID IWATA

August 30, 2025

Clerk of the Board and Honorable Members  
Rules Committee, San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
City Hall, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102

### **Re: Recommendation of Mr. Gabriel Cervantes Okamoto for Appointment to the Behavioral Health Commission**

Dear Chair and Members of the Rules Committee,

It is my honor to recommend Mr. Gabriel Cervantes Okamoto for appointment to the San Francisco Behavioral Health Commission.

I know Mr. Okamoto through his involvement with the Japanese American Veterans Association and most recently through his work on the Kintsugi Project, a pilot program aimed at reducing suicide among veterans. In that role he helped guide planning, outreach, and coalition building, bringing in his professional experience and community connections. His ability to apply cultural philosophy to modern public health challenges shows both creativity and respect for diverse communities.

Mr. Okamoto's service in the U.S. Army Reserve, his experience in the California State Senate, and his current work in the business and technology sector make him uniquely qualified to strengthen the Commission. He understands operations, fiscal discipline, and the importance of building partnerships that lead to measurable outcomes.

I am confident he will serve with integrity and dedication to the public good. I strongly encourage you to appoint him to this important Commission.

Respectfully,

Howard S. High  
President  
Japanese American Veterans  
Association



## JAPANESE AMERICAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION

PO Box 341198, BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20827

WWW.JAVA-US.ORG

**HONORARY CHAIR**  
GEN PAUL M. NAKASONE, USA (RET)

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LTC ROBERT VOKAC, USA (RET)  
MAJ LYNN MARIANO, USA (RET)  
DAVID IWATA

August 30, 2025

Clerk of the Board and Honorable Members  
Rules Committee, San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
City Hall, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102

### **Re: Recommendation of Mr. Gabriel Cervantes Okamoto for Appointment to the Behavioral Health Commission**

Dear Chair and Members of the Rules Committee,

It is my honor to recommend Mr. Gabriel Cervantes Okamoto for appointment to the San Francisco Behavioral Health Commission.

I know Mr. Okamoto through his involvement with the Japanese American Veterans Association and most recently through his work on the Kintsugi Project, a pilot program aimed at reducing suicide among veterans. In that role he helped guide planning, outreach, and coalition building, bringing in his professional experience and community connections. His ability to apply cultural philosophy to modern public health challenges shows both creativity and respect for diverse communities.

Mr. Okamoto's service in the U.S. Army Reserve, his experience in the California State Senate, and his current work in the business and technology sector make him uniquely qualified to strengthen the Commission. He understands operations, fiscal discipline, and the importance of building partnerships that lead to measurable outcomes.

I am confident he will serve with integrity and dedication to the public good. I strongly encourage you to appoint him to this important Commission.

Respectfully,

Howard S. High  
President  
Japanese American Veterans  
Association

**From:** [Emran, Hasib \(HRC\)](#)  
**To:** [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Gabriel Okamoto to BHC Commission  
**Date:** Thursday, September 11, 2025 1:36:24 PM

---

Hi Secretary Young,

My name is Hasib Emran, Vice Chair of the Human Rights Commission and I am writing today in support of Mr. Okamoto's appointment to the BHC. Gabriel is an incredible community advocate, displays fairness and will be accountable to the people of San Francisco. I am confident in his abilities to carry out the duties of the BHC and he would be a welcomed addition as a Commissioner with diverse background and experience. Thank you for your time today and do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns!

Best,  
Hasib Emran  
HRC Vice Chair

**From:** [Peter Murphy](#)  
**To:** [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Gray, Amber \(DPH\)](#); [g.cervantes.okamoto@gmail.com](mailto:g.cervantes.okamoto@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Support for Behavioral Health Commission - Gabriel Cervantes Okamoto  
**Date:** Thursday, September 25, 2025 1:28:14 PM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Victor,

I am writing to express support for Gabriel Cervantes Okamoto as a candidate for the current vacancy on the Behavioral Health Commission for a Military Veteran to join the commission.

As a current committee member myself, I want to express my support for Gabriel's candidacy. Please let me know if you have any questions, and thank you for this consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Peter

**[Peter Murphy \(he/him\)](#)**  
Outreach Manager  
General work hours: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Mental Health Association of San Francisco  
870 Market Street, Suite 658  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
415-377-8267 cellphone

<http://mentalhealthsf.org/programs/peer-run-warm-line/>

The mission of the Mental Health Association of San Francisco is to cultivate peer leadership, build community, and advance social justice in mental health.

Our California Warm Line is facing massive cuts to our funding—please help  
<https://savethewarmline.org/>



P.O.Box 920214 \* Sylmar CA 91392 \*  
[Calvac1921@gmail.com](mailto:Calvac1921@gmail.com) Calvac.org  
EIN# 87-0803453

**Commander William Franco**

Veterans Affiliated Council

August 31, 2025

Clerk of the Board and Honorable Members  
Rules Committee, San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, City Hall, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102

**Re: Appointment of Gabriel Cervantes Okamoto to the Behavioral Health Commission (Public Interest Seat)**

Dear Chair and Members of the Rules Committee,

San Francisco's behavioral health system is at a turning point. San Francisco is a world-class city known for compassion, but also for the scale of challenges. What we need now are commissioners who not only understand the policies, but also understand the people who rely on these services every day. That is why I strongly support the appointment of **Gabriel Cervantes Okamoto** to the Behavioral Health Commission.

Gabriel's leadership is rooted in both professional service and personal resilience. As a soldier in the U.S. Army Reserve, he has lived with the reality of post-traumatic stress. As a survivor of intimate partner violence, he knows the courage it takes to rebuild life after trauma. These experiences have given him empathy, insight, and credibility that cannot be taught in classrooms or boardrooms. He knows firsthand what it means to navigate a system that can feel overwhelming, and he is committed to making that system more humane, more effective, and more accessible.

Behavioral health care must go beyond treatment. Housing stability, supportive care, and clinical services are essential, but they are not enough. What sustains recovery long-term is workforce development. Creating opportunities for people to work, contribute, and regain dignity. Gabriel has made workforce development a personal and professional priority, ensuring that those emerging from crisis are not left behind, but empowered to thrive. His current role as a Salesforce Fellow gives him direct experience aligning employers, city departments, and community providers to open pathways back into stability.

Gabriel also brings a broader perspective that strengthens his local leadership. As a member of the U.S.–Japan Council, he participates in an international network of leaders dedicated to building bridges across government, business, and community. This experience demonstrates not only his ability to collaborate at a high level, but also his commitment to partnerships that deliver lasting impact here in San Francisco.

What makes Gabriel stand out is his ability to connect across boundaries:

- Veterans in transition
- Survivors to services
- Community needs to government accountability
- Recovery to workforce opportunity

In Gabriel, the City has a candidate who is more than qualified, he is exactly what this moment requires. He combines the discipline of military service, the vision of a global leader, the skills of a business innovator, and the resilience of someone who has walked the path himself.

I urge you in the strongest possible terms to appoint Gabriel Cervantes Okamoto to the Behavioral Health Commission. He will be a commissioner San Francisco can count on: principled, prepared, people-first, and relentless about outcomes.

For any questions, comments, or concerns please reach out to me at the Committee's convenience.

Respectfully,  
Commander William Franco  
Veterans Affiliated Council  
(916) 663-9991

**From:** [Gabriel Okamoto](#)  
**To:** [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Gray, Amber \(DPH\)](#)  
**Subject:** Thank you for returning my call  
**Date:** Friday, September 12, 2025 9:50:42 AM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good morning Mr. Young,

Thank you for taking the time to return my call earlier today and for confirming that my three new endorsements have been received through the Behavioral Health Commission clerk. I am grateful for your attention to my candidacy.

I also wanted to share that I attended both Behavioral Health Commission meetings on Tuesday. Doing so gave me a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities before the Commission, and it reinforced my commitment to serve thoughtfully and constructively.

In addition, my background in the California State Senate Rules Committee and my fluency in parliamentary procedure under Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure would allow me to contribute immediately to effective governance and deliberation.

Please let me know if there are any additional materials or documentation I can provide ahead of Monday's Rules Committee meeting.

Respectfully,  
Gabriel Cervantes Okamoto

cc: Amber Gray

California Department of Veterans Affairs  
Women Veteran Affairs

September 10, 2025

Rules Committee  
San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

**Re: Endorsement of Gabriel Cervantes Okamoto for Appointment to the San Francisco Behavioral Health Commission as Commissioner**

Dear Chair and Honorable Members of the Rules Committee,

It is my privilege to endorse Gabriel Cervantes Okamoto for appointment to the San Francisco Behavioral Health Commission. In my role as Deputy Secretary for Women Veterans at the California Department of Veterans Affairs, and as a licensed clinical social worker specializing in PTSD, trauma, and military sexual trauma, I know how critically important it is to include leaders who reflect the lived experiences of marginalized communities. For veterans and for San Franciscans who often face multiple layers of inequity, representation is not symbolic—it is essential to ensuring their voices and needs shape behavioral health policy.

Mr. Okamoto embodies this kind of leadership. As a U.S. Army Reserve soldier living with military-related PTSD and as a survivor of intimate partner violence, he represents communities whose perspectives are too often left out of decision-making spaces. He understands firsthand the stigma attached to trauma, the difficulty of navigating fragmented systems, and the urgency of building trauma-informed, person-centered care. His voice at the Commission would ensure that individuals living at these intersections are not only acknowledged but meaningfully represented.

In addition to his lived experience, Mr. Okamoto brings deep professional expertise. His service as a Consultant with the California State Senate Rules Committee and his leadership roles in statewide and national veterans' organizations demonstrate his ability to navigate policy, build coalitions, and advocate effectively. This rare combination of survivor perspective and

governance experience uniquely positions him to influence systems in ways that are both compassionate and pragmatic.

From my clinical perspective, the inclusion of leaders like Mr. Okamoto is exactly what San Francisco needs. He can speak authentically to the realities of trauma, PTSD, and interpersonal violence while also carrying the skills to advance systemic change. His presence would strengthen the Commission, ensuring it remains both accountable to those most impacted and innovative in its vision for the future.

San Francisco deserves commissioners who embody integrity, empathy, and courage. Mr. Okamoto is living proof of resilience and leadership, and his appointment would help build a behavioral health system that is more equitable, inclusive, and effective.

I strongly believe Mr. Okamoto's appointment will bring vital representation and meaningful impact.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Kimura', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

**Mayumi Kimura, LCSW**

Deputy Secretary of Women Veteran Affairs

California Department of Veterans Affairs

**From:** [Kimura, Mayumi@Calvet](mailto:Kimura, Mayumi@Calvet)  
**To:** [BOS-Appointments](#); [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Amber.gray@sfgov.org](mailto:Amber.gray@sfgov.org); [g.cervantes.okamoto@gmail.com](mailto:g.cervantes.okamoto@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Letter of recommendations for Gabriel Okamoto  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 10, 2025 2:30:09 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello,

Please accept my letter of recommendation for Gabriel Okamoto for the SF Behavioral Health Commission. Thank you and please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.



Mayumi Kimura, LCSW  
Deputy Secretary  
Women Veterans Affairs  
Phone: 916.653.8692  
Cell: 916.584.0310

1227 O Street  
Sacramento, CA. 95814  
[www.calvet.ca.gov](http://www.calvet.ca.gov)



**From:** [Prince Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [g.cervantes.okamoto@gmail.com](mailto:g.cervantes.okamoto@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Letter Of Support Gabriel Cervantes Okamoto - Behavioral Health Commission  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 10, 2025 8:01:33 AM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Victor,

I hope this email finds you well. I am reaching out to express my enthusiastic support for Gabriel Cervantes, also known as Gabriel Okamoto, in his application for the open Veteran/Veterans Advocacy seat on the Behavioral Health Commission.

As a member of the Veteran Affairs Commission, I had the pleasure of being approached by Gabriel yesterday following our recent commission meeting. Gabriel, a dedicated veteran, shared his compelling interest in contributing to the Behavioral Health Commission's mission of advancing behavioral health initiatives, particularly through the lens of veteran advocacy. As a veteran, his support and eagerness to serve on that commission is what I love to see in veterans willing to serve beyond their military service. His background and passion align seamlessly with the Commission's goals, and I believe he would bring invaluable insights and commitment to the team.

To ensure a smooth progression in the appointment process, I kindly request that you please help verify that all necessary documentation and information are in place for the Rules Committee meeting next week or whenever the meeting is scheduled to take place. This would enable Gabriel to make a formal appearance, where he can articulate his qualifications, experiences, and motivations for joining the Commission.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or if you would like to discuss this further via a phone call. I am available at your earliest convenience and can be reached at (415) 571-9682 or via email.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to the rules committee's and your positive consideration and submission of Gabriel's application.

Best Regards,  
Prince Jordan

Prince Jordan

Local Board Member State Of California  
US Selective Service System

[www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov)

P: (415) 571-9682

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. (415) 554-5184
Fax No. (415) 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: San Francisco Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): Seat #5

Full Name: Harriette S. Stevens, Ed.D.

[Redacted] San Francisco, CA Zip Code: 94121

[Redacted] Occupation: Mathematics Educator

Work Phone: 510-847-2823 Employer: Consultant

Business Address: 855 Sansome Street Zip Code: 94111

Business Email: hstevens@berkeley.edu Home Email: [Redacted]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Resident of San Francisco: Yes [X] No [ ] If No, place of residence:
18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

For over 40 years, I have taught in diverse urban K-12 school districts throughout the U.S. and at community colleges in California. Almost 30 of these years were spent at the University of California, Berkeley, where I directed curriculum and professional development programs for secondary school teachers within Bay Area urban schools. In this work, I acquired first-hand experiences working with individuals with diversity in ethnicity, race, socioeconomic, sex, gender identity racial identity, language, and disabilities. In addition, I understood the challenges that young students and adults encountered who lacked stable, safe, and adequate housing. Several of the individuals that I worked with also struggled with behavioral health challenges. My objectives included assisting them in acquiring the skills needed to complete their education and succeed in their life's work. These individuals come from communities that the SF Behavioral Health Commission aims to support.

In serving on the commission, I have witnessed the programs and services funded by the departments of Public Health and Behavioral Health Services and the impact these programs can have on the citizens of San Francisco. I have served as co-chair of the BHC commission. Currently, I am a member of the BHC Executive Committee and chair the Rules and Reports Committee. Each year, the Rules and Reports Committee has responsibility for summarizing the results of the commissioners' visits to behavioral health programs and sites, presentations made to the commission by various programs. The commission then presents a report to the Board of Supervisors that highlights the services that are provided to San Francisco residents.

I have family members who struggle with behavioral health challenges. They, and all of our citizens in San Francisco should have access to culturally and linguistically appropriate services so they can lead productive lives.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

- Principal and Consultant, Mathematics Education Group, San Francisco
- Independent Contractor, TERC, Cambridge Mass; SRI, Menlo Park, CA
- Former director of the Alliance for Collaborative Change in School Systems program, University of California, Berkeley's Lawrence Hall of Science
- Editor, mathematics journals, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)
- Member, NCTM; National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics
- High school and community college instructor and curriculum designer

**Civic Activities:**

- California Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions (CALBHB/C). The association operates statewide to provide resources and support to all 59 local behavioral health boards and commissions to improve their effectiveness.
- CALBHB/C Governing Board; past president, CALBHB/C
- San Francisco African American Chamber of Commerce, educational advisor. The chamber plans to provide programs to assist youth, including African American youth, in San Francisco pursue and succeed in science and mathematics-based careers.
- San Francisco Mental Health Education Fund, former member and board president. SF MHEF aimed to increase community engagement and the utilization of behavioral health services by building a collaborative approach to presenting DPH-funded behavioral health programs within diverse and under-resourced communities in San Francisco. This included recruiting community participants, engaging with community leaders, and facilitating town hall meetings in their communities. SF MHEF worked with all communities in San Francisco, with a focus on the Bayview-Hunters Point, Western Addition, and Ocean, Merced, and Ingleside districts.
- National Alliance for Mental Illness, member and former family support group facilitator, San Francisco

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: April 28, 2026

Applicant's Signature (required): \_\_\_\_\_

*Harrietta S. Stevens, Ed.D.*

*(Manually sign or type your complete name.*

*NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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San Francisco 94102-4689  
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Fax No. (415) 554-5163  
TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

### Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): 8

Full Name: Jason Finau

[Redacted] Zip Code: 94122  
Occupation: Social Worker

Work Phone: 415.613.3154 Employer: UCSF

Business Address: 8000 Marina Blvd Zip Code: 94005

Business Email: jason.finau@ucsf.edu Home Email: [Redacted]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Resident of San Francisco: Yes  No  If No, place of residence: \_\_\_\_\_  
18 Years of Age or Older: Yes  No

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

My professional and personal experiences have deeply connected me to the diverse communities of San Francisco, allowing me to understand and advocate for the needs of individuals and families across various ethnicities, races, ages, genders, sexual orientations, gender identities, and disabilities. My work in mental health and substance use disorder treatment, as well as my leadership roles in public health initiatives, has equipped me with the skills to address the unique challenges faced by historically excluded and marginalized communities in the City.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

In my role as Manager II at the San Francisco Unified School District, I employed a racial and health equity lens to develop and implement programs that address disparities in mental health services. I managed a \$15 million budget for a middle school mental health initiative, ensuring that resources were allocated to support underserved communities. This work reflects my dedication to reducing inequities and promoting inclusivity in mental health care.

As the Supervising Deputy Conservator and Interim Manager of the Office of the Public Conservator for the City and County of San Francisco, I worked with individuals who were gravely disabled due to a severe mental illness, many of whom are chronically unhoused. I led the development and implementation of the Housing Conservatorship Pilot (SB1045/SB40), which aimed to improve services for this vulnerable population. My work in the Conservator's Office ensured that the residents of SF who needed us the most received equitable access to care and resources, regardless of their socioeconomic status or housing situation.

Throughout my career, I have worked with diverse populations, including Veterans, individuals living with HIV/AIDS, and those experiencing domestic violence or substance use disorders. My roles at Kaiser San Francisco, the San Francisco VA Medical Center, and ActionWellness in Philadelphia required me to address the intersection of mental health with other social determinants of health, such as housing, legal issues, and access to medical care. This experience has given me a deep understanding of the complex needs of San Francisco's diverse communities.


My educational background combined with my professional experience, has equipped me with the cultural competence necessary to serve San Francisco's diverse population. I have consistently prioritized inclusivity and equity in my work, ensuring that services are accessible and responsive to the needs of all individuals, regardless of their background or identity.

**Civic Activities:**

My volunteer work with Glide Memorial Church, Hyde Street Community Services (as a Board Member and Board President) and as a Co-Founder of the Black Pacific Alliance demonstrates my commitment to community engagement and advocacy. These roles have allowed me to work directly with communities of color, LGBTQ+ individuals, and other marginalized groups, ensuring that their voices are heard and their needs are addressed in mental health policy and practice.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 2.27.25 Applicant's Signature (required):   
*(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

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Fax No. (415) 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): 8, 11

Full Name: Jasper Verduin

[Redacted] Francisco CA Zip Code: 94118

[Redacted] Occupation: Clinical Social Worker

Work Phone: (415) 867-7702 Employer: Felton Institute

Business Address: 1500 Franklin St San Francisco CA Zip Code: 94109

Business Email: Jverduin@felton.org Home Email: [Redacted]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Resident of San Francisco: Yes [checked] No [ ] If No, place of residence: \_\_\_\_\_

18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [checked] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

As a clinical social worker working with solely Medi-cal clients for the past two and a half years in San Francisco I have been in direct contact with behavioral health system under the San Francisco Department of Public Health. Nearly all of my clients have recently experienced a mental health crisis and come from a vast array of social identities across race, sexual orientation, gender identity, diagnosis and ability. The goal of my role is to stabilize client's within 6 months or less and then link them with the appropriate level of ongoing mental health care required for their needs. In linking these client's to ongoing treatment as well as additional resources, I have developed a strong knowledge base of what behavioral health resources are available in San Francisco. I have also been able to identify where there are gaps in essential services that are needed in the community across all the relevant demographics.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:** Clinical Social Worker, pursuing LCSW licensure in 2026.

Clinical Case Manager With Felton Institute's TAY Acute Linkage Team, March 2023-current

- Hold a caseload of 12-15 acute TAY aged clients.
- Provide psychotherapy and case management services focused on linking to resources.
- Support clients with navigating systems (housing, insurance, healthcare, employment).

Therapist at the South Orange County Family Resource Center Sept. 2022-Sept. 2023

- Provided weekly psychotherapy to a caseload of 10 clients.
- Worked with client's from aged 15 through 80 years old.

Facilitation Intern with GRIP Training Institute at San Quentin May 2019-Sept. 2019

- Supported in the facilitation of classes for people serving life sentences at San Quentin.
- Spent 15 hours a week across 5 classes with GRIP trainees.

**Civic Activities:**

- Bi-annual blood donations to the American Red Cross.
- Regular participant in monthly Ocean Beach clean ups.
- Member of CARES (Creating a Rape-free Environment for Students) on my college campus.
- I have voted in every election I was eligible to participate in.


I am eager to grow my civic engagement and believe that serving on this commission would be an ideal place to do so.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 11/14/25

Applicant's Signature (required):

  
(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): 2, 7, 8, or 11

Full Name: Kerry Lynn Burns

SF, CA Zip Code: 94116

Occupation: Non Profit Mental Health Leader

Work Phone: Employer: Community Forward SF

Business Address: 1171 Mission St. 2nd Fl. Zip Code: 94103

Business Email: kerry.burns@communityforwardsf.org Home Email:

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Resident of San Francisco: Yes [X] No [ ] If No, place of residence:
18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

As a San Francisco resident in the Outer Sunset neighborhood, I bring both professional expertise and deeply personal insight to the Behavioral Health Commission. My qualifications represent multiple dimensions of our city's diverse communities.
Living in the Outer Sunset provides me with perspective on the needs of residents in San Francisco's western neighborhoods, areas that are sometimes underrepresented in city-wide health policy discussions. Geographic diversity matters, as access to services, transportation challenges, and community resources vary significantly across our city's distinct neighborhoods.
I currently work in senior leadership for a CBO, with services based in The Mission, SOMA, and the Tenderloin. I witness and respond to the needs of the most vulnerable San Francisco residents on a daily basis.
My Doctorate in Educational Leadership, combined with my Master of Social Work and clinical licensure in California (LCSW #115934), provides me with both the clinical expertise and the organizational leadership skills necessary to contribute meaningfully to policy development and systems change. I am trained to examine problems from multiple angles, engage stakeholders, and implement evidence-based solutions.
My personal experience as a consumer of mental health services and someone in recovery from substance use provides an essential perspective that complements my professional credentials. This lived experience allows me to:
- Understand the behavioral health system from the inside, including its strengths and limitations
- Advocate authentically for client-centered, dignity-based care
- Bridge the gap between service providers and service recipients
- Bring credibility and empathy when addressing stigma and accessibility issues
- Represent the significant portion of San Franciscans who navigate mental health challenges while contributing meaningfully to their communities
My unique position—as a neighborhood resident, licensed clinical social worker, nonprofit leader, disability advocate, mental health consumer and someone in recovery—enables me to represent and bridge multiple communities of interest. I am able to contribute to policy discussions with clinical knowledge, operational understanding, cross-system experience, community connections, and the authentic perspective of someone who has personally navigated the system I would help advise and support.
San Francisco's behavioral health system serves an extraordinarily diverse population facing complex challenges. My multifaceted experience uniquely positions me to help ensure that city policies and programs are responsive to this diversity and truly serve all San Franciscans, particularly those who are most vulnerable, underserved, and facing intersecting barriers to care. I am eager to be of service.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

As Vice President of Clinical Services at Community Forward SF, I oversee the Mental Health Outpatient Program (MHOP) working directly with San Francisco's most marginalized populations: individuals experiencing homelessness, with a particular focus on unhoused women. In this role, I partner directly with the SF Department of Public Health and have demonstrated success in dramatically improving service delivery via increased Medi-Cal billing, directly translating to more clients receiving the care they need.

This experience gives me firsthand knowledge of:

- The intersection of housing insecurity and mental health needs
- Gender-specific barriers to accessing care
- The systemic gaps in our current behavioral health infrastructure
- The practical realities of delivering services to those facing multiple, compounding challenges
- The complexities of navigating Medi-Cal and insurance systems that may create barriers rather than bridges to care

Women experiencing homelessness face unique vulnerabilities, including higher rates of trauma, domestic violence, and sexual assault, as well as specific healthcare needs that are often overlooked in service design. My daily work informs my understanding of how policies translate into actual care delivery.

My career spans multiple interconnected systems that impact behavioral health outcomes:

- Working within Higher Education settings, I provided crisis intervention and care coordination for thousands of students, earning recognition for handling sensitive cases related to suicidality, sexual harassment, and sexual violence. I understand how mental health challenges manifest across the lifespan and the critical importance of early intervention.
  - Through my roles in early care and education, I've worked to connect historically underserved and marginalized populations to essential services. I understand how childhood experiences, family stability, and access to early care impact long-term behavioral health outcomes.
  - I bring previous experience working on an Advisory Commission.
  - Within nonprofit social service agencies, I have experience supervising teams providing crisis treatment and stabilization for youth, including those with Autism Spectrum Disorder as well as those with emotional and behavioral healthcare needs. This work required collaborative engagement and coalition building with schools, healthcare providers, and community agencies.
- This breadth of experience across child welfare, education, housing, and clinical mental health systems positions me to understand the interconnected nature of behavioral health challenges and the need for coordinated, systemic solutions.

**Civic Activities:**

In a previous role as a Community Advisor to the Mayor's Advisory Commission on Disabilities (Warwick, RI), I dedicated significant energy to eliminating systemic and structural barriers for individuals with disabilities. This experience taught me to:

- Identify and address accessibility gaps in service delivery
- Advocate for policy changes that create real-world improvements
- Center the voices and experiences of people with disabilities in decision-making
- Understand disability as a diversity dimension that intersects with all other identities

This background is particularly relevant as I represent communities with disabilities, including those living with mental health conditions, and can advocate for behavioral health services that are truly accessible and inclusive.

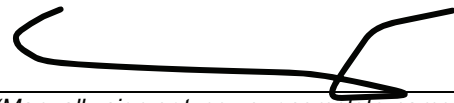
I have engaged in extensive volunteer service, including establishing and running a non profit organization to provide financial support to families fighting Cystic Fibrosis.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 11/21/25

Applicant's Signature (required):



*(Manually sign or type your complete name.*

*NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

# KERRY BURNS

## NON-PROFIT AND MENTAL HEALTH LEADER

Creating and delivering services that put client needs and experience first.

- Known for identifying, pursuing, and building internal and external partnerships to accommodate over 50% growth in demand for client facing services for multiple organizations.
- Fluent at navigating ambiguity, with experience molding multiple newly created positions, structuring solutions to vague challenges, and mobilizing resources to meet stakeholder and client needs.
- Skilled at navigating complex systems of care.
- Experienced at coaching and supporting individuals and teams to their best potential, utilizing clinical background to build trust and rapport to facilitate developmental conversations.

## CLINICAL LICENSURE

**California** – Licensed Clinical Social Worker: 115934 (exp. 6/30/27)

**Rhode Island** - Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker: ISW 01453 (exp. 5/1/27)

**NPI** - 1366513236

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### COMMUNITY FORWARD SF

**AUGUST 2024 – PRESENT**

#### VICE PRESIDENT OF CLINICAL SERVICES

**JULY 2025 – PRESENT**

Providing organization-wide strategic leadership for mental health services to two clinical programs – Mental Health Outpatient Program (MHOP) and Permanent Housing Advanced Clinical Services (PHACS).

- Program and Staff Development: Recruit, train, supervise, and evaluate clinical and behavioral health staff; foster multidisciplinary team environment and lead staff development initiatives on emerging best practices for vulnerable populations.
- Ensure compliance with SF Department of Public Health regulations and healthcare standards; monitor program metrics and outcomes, complete monthly reporting, and implement data-driven quality improvement strategies.
- Collaborate with community health partners, government agencies, and stakeholders to coordinate comprehensive care; manage clinical department budgets and advocate for funding opportunities to expand services.

### DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL SERVICES

**AUGUST 2024 – JUNE 2025**

Provided oversight and leadership to mental health care for individuals experiencing homelessness – with a focus on women - through trauma-informed, person-centered services.

- Program Development: Responsible for leading the MHOP and PHACS programs, including hiring and creation/implementation of program infrastructure and processes.
- Program Assessment and Improvement: Conducted a full review of MHOP processes and began making changes needed to meet contract deliverables for clients with Medi-Cal insurance. Billing during FY 24-25 increased significantly from 2% to 70% of contract goal.
- Data Collection: responsible for monthly reporting for MHOP and PHACS programs.
- Funder Relations: directly supported multiple contracts and established and maintained collaborative working relationships with city funders (Department of Public Health).

**LOW INCOME INVESTMENT FUND****JULY 2022 – PRESENT****PROGRAM OFFICER**

Managing all aspects of the grant life cycle for the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Infrastructure Grant Program, focused on facilities improvement and the creation, enhancement and preservation of child care spaces for licensed early care and education (ECE) programs. This is the first grant program of this size and scope offered by CDSS.

- Grant Monitoring: Ongoing contact with more than 300 ECE programs with over \$25 million in awarded grant funds to ensure successful project completion and tracking of expenditures.
- Training and Technical Assistance: Develop, update, and disseminate regulatory, planning, building code and funding requirements for licensed childcare centers and family childcare homes.
- Grantee Support: developed a grant road map to provide a grant overview for ECE programs.
- Capacity Building: established a 3 language online help center via ZenDesk platform for FAQs.
- Data Collection: track and maintain data on grantee contacts via Salesforce CRM.

**WU YEE CHILDREN'S SERVICES****JANUARY 2020 – JUNE 2022****RESOURCE AND REFERRAL MANAGER**

Directed strategy and execution for community programs serving over 3,000 children and families each year. Cultivate partnerships with local governments and nonprofits to connect historically underserved and marginalized populations to childcare and financial assistance. Coach, develop, and supervise a team of 7 employees and manage a ~\$700,000 budget.

- Process Improvement: Streamlined processes to enhance employee and client experience, increasing the program success rate from 20% to 70% of families connected to childcare.
- Remote Leadership: Navigated transition to 100% remote work for a 15-month period and built team culture.
- Data-Driven Decision-Making: Collected meaningful data and conducted data analysis to illustrate a 60%+ increase in workload with no additional resources, influencing leadership to fund 1 new FTE.
- Technology Modernization: Initiated and oversaw the transition from paper-based to web-based record management, replaced database software, and introduced new technologies for team management.
- Service Delivery: Created all standard operating procedures (SOPs) from scratch, standardized documentation practices, and structured resource allocation to create consistent service delivery.

**UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO****APRIL 2018 – DECEMBER 2019****ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF CASE MANAGEMENT**

Responsible for case management for a population of 6,500 undergraduate students, providing crisis intervention, plans of care, and coaching to help students develop skills for self-care and advocacy. Structured scalable case management practices to provide sustainable services to students and employees organization-wide.

- Capacity Building: Accommodated a 60% year-over-year increase in cases with no additional staff or funding by equipping cross-functional staff with the skills and resources to help students and by creating online resources.
- Client Education: Identified gaps and developed both web and print resources to educate students on self-advocacy, coping strategies, and connections to community mental health services.
- Coaching & Mentoring: Created a master's internship opportunity; oversaw hiring, supervision, and development of a student intern, a media/design student worker, and a peer mentor for the USF 101 course.
- New Program Launch: Served on a cross-functional team that conceptualized, launched, and managed an on-campus food pantry to meet client needs, personally structuring practices for sustainable operations.

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA – DAVIS****MARCH 2016 – MARCH 2018****ADMINISTRATIVE CASE MANAGER**

Fielded and managed reports related to students of concern, serving as 1 of 2 case managers for a student population of 35,000. Triaged cases and partnered with students to understand needs and connect them to support services.

- Learning & Development: Developed and delivered a quarterly workshop on “Working with Students of Concern” to staff and faculty and taught a “Comic Con-versations” seminar providing education and support to 20 first-year students.
- Program Assessment: Overhauled data collection and evaluation practices to provide senior leadership with accurate metrics and actionable insights that influenced changes in service delivery.
- Crisis Response: Earned Chancellor’s Commendation and Point of Pride award for responding to emergencies and handling sensitive cases related to suicidality, sexual harassment, and sexual violence; primary member of student crisis response team and sexual violence response team.

## SELECTED PRIOR EXPERIENCE

**Clinical Supervisor, Northeast Behavioral Associates** (2013 – 2014): Led team of 6 case coordinators and 20+ direct service workers supporting youth with emotional, behavioral, and healthcare needs. Collaborated with schools, healthcare providers, and community agencies to provide care. Oversaw all data collection and reporting.

**Disability Inclusion Coordinator, Serve Rhode Island** (2011 – 2012): Established new position to implement the AmeriCorps Disability Grant. Developed and delivered training curriculum and outreach programs to over 700 individuals in 10 months. Conducted the first disability survey of state AmeriCorps members and facilitated a Justice Talks series.

**Program Manager, Gateway Healthcare** (2009 – 2011): Oversaw a home-based services program providing crisis treatment and stabilization for youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Supervised 10 clinicians and 2 case managers.

## COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

### FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | FINNZ FUNDZ

2011 – 2017

- Founded and ran a 501(c)3 organization providing financial assistance to families fighting cystic fibrosis, reaching over 100 families in 35 states to fund basic needs not covered by insurance.
- Raised and distributed over \$250,000 through fundraising events, donor development, and a critical partnership with Alex and Ani to design and launch a “Shark Finn” bracelet.

### COMMUNITY ADVISOR | MAYOR’S ADVISORY COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

2012 – 2015

- Contributed to initiatives in Warwick, RI, that worked to eliminate systemic and structural barriers for individuals with disabilities, including sidewalk snow removal laws, an advisory network system, and recognition for local businesses exceeding ADA guidelines.

## EDUCATION

Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) | Educational Leadership | Johnson & Wales University

Master of Social Work (MSW) | Rhode Island College

Bachelor of Arts (BA) | Sociology | Keene State College

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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: San Francisco Behavioral Health Comm

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): 6

Full Name: kescha shalon mason, M.Div, MCL



Zip Code: 94124

Occupation: Licentiate/Student

Work Phone: Employer:

Business Address: Zip Code:

Business Email: Home Email

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Resident of San Francisco: Yes [X] No [ ] If No, place of residence:
18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

I am a life long resident of the San Francisco Bay View Hunters Point community. I have worked extensively in community with persons strugling with homelessness and behavioral health conditions. Myself and close family members have faced mental/behavioral health challenges without adequate resources available in community to provide support. Through education, spirituality, community programs and support, we have had to figure out and navigate creative ways to foster a sense of healing and survival. As a result of having to do the work personally and professionally to help those in community struggling to just exist, I know first hand that mental/behavioral health conditions cannot be fixed in a vaccum. It takes intentionally, compassion and a willingness to be patient and see individual's humanity and journey with them to a place of restrotaion, healing and wholeness. That means not treating people as a numbers/ boxes to check on social forms, instead listening to their stories, treating them with dignity and respect to help them find resoultion to their issues and concerns.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

17 years of non-profit work in the City & County of San Francisco in the homeless and supportive housing sector.

Served 5 years on the San Francisco Behavior Health Commission; with 2 years as co-chair of Implementaion Committee and currently as Co-chair of the Behavioral Health Commission.

I currently serve as a licentiate in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, working toward ordination and chaplaincy.

**Civic Activities:**

Memeber of San Francisco Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., where I serve as Chapter Chaplain and previously chair of Delta G.E.M.S

As part of completing dual Master's degrees in Divinity & Community Leadership, Womanist Theology and Restortive Healing in Africa, in the countries of ReWanda, Tanzania, and Kenya.

During my tenure in the non-profit sector I've sereved on a number of committes to support homeless and supportive housing services in San Francisco.

Co-Chair/memeber of San Francisco Behavioral Health Commission.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 8.8.25

Applicant's Signature (required):



*(Manually sign or type your complete name.*

*NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): 3

Full Name: LeesaMaree Bleicher

[REDACTED] Zip Code: 94124

Occupation: Survivor/Advocate

Work Phone: N/A Employer: N/A

Business Address: N/A Zip Code: N/A

Business Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Email: [REDACTED]

**Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.**

Resident of San Francisco: Yes  No  If No, place of residence: \_\_\_\_\_

18 Years of Age or Older: Yes  No

**Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:**

I represent San Francisco residents across multiple dimensions of diversity—including race, ethnicity, age, gender, disability, and socioeconomic experience—as well as those with lived experience of complex trauma, polyvictimization, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), behavioral health conditions, and justice system involvement.

I am a 58-year-old woman, long-time Bay Area resident, and a survivor of child sexual exploitation (CSEC) and polyvictimization, including domestic violence and multiple adverse childhood experiences. I am also formerly incarcerated and a suicide survivor. I live with complex PTSD and other diagnosed behavioral health conditions, including anxiety, obsessive-compulsive disorder, major depressive disorder, and a history of disordered eating, and have been engaged with and navigating the behavioral health system since early childhood. These lived experiences place me within the populations the Behavioral Health Commission is charged to serve—individuals with significant trauma histories, complex behavioral health needs, and systemic barriers to accessing equitable care.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

I bring over 25 years of leadership experience in behavioral health, trauma-informed care, and community-based systems across the San Francisco Bay Area. I hold a Master's degree in Psychology and am currently a doctoral candidate in Psychology with a specialization in trauma. I am also a certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CADC III), Certified Behavioral Health Counselor, and Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist.

I have designed, led, and implemented trauma-informed programs serving high-risk and underserved populations, including justice-involved individuals, survivors of child sexual exploitation (CSEC), and individuals with co-occurring mental health and substance use conditions. My leadership roles include Director of Clinical Programs at U.N.I.T.Y., Inc., Program Director of a trauma-informed program for sexually exploited youth, and Program Manager for a court-mandated diversion program serving justice-involved youth in San Francisco.

**Civic Activities:**

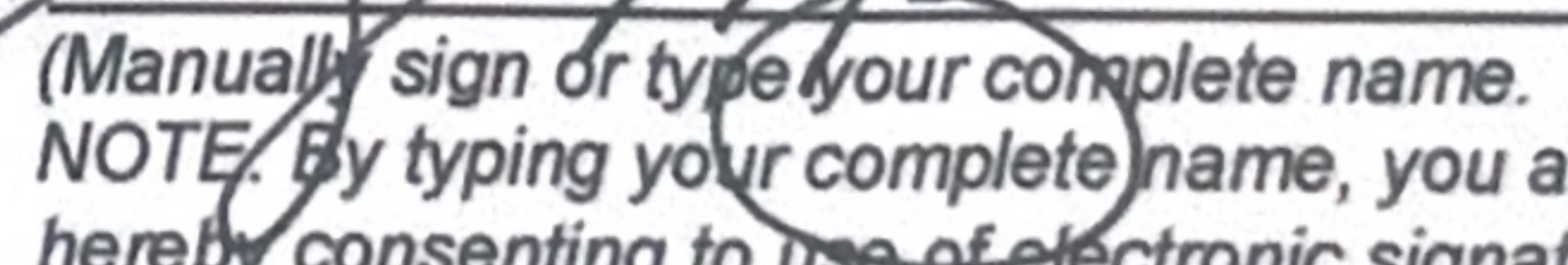
My civic activities reflect a sustained commitment to community advocacy, public engagement, and advancing equitable, trauma-informed systems in San Francisco. I am actively engaged in community-based advocacy supporting residents—particularly in high-need communities such as District 10—in navigating behavioral health services, accessing housing (including Section 8), and securing public benefits. As a disabled resident and Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher participant, I bring direct lived experience navigating these systems, which informs my advocacy and strengthens my ability to support others facing similar barriers. This work focuses on reducing barriers to care, improving access, and strengthening trust between underserved communities and public institutions.

I contribute to civic dialogue and public awareness through speaking engagements and community forums focused on trauma, recovery, reentry, and human trafficking. These efforts center trauma-informed approaches and highlight the intersection of behavioral health with systemic inequities, helping to inform community understanding and policy conversations.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: April 1, 2026 Applicant's Signature (required):

  
(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

## **PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY**

Trauma-informed behavioral health leader with 25+ years of experience advancing community-based and justice-involved systems of care across the Bay Area. Doctoral candidate in Psychology (trauma focus), master's in psychology, and Certified AOD Counselor (CADC III). Recognized for integrating lived experience with clinical and system knowledge to inform policy, strengthen engagement with underserved communities, and advance equitable, trauma-informed care. Provides systems navigation and advocacy for residents in San Francisco's District III across behavioral health, housing (Section 8), and public benefits. Demonstrated ability to identify and respond to high-risk situations, including indicators of possible drug activity and child exploitation, leading to law enforcement intervention and the continued protection of a child at high risk of exploitation.

## **LIVED EXPERIENCE LEADERSHIP**

Brings lived experience as a survivor of child sexual exploitation (CSEC) and human trafficking, intimate partner violence, and complex trauma shaped by multiple adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), as well as direct experience as a consumer of behavioral health services. This perspective informs advocacy, strengthens engagement with underserved communities, and advances trauma-informed, equitable systems of care.

## **KEY LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY IMPACT**

- Designed and led trauma-informed programs serving CSEC youth, justice-involved individuals, and high-risk populations
- Advanced cross-system collaboration across behavioral health, criminal justice, and community-based organizations
- Trained multidisciplinary teams in trauma-responsive, culturally competent care
- Delivered public education and advocacy on trauma, recovery, and restorative justice
- Applied survivor-informed frameworks to improve program design and service accessibility

## **CORE COMPETENCIES**

Trauma-Informed Care | Community Advocacy | Behavioral Health | Program Development | Co-Occurring Disorders | CBT & DBT | Crisis Intervention | Reentry Services | Restorative Justice

## **CREDENTIALS**

CADC III (CCAPP) | Certified Behavioral Health Counselor (BHAP) | NPI: 1568016629

Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist (CA Title 9)

Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Counselor (80+ hours each)

## **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. in Psychology (Trauma Focus), In Progress – National University

M.A., Psychology – Saybrook University

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Director of Clinical Programs | U.N.I.T.Y., Inc., Oakland, CA (2016–2025)**

- Led trauma-informed, survivor-centered programming and staff supervision
- Provided therapy and coordinated reentry and wraparound services
- Developed curriculum, trainings, and community partnerships

**Program Director | RISE Program, Redwood City, CA (2011–2014)**

- Founded trauma-informed program for sexually exploited youth
- Led outreach, crisis intervention, and system collaboration

**Program Manager | YTEC Diversion Program, San Francisco, CA (2009–2011)**

- Developed court-mandated diversion programming for justice-involved youth
- Coordinated with probation, schools, and community providers

## **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNITY ADVOCACY**

Speaker – San Francisco Reentry Conference (2023, 2024)

Speaker – Sonoma County Human Trafficking Awareness (2024)

Speaker – San Francisco Collaborative Against Human Trafficking (SFCAHT) (2024) Lived experience, systems gaps, and trauma-informed responses

## **Community-Based Animal Rescue & Advocacy – San Francisco Bay Area**

Hearts with a Mission -Founder/Lead Advocate – Trauma-informed community cat rescue and care

- Rescued and coordinated placement for vulnerable and abandoned animals in high-need communities
- Advocates for trauma-informed approaches to animal welfare and community-based care systems
- Collaborates with community members, caregivers, and organizations to reduce suffering and improve outcomes
- Supports community members in accessing resources, including recovery services, behavioral health care, housing (Section 8), and public benefits, recognizing the intersection between human and animal welfare

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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Commission

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Seat #6

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): \_\_\_\_\_

Lisa L. Williams



94115

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

415-424-9660

BOSS

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

1918 University Ave

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Resident of San Francisco: Yes [X] No [ ] If No, place of residence: \_\_\_\_\_

18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [ ] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

I represent the BIPOC community and Women who suffer from Mental Health Challenges. My community work is done in areas such as the Fillmore, BVHP, OMI, Tenderlion and Treasurer Island. I'm also an a leader in the LGBTQ community and do work in the Castro.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

My professional background is Community Advocacy, Government Relations, Fundraising and Special Large events. I began work with the mental health arena during college and committed to help the community have a better quality of life by advocating for affordable services.

**Civic Activities:**

I'm on the Board of Directors for Rafiki Wellness Coalition, Bayard Rustin LGBTQ Coalition, Mayor's LBTQ Advisory Board, Black Women Organized for Political Action, Alice B. Toklas and Director of The Soul of Pride.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: August 7th, 2025

Applicant's Signature (required):



*(Manually sign or type your complete name.*

*NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



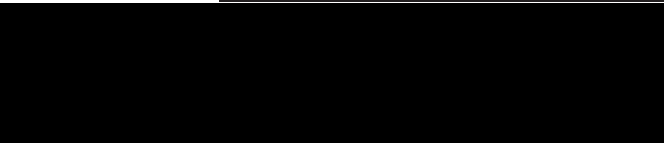
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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: San Francisco Behavior Health Commission Service

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): BHC Im in partnership in community bringin m

Full Name: Lisa Wynn



Zip Code: 94107

Occupation:

Work Phone: 9255284474 Employer: 350 Townsend street suite 705 San Fr

Business Address: 350 Townsend st suite 705 SF Ca Zip Code: 94107

Business Email: lisawynn@unitedinloveinc.org Home Email: [Redacted]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Resident of San Francisco: Yes [X] No [ ] If No, place of residence:
18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

My qualifications represent a broad and inclusive understanding of the diverse communities within the City and County of San Francisco, specifically through my education, work experience, and personal commitments. I hold a degree from the California Institute of Integral Studies (CIIS), an institution deeply committed to fostering awareness and understanding of diverse cultural, social, and psychological perspectives. This education has given me a strong foundation in mental health, community engagement, and advocacy, while also emphasizing the importance of integrating diverse voices and experiences, particularly those from underserved and marginalized communities. In my work within mental health and community stabilization efforts, I have had the privilege of directly engaging with individuals from a wide range of ethnic, racial, socioeconomic, and cultural backgrounds, as well as various ages, genders, sexual orientations, and types of disabilities. Through these roles, I have developed a strong understanding of how to address the unique challenges faced by these communities and the importance of creating inclusive, equitable solutions in both service delivery and policy development. Specifically, my work in mental health has emphasized the need for cultural competence and sensitivity when addressing the mental health and well-being of individuals from diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds, ensuring that interventions and services are tailored to the unique needs of each community. Additionally, my experience with community stabilization has included efforts aimed at supporting individuals from a variety of age groups and gender identities, as well as those affected by disabilities or experiencing homelessness, which has given me insight into the specific barriers faced by these populations in accessing care and services. Overall, my work and educational background have not only prepared me to represent diverse communities but also instilled a deep commitment to advocacy, equity, and social justice. I am committed to ensuring that all residents of San Francisco, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, age, disability, or sexual orientation, are represented and have access to the resources and support they need to thrive.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

Throughout my career, I have been dedicated to building programs that not only support the community but also create sustainable systems of care that address mental health issues across generations. In my role as a consultant for the Umoja AAPI and Student Parent Health Program at City College of San Francisco (CCSF), I worked closely with students and faculty to design and implement mental health and wellness initiatives aimed at supporting underrepresented student populations. This role allowed me to directly engage with students from diverse backgrounds, providing them with the tools and resources they need to navigate mental health challenges while pursuing their academic goals.

Additionally, my partnership with UCSF and the San Francisco Health Plan has been a significant part of my career, where I contributed to the development of community-based health programs aimed at improving access to mental health services and healthcare resources for marginalized populations. This collaboration involved ensuring that the programs we built were not only clinically effective but also culturally competent and tailored to meet the specific needs of the communities we served, including individuals facing disabilities, housing instability, and socioeconomic challenges.

In my role as a Case Manager and later as a Community Stabilization Manager at Booker T. Washington, I designed and implemented programs that provided much-needed mental health support and stabilization services for individuals and families in **high-risk communities**. I was particularly focused on creating systems that would support **multi-generational families**, addressing the long-term impacts of mental health issues and **trauma** within families, and ensuring that these families had access to both immediate care and ongoing support.

One of my core philosophies in this work has been to foster a continuum of care—a system in which individuals and families are supported throughout their entire journey, from stabilization to long-term well-being. I have worked tirelessly to ensure that these programs offer not only professional care but also create safe spaces where people can feel heard, understood, and empowered to make positive changes in their lives. These spaces are designed to be inclusive and welcoming, free of judgment, and deeply rooted in the belief that healing and stabilization require both professional expertise and community support.

Through my work in case management, community stabilization, and health program development, I have strived to ensure that all individuals, regardless of their background, have access to the resources and support they need. I remain deeply committed to building programs and partnerships that foster a more equitable and inclusive healthcare system, one that values the diversity of experience and ensures that everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

**Civic Activities:**

Throughout my career, I have been deeply engaged in civic activities that advocate for public health, education, and housing, particularly in underserved communities. As a member of the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC), I have actively participated in meetings where I addressed issues surrounding budget cuts that directly impact critical mental health services. I have worked to ensure that these discussions are informed by the needs of the community, advocating for adequate funding and support for mental health services, especially as it pertains to vulnerable populations.

Additionally, I have represented these concerns at City Hall, where I have raised awareness about the intersections of mental health with other community needs, particularly in education and housing. I have spoken about the importance of integrating mental health services into schools, ensuring that students receive the support they need to thrive academically and socially, and have advocated for policies that prioritize mental health care as a fundamental aspect of community well-being.

In collaboration with the Community Wellness Outreach Project (CWOP), I have worked alongside partners such as UCSF, San Francisco Health Plan, and the Department of Public Health (DPH) to address significant public health disparities within d10/d11/d07/d5 CWOP's mission is to provide comprehensive support, especially in the areas of cancer care, mental health services, and community health education. By helping bridge gaps in care, CWOP is directly improving healthcare access, particularly through proactive cancer screenings, mental health services, and youth engagement programs.

A key part of CWOP's strategy is providing tailored educational workshops and facilitating telehealth-based navigation services to empower families. This ensures they have the tools and support to navigate the complexities of the healthcare system. My contribution has been to ensure that these services are equitable, culturally relevant, and accessible to all members of the community, particularly those who face systemic barriers to care.

I believe that by fostering strong partnerships between community organizations and public health institutions, we can create a more resilient and healthier Hunters Point—and ultimately, a more equitable city. Through my role in both advocacy and community wellness, I continue to be committed to advancing mental health initiatives, educational opportunities, and housing solutions as essential components of public health policy.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 04/15/2026 Applicant's Signature (required): Lisa Wynn

*(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

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Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

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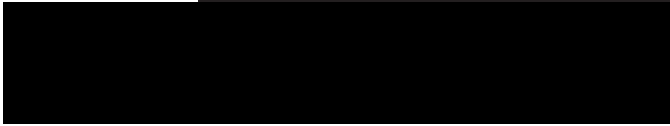
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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8

Full Name: Michael Boyd Fittro



Zip Code: 94103

Occupation: Senior Eligibility Worker

Work Phone: Employer: SF Human Services Agency

Business Address: 1235 Mission St Zip Code: 94103

Business Email: mirac.fittro@sfgov.org Home Email [Redacted]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Resident of San Francisco: Yes [X] No [ ] If No, place of residence:
18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

I am a 30 year old gay man living in recovery from substance use disorder. I recently celebrated 2 years and 8 months clean and sober from all substances. I utilized harm reduction practices until I was able to live a life of complete abstinence. I am diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder, among other diagnoses. I am a survivor of conversion therapy, a pseudoscience performed by anti-LGBTQ+ practitioners who abuse the mental health system to impose religious views on LGBTQ+ minors.

I moved to San Francisco in 2022 seeking a new life after becoming destitute and homeless while in active addiction. During active addiction, I was a caretaker for my father who was an alcoholic and dying of addiction-related illness. My now-former life partner whom I met upon moving to San Francisco, is still currently homeless in San Francisco and trying to get sober. I was with him every step of the way for 3 years while he navigated the San Francisco Rehabilitation System, seeing what worked and what didn't work. I have received mental health services from the County when I was on Medi-Cal, and still receive private care.

(Applications must be submitted to BOS-Appointments@sfgov.org or to the mailing address listed above.)

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

Currently, at the SF Human Services Agency, I assist clients, many of whom are experiencing behavioral health crises and actively using substances, with accessing critical social welfare programs, including providing assistance with locating behavioral health and substance use rehabilitation centers, coordinating with those centers and the State to ensure continuity of enrolled programs, and utilizing de-escalation training to help clients in crisis. At the SF LGBT Center, I worked with TAY Youth to help them navigate challenges related to mental health, homelessness, and substance use. In the Florida House of Representatives, I gained invaluable experience working for the legislator who reformed the state mental health and substance use treatment system, which led to the blueprint for low-barrier central receiving facilities and a true coordinated system of care with an emphasis on peer support. In the Georgia State Senate, I worked as a legislative aide providing support to my legislator on various policies, including public health, Medicaid, mental health and substance use.

**Civic Activities:**

I just completed my term as the Impact Officer with the San Francisco Hub of the World Economic Forum's Global Shaper Initiative. There, I managed major social impact projects that were conducted by members. I was appointed to represent San Francisco, with the American Delegation, at the WEF HQ in Geneva, Switzerland, at the annual summit where we addressed human rights issues. Among the issues presented, I brought behavioral health and substance use disorder, as well as access to meaningful treatment, to the world stage. This conversation sparked meaningful collaboration among various global hubs to create sustainable policy solutions and public-private partnerships. I serve as the Political Action Director with the San Francisco Young Democrats and represent the recovery community on the Full Board. Recently, as a titleholder with the Imperial Council of San Francisco, I led philanthropic efforts in support of nonprofits that provide critical services related to harm reduction, abstinence from substances, behavioral health, and other issues. In the LGBTQ+ recovery community, I volunteer as a guide for newcomers as they navigate early recovery. In 2017, I organized with parents and doctors to ban conversion therapy in Tampa, Florida.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 11/09/2025

Applicant's Signature (required):



*(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): 7, 12-16

Full Name: Nicholas W. Chapman

[Redacted] San Francisco CA Zip Code: 94117
Occupation: Civil Servant

Work Phone: 415-646-2414 Employer: SFMTA

Business Address: 1 South Van Ness, San Francisco, CA Zip Code: 94117

Business Email: nick.chapman@sfmta.com Home Email [Redacted]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Resident of San Francisco: Yes [X] No [ ] If No, place of residence:
18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:
I'm a long term resident of San Francisco who has been both a consumer and a family member of consumers of City (and state) mental health services, and it is that capacity, as someone with extensive experience with mental health services, that I am particularly interested in a seat on this Commission. I have that first hand experience of what works - and what doesn't - in the systems we currently have.
In other axes of identity, I'm a white, bisexual cis male, an immigrant, a senior citizen (just), an alumnus of our public schools, a former small business employee (for a number of different San Francisco businesses) and current City staff person.
While I recognize that the issues and challenges I face - as a middle class white male - accessing mental health services are very different from those faced by people with other, less privileged identities, I also think that the fact that people with my demographic profile still struggle with the various systems for help and support is a valuable perspective, and poses a challenge for some common views of who accesses these services, and who struggles to access them

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

I am currently a manager with SFMTA with varied responsibilities that involve working with a range of other departments, including SFPD, SFFD, DPH, and Public Works. And I work on reviewing proposed legislation and on developing programs for the City in my areas of expertise. That professional experience with City policies, programs and legislation would I think be a valuable asset in work for the Commission. Previous positions I've held have included administering a medical residency program for UCSF, and serving as Data Manager for Planned Parenthood, analyzing data and producing reports on services and financials for all Planned Parenthood clinics nationwide, and that work has included managing NIH grants; those positions, I think, might also provide experience that would be useful for someone serving on the Commission.

**Civic Activities:**

My organized participation in Civic activities in San Francisco is fairly slight at present. In the past, I have volunteered with various entities around the city, but not in recent years, when work and family have occupied all my time. I've volunteered with Shanti, and worked with other food service entities, and also done volunteer work in the parks on things like trails and weed clearance.

In previous years, in Berkeley and elsewhere, I've worked as a peer counselor, both in mental health and sexuality areas. I've been a volunteer tutor working with immigrants on English language learning and cultural adjustments.

I often sit in on public meetings, and not just those directly related to my work for the City, and I am a passionate advocate of involvement in City governance, and in good government practices.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 6/4/2024

Applicant's Signature (required): Nick Chapman Digitally signed by Nick Chapman  
Date: 2024.06.04 18:42:36 -07'00'

*(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: San Francisco Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): Mental Health Professional

Full Name: Raghu Kiran Appasani

[Redacted] Zip Code: 94123
Occupation: Addiction Psychiatrist

Work Phone: 424-432-0452 Employer: Appasani MD PC

Business Address: 1996 Union Street, Suite 300 Zip Code: 94123

Business Email: dr@appasanimd.com Home Email: [Redacted]

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18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:
I believe that my background and professional experience meaningfully represent several of San Francisco's "communities of interest," across multiple axes of diversity — and that I can bring perspectives to the Behavioral Health Commission that align with the city's demographic realities and needs. While I may not represent every racial or ethnic group in San Francisco, I bring a deep sensitivity to cultural diversity rooted in my own life and clinical work. My training and practice have exposed me to diverse populations, including immigrant communities, people of various racial and ethnic backgrounds, Veterans, and people for whom English is a second language. In my role as a mental health professional, I have worked with clients across the lifespan: adolescents, young adults, middle-aged people, and older adults. This gives me a broad, cross-generational perspective on behavioral health issues. As a clinician, I have provided affirming care to individuals across the LGBTQ+ spectrum, including those who are transgender, non-binary, or queer. I deeply understand how intersecting identities (e.g., race + gender identity) can influence mental health risk, access to care, and resilience. In my professional practice, I've worked with clients who experience a wide variety of neuropsychiatric and psychosocial disabilities — whether chronic mental illness, cognitive disabilities, or comorbid physical-health challenges. This experience enables me to advocate effectively for behavioral health policies that are accessible and inclusive, particularly for people with disabilities. Though I may not live in every neighborhood, my clinical and public health work has brought me into contact with underserved and marginalized communities across San Francisco — from the Tenderloin, Bayview-Hunters Point, to other historically under-resourced areas. These neighborhoods often face higher rates of behavioral health challenges, housing instability, and barriers to care.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

I am an integrative and addiction psychiatrist with deep clinical training across some of the nation's most diverse safety-net and academic institutions, including LAC+USC Medical Center, UCSF, Kaiser Permanente, and the San Francisco VA. This training, combined with my current work at Appasani MD, has given me extensive experience treating complex mood, anxiety, trauma, and substance-use disorders, and firsthand insight into the structural, cultural, and access-related barriers faced by San Franciscans navigating the behavioral health system.

As a founder and social-impact entrepreneur, I bring a systems-level, operational lens to behavioral health. I founded The MINDS Foundation, which has implemented scalable, community-driven mental health programs for underserved populations globally, and I have helped build early-stage health and wellness companies. These experiences have strengthened my ability to evaluate programs, manage resources, build cross-sector partnerships, and guide strategy — skills directly relevant to Commission oversight and policy recommendations.

My board and volunteer leadership further align with the Commission's responsibilities. I served as a Board Member for Vista Del Mar, work with youth- and mental-health-focused nonprofits such as Of Substance, and have supported multiple organizations dedicated to reducing disparities in access and outcomes. In these roles, I have reviewed budgets, assessed program efficacy, ensured equity in service delivery, and advised on organizational growth. Across all aspects of my work, I remain committed to advancing evidence-based, community-informed, equitable behavioral health systems — and I hope to bring this combined clinical, operational, and governance experience to the Behavioral Health Commission on behalf of all San Franciscans.

**Civic Activities:**

My civic activities have focused on advancing mental health equity, supporting vulnerable populations, and mobilizing community-driven public-health efforts. As the founder of The MINDS Foundation, I spent over 15 years building and scaling a nonprofit dedicated to mental-health education and care for underserved communities. This work involved developing grassroots programs, training local health workers, and partnering with public institutions to expand access to evidence-based mental health services.

In addition, I serve on the Advisory Board of Vista Del Mar, supporting youth, families, and communities through programs focused on mental health, education, and social services. My board and volunteer roles with other mental-health organizations have further strengthened my commitment to service and to addressing disparities across diverse populations.

As a Global Shaper with the World Economic Forum, I have led civic initiatives focused on equity, youth empowerment, and public health. During the COVID-19 pandemic, I launched community-response projects including a delivery service for elderly and immunocompromised residents in Los Angeles, and the #FTTheVirus campaign, which provided PPE, supplies, and essential goods to underserved communities and frontline workers. These efforts reflect my dedication to crisis response, social justice, and community resilience.

Collectively, my activism, nonprofit leadership, and board service demonstrate a consistent commitment to improving behavioral health outcomes, strengthening community support systems, and ensuring that the needs of vulnerable and marginalized groups are represented—values I would bring to my role on the Behavioral Health Commission.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 11/19/2025 Applicant's Signature (required): Raghu Appasani Digitally signed by Raghu Appasani Date: 2025.11.19 12:33:42 -08'00'  
*(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): 5

Full Name: Raymond Deng

[Redacted] Zip Code: 94103
Occupation: Director of Data

Work Phone: n/a Employer: Thyme Care

Business Address: n/a Zip Code: n/a

Business Email: ray@thymecare.com Home Email: [Redacted]

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18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:
I have lived in San Francisco for over 12 years, in Mission, Bernal Heights and finally, in Potrero Hill for the past 8 years. I have a physical disability that impairs me from walking for more than a few minutes, although I am an avid cyclist. I have supported my brother, John, who has been struggling with heroin and fentanyl addiction, for the past 13 years. He has been living with me for the past 3 years. Although it has been a long journey with him, it has given me the intimate knowledge of the local recovery community: the patchwork network of sober living homes in the Bay Area, addiction medicine and the crucial role of the medical establishment and the sheer amount of resources it takes to build a life back.
I am second generation Chinese-American and though my parents immigrated from China when they were in their 20s, I have roots in California, as my great-grand father came to California (spending a few years in San Francisco!) in the 1870s as a laborer until Chinese Exclusion, when he was forced to return to China. Though I grew up in Michigan, the last 15 years in California has always been a return home for me.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

- MPH in Public Health from Harvard School of Public Health
- 3.5 years of medical school at Stanford Medical School (but did not finish, in part, because I took time off to help John after he overdosed in 2015)
- Over 10 years of experience in healthcare data, particularly Value Based Care and government contracts in Medicare and Medicaid
- Research experience includes addiction issues at the Palo Alto Veteran Affairs and in health systems capacity building at the World Health Organization
- Founded a social enterprise in Rwanda building earthen floors (earthenable.org)

**Civic Activities:**

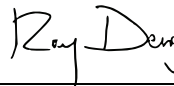
- Weekly volunteering at local food pantry (thefoodpantry.org)
- Political candidate phone banking
- Occasional meetings at SF YIMBY and SF Berniecrats

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 5/23/2025

Applicant's Signature (required):



*(Manually sign or type your complete name.*

*NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

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Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

**From:** [Ray Deng](#)  
**To:** [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Behavioral Health Commission - Tentatively Rescheduled for hearing on May 4, 2026  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 28, 2026 4:36:34 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi Victor,

I actually went to City Hall last week only to find the meeting was moved. Then, I had planned to go on an international trip last weekend, but moved my flight a week forward to accommodate what was previously the tentative April 27th Rules Committee meeting; therefore, I actually cannot make this May 4th meeting because I will be abroad.

However, I did take the liberty of recording a video of myself that I hope you can forward to commissioners as I am still very interested in serving on the commission. The link for the video is linked [here](#). The transcript is below:

"My name is Raymond Deng and I am a resident of San Francisco, where I've lived for nearly 15 years. I'm a healthcare services researcher and data scientist. I went to medical school down at Stanford and I hold an MPH from the Harvard School of Public Health. For the last two decades, I've researched addiction programs for veterans at the Palo Alto Veterans Affairs, health systems capacity building programs at the World Health Organization and Value Based Care contracts that simultaneously minimize cost and maximize quality in Medicare and Medicaid programs across three healthcare startups.

Perhaps most importantly, I have a brother named John who has been struggling for two decades with opiate addiction. I originally relocated him to San Francisco from Michigan, where we both grew up, because he was getting in trouble with the law and abusing prescription painkillers. But John's addiction grew worse after the move - where he began using heroin and ultimately, fentanyl - and he ping-ponged in and out of sober living homes, homeless shelters and addiction programs across the city. After he survived an overdose three years ago, I asked him to live with me and my partner in Potrero Hill, where he has been since living, thankfully sober. He's currently employed, takes monthly Sublocade injections, is involved in AA/NA groups throughout the city and has a sponsor. He's about to begin sponsoring someone himself. I couldn't be more proud of him. Although our journey has been long, it has given me the intimate knowledge of the depth and breadth of resources it takes to build a life back: the patchwork but crucial network of social and mental health services across the city, addiction medicine and the important role of the medical establishment, and how to balance the dual mandates of care and boundary setting, support and accountability. The city's mental health and addiction programs have arguably saved his life, so I have a very personal interest in funding the programs that work and ensuring their long term success. I will bring to this seat a healthcare services researcher's eye for measuring efficacy and the pragmatism of someone whose life has been greatly impacted by the tragedy of the opiate crisis. Thank you."

Thank you so much for your time and consideration!

Best,  
Ray

On Thu, Apr 23, 2026 at 10:37 AM Young, Victor (BOS) <[victor.young@sfgov.org](mailto:victor.young@sfgov.org)> wrote:

Good Morning:

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



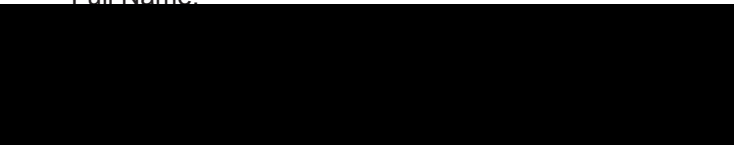
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. (415) 554-5184
Fax No. (415) 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): #8

Full Name: Ricardo Rubio Jr



Zip Code: 94109

Occupation: Clinical Social Worker

Work Phone: 415 437 3000 Employer: UCSF Trauma Recovery Center

Business Address: 2727 Mariposa Street, Ste #100 94110

Business Email: ricardo.rubio@ucsf.edu Home Em [Redacted]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Resident of San Francisco: Yes [X] No [ ] If No, place of residence:
18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

I identify as a cis-gender male, bisexual, Latino and child of immigrants. My intersecting identities undoubtedly make me a better behavioral health clinician and help me represent the communities and neighborhoods of interest. I've called the Bay Area home for the last decade; the last 5 years I have called Lower Nob Hill home. My experiences in my neighborhood and surrounding neighborhoods have shown me SF does a lot to take care of our most marginalized, and that we can do much more! It would be an honor and pleasure to serve on the Behavioral Health Commission to help inform and advance behavioral health equity work in San Francisco.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

I have over 5 years of experience in various behavioral health settings in San Francisco, Oakland and Richmond. I have worked as a clinical case manager for UCSF Citywide and Brown & Toland Primary Care Clinics (Altais/Blue Shield). I have also worked as a psychotherapist in Richmond and San Francisco, specializing in trauma processing and Spanish language mental health services.

Throughout the years, I have always focused on serving our most underserved community members, including LGBTQ+, ethnic minority and low-income community members. My work has always strived to be anti-oppressive, anti-racist and culturally responsive.

My professional and direct service work throughout the years, I believe, make me a great candidate to represent my diverse community's behavioral health interests and needs.

**Civic Activities:**

I currently serve as an Executive Co-Chair for the Latine Social Work Caucus (LSWC). The LSWC is a graduate student organization at the UC Berkeley School of Social Welfare. As Co-Chair, I co-create professional development opportunities that promote a pipeline to empower new behavioral health clinicians to engage in culturally responsive.

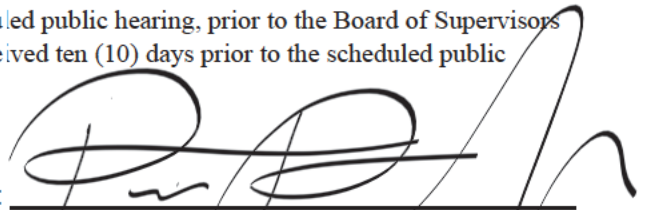
I also serve as a Center of Excellence in Behavioral Health Equity mentor (COEBHE). COEBHE is a UC Berkeley based center that works to train more culturally responsive behavioral health providers in the Bay Area. As a mentor, I help to guide and inform Latinx students interested in behavioral health careers.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 11/18/2025

Applicant's Signature (required):



*(Manually sign or type your complete name.*

*NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): Seat 8

Full Name: Sam Ustrzynski

[Redacted] Mateo, CA Zip Code: 94403
Occupation: Director-Psych Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Work Phone: 415-889-7676 Employer: University of California-San Francisco

Business Address: 1500 Owens St #360 SF, CA Zip Code: 94158

Business Email: sam.ustrzynski@ucsf.edu Home Email: [Redacted]

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Resident of San Francisco: Yes [ ] No [x] If No, place of residence: San Mateo
18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [x] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1):
As a healthcare executive, behavioral health clinician, and military veteran, I bring a multifaceted perspective that reflects the diversity and complexity of San Francisco's communities. I proudly served in the United States Air Force for 13 years and hold the rank of Major, where I gained firsthand experience supporting service members and veterans with mental health needs experience that continues to shape my commitment to public service and equity.
Since 2008, I have lived and worked in San Francisco, proudly serving its residents through multiple institutions. I have worked at the San Francisco VA Medical Center, where I provided care to veterans, and I currently serve at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), where I am honored to lead healthcare initiatives that impact the city's diverse patient population. Additionally, I have practiced as a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner at Santa Clara County Medical Center, delivering behavioral health care in high-acuity settings including the emergency department and the corrections system.
My career has focused on serving underserved and marginalized communities, including immigrant, LGBTQIA+, unhoused, disabled, and justice-involved individuals. As a first-generation American and LGBTQIA+ individual myself, I understand the importance of visibility, inclusion, and culturally responsive care. I have also led efforts to recruit and support a diverse healthcare workforce that mirrors the population we serve.
It would be a privilege to bring this lived experience, clinical expertise, and leadership background to the Behavioral Health Commission, and to continue advocating for equitable, compassionate mental health services for all San Franciscans.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

I currently serve as the Administrative Director of Executive Health at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), where I oversee strategic operations for a concierge-style clinical practice serving executives, referring providers, and high-profile patients. I bring over 15 years of combined experience in clinical care, healthcare administration, and veteran services.

I proudly served in the United States Air Force for 13 years, achieving the rank of Major. My military service shaped my leadership philosophy and strengthened my commitment to serving vulnerable populations, especially those facing behavioral health challenges. During my time in uniform, I supported the mental and physical health of service members and their families across a variety of settings.

I previously worked at the San Francisco VA Medical Center, providing care to veterans with complex medical and behavioral health needs. I also served as a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner at Santa Clara County Medical Center, delivering psychiatric services in both the Emergency Department and Corrections Department underscoring my commitment to equity and access in high-acuity, high-risk environments.

Throughout my career, I have led initiatives focused on quality improvement, workforce development, diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), and patient-centered care. My background includes advanced training in data analytics, Lean Six Sigma, and healthcare leadership allowing me to bridge clinical insight with operational strategy to improve outcomes across systems.

**Civic Activities:**

I have been actively engaged in civic and professional initiatives that promote equity, access, and innovation in healthcare particularly in behavioral health.

Unit-Based DEI Council Founder - At UCSF, I established a department-level Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) council to elevate staff voices, promote cultural competency, and address disparities in patient care and workplace culture.

Workforce Development Advocate - I led the creation of a career ladder for patient care assistants, collaborating with HR, labor unions, and leadership to improve professional growth opportunities for frontline staff, particularly immigrants and underrepresented groups.

Veteran and Mental Health Advocate - As a former U.S. Air Force Major and VA clinician, I continue to advocate for veteran mental health services and better reintegration support for service members transitioning into civilian life.

Mentorship and Education - I actively mentor nursing and nurse practitioner students, especially those from underrepresented backgrounds, and participate in advisory committees related to health workforce development.

Professional Affiliations - I am a member of the Association of California Nurse Leaders, California Association for Nurse Practitioners, and American College of Healthcare Executives, and I regularly contribute to discussions on healthcare policy, behavioral health access, and community-based care.

My civic engagement is driven by a belief that systems change begins at the local level—and I am deeply committed to ensuring San Francisco’s diverse communities are represented and supported in behavioral health policy and practice.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 08/06/2025

Applicant’s Signature (required): Sam Ustrzynski Digitally signed by Sam Ustrzynski  
Date: 2025.08.06 10:09:28 -07'00'

*(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

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Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: San Francisco Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): 8-12

Samrat Samin Roy



San Francisco Zip Code: 94114

Occupation: Board Certified Behavior Analyst & S

Work Phone: 408-329-3272 Employer: Nova Health Therapies, CEO

Business Address: 3000 Scott Boulevard # 101, Santa Clara, CA Zip Code: 95054

Business Email: sroy@novatherapies.com Home Email: [Redacted]

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18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

As a clinical leader, with experience in healthcare management and extensive experience in developing clinical pathways and delivery of services, I appreciate this opportunity to apply for the appointment as a Behavioral Health Commissioner. My experience and passion in behavioral health emanated from my experiences as a child growing in Mumbai, India. These personal and familial struggles combined with lack of detection, services and being from a working class background had a significant impact on my early years. I had to grow up very quickly and mature at an early age. Having said that, I was very fortunate to have educators, school buddies and a fantastic school library that gave me the dreams, aspirations and tenacity to plow through these hard times and not only support myself but also my family. With tenacious hard work and due diligence, I set my sights to seek a healthcare vocation and completed BS in Audiology and Speech Pathology from the University of Mumbai. Because it was undertaken in a highly competitive and coveted government institute, I received a monthly stipend from the Government of India and was able to complete the degree with 1st class with distinction and received an opportunity to work as a Clinical Instructor in my Alma Mater.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

Samrat Roy M.B.A., BCBA, M.A.CCC-SLP, MHCP-C-UK

Career Highlights:

As Founder/COO of Nova Health Therapies, developed contracts with over 110 school district Organizations in California to provide healthcare consultancy and services

Achieved growth across western United States including Washington State, Arizona and California

Achieved an average annual growth rate of 158% year-on-year from founding the Organization in 2013 to current fiscal year

Managed a Team of 300+ healthcare and education professionals for a 20,000+ student school

**Civic Activities:**

CIVIC DUTIES/CONFERENCES / SEMINARS/ BOARD DUTIES

\*Task Force On Autism – Present Board member for development of survey on Autism in Santa Clara County

\*Practical & Compliant Autism Programming: Evidence Based Strategies for Both, February 2009, San Jose

\*Write Meaningful, Measurable IEP Goals: Using data to establish present levels of performance, November 2008, San Jose

\*Response to Intervention Seminar – MEDS Professional Development Network, May 2008, San Jose, California, U.S.A.

\*ASHA National Conference – November 2007, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

\*British Society of Cochlear Implantation National Conference – October 2006, Nottingham, United Kingdom

\*Seminar on It Takes Two To Talk, HANEN Foundation – November 2005, London, United Kingdom

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 05/01/2024

Applicant's Signature (required): Samrat S. Roy

*(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

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**Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:**

As a clinical leader, with experience in healthcare management and extensive experience in developing clinical pathways and delivery of services, I appreciate this opportunity to apply for the appointment as a Behavioral Health Commissioner.

My experience and passion in behavioral health emanated from my experiences as a child growing in Mumbai, India. These personal and familial struggles combined with lack of detection, services and being from a working class background had a significant impact on my early years. I had to grow up very quickly and mature at an early age. Having said that, I was very fortunate to have educators, school buddies and a fantastic school library that gave me the dreams, aspirations and tenacity to plow through these hard times and not only support myself but also my family.

With tenacious hard work and due diligence, I set my sights to seek a healthcare vocation and completed BS in Audiology and Speech Pathology from the University of Mumbai. Because it was undertaken in a highly competitive and coveted government institute, I received a monthly stipend from the Government of India and was able to complete the degree with 1st class with distinction and received an opportunity to work as a Clinical Instructor in my Alma Mater.

My first opportunity in working for western systems, was when I secured a position as a Speech and Language Therapist - Social Service Nurseries, in Lancaster, United Kingdom in 2001. Lancaster and Morecambe Bay had the highest rate of drug abuse per capita, teenage pregnancies and related health and social deprivation. I was handpicked from India, to come into the second year of a 2 year national project. The project required me to set up therapy units in two social nurseries in Morecambe Bay, as the clients were failing to meet developmental targets due to the lack of attendance and social factors. I was informed on my first day of arrival in the UK, that the project was failing and that no one would blame me if it was unsuccessful. ( on a side note: Never had flown in a plane before... could not afford it!!) I immediately, did some research and enrolled in a Certificate program in Clinical Audit with an institution in Manchester. I developed meaningful rapport with staff and undertook clinical audit to measure the efficacy and utility of the two therapy units. At the end of the year the audit indicated 96% growth in the clients speech and language development goals and 94% utilization of the services. I was commended by the NHS and this set up was rolled out as a model.

While working in Lancaster, I enrolled in a MA in Language studies in the University of Lancaster and received a full scholarship working assistantship by the Enabling Minority Language Engineering project that was awarded under the auspices of the Economic and Scientific Research Council (ESRC) - UK. Lancaster was my ground outside India, to work and experience life and develop friendships and professionalism with individuals from diverse backgrounds, nationalities, race and sexual orientation and gender identity. It developed lifelong friendships and respect towards and with different cultural traits and identities.

Over the coming years, I worked as a Hearing Impairment / Deafness Specialist in diverse boroughs of London such as working with the Bengali speaking borough of Tower Hamlets, with population of Bangladeshi descent and the London Borough of Lewisham with population, who identify their origins from North and East Africa, and the Caribbean. I enjoyed, made meaningful friendships and developed huge respect for the diverse cultural, social and religious practices of these communities. I learned how to work with professionals from diverse and multi-ethnic backgrounds.

This experience drove me to specialize in deafness which led to my next vocational opportunity with Cambridge University Research Hospitals, as the Lead Pediatric Cochlear Implantation Expert for southern England region. This was one of the two specialist centers in the United Kingdom for assessment and related rehabilitation of individuals with Cochlear Implants. I learnt British Sign Language in order to develop effective communication practices with families and individuals, who are hearing impaired or deaf.

My educational and professional experience and learnings from the United Kingdom, catapulted me to the role of Speech and Language Pathology Supervisor in New York City with Bilinguals Inc. I was supervising and providing early intervention and related direct to individuals and families in the projects of Brooklyn and covered the length and breadth of the region.

Being Licensed as a Speech and Language Pathologist, both in New York and California, I decided to move to warmer climes, and in a matter of 3 years from 2007 - 2010, was appointed first as the Special Education Coordinator with Behavior Management for a school district in San Jose and then as the Cabinet level Director of Special Education for Gilroy Unified School District. During these 3 years, I gained my MBA from Santa Clara University in Corporate Finance with emphasis on social entrepreneurship. While at Gilroy Unified School District, I undertook Program Management Certificate with specialization in Special Education funding from the University of Southern California. This enabled me to be part of the California School Business Officers. The professional expertise in special education and public school funding, helped me to reduce general education

encroachment and undertake appropriate funding allocations. This helped the District save over \$1.3 MM in special education funds.

During my tenure I was humbled to be part of the Santa Clara Autism Task Force Panel, that spearheaded the need for insurance companies to pay for autism related therapies outside school hours.

In Gilroy, to bridge the gap between access to special education services and the Latino and Migrant communities, my staff and I undertook twice monthly public meetings to educate the community on their rights for accessing special education services and the Individualized Education Process.

In recognition of the efforts, I was felicitated and given an award by Fiesta Educativa- a special education group of Spanish speaking parents and families. As their website indicates "Dedicated to educating and empowering families of individuals with disabilities to become effective advocates for their loved ones.

In addition, my Department organized the Special Education Olympic Games - Bailer Games for which we received commendation from the Office of California Governor Gavin Newsom.

Since 2012, I have been involved in providing professional services and programs to educational institutions, individual clients and private entities in the area of therapies for individuals with autism and related disorders.

I believe my professional and vocational qualification combined with my personal attributes, that reflect the diversity of San Francisco, provide me with the necessary skills, talent and expertise to be successful in this role and I appreciate your consideration of my application.

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## **BUSINESS and/or PROFESSIONA EXPERIENCE**

Samrat Roy M.B.A., BCBA, M.A.CCC-SLP, MHCP-UK

### Career Highlights:

As Founder/COO of Nova Health Therapies, developed contracts with over 110 school district Organizations in California to provide healthcare consultancy and services

Achieved growth across western United States including Washington State, Arizona and California

Achieved an average annual growth rate of 158% year-on-year from founding the Organization in 2013 to current fiscal year

Managed a Team of 300+ healthcare and education professionals for a 20,000+student school district in Silicon Valley

Hands on fiscal management and public fund experience of over \$20 million

Developed and implemented 'Disaster Management Plan' for Tower Hamlets NHS Trust Speech and Language Pathology Department in the event of terroristic or natural emergencies in 2006

Project Lead for pilot program paving the way for development of 'Sure-Start' programs in the United Kingdom

Conducted Clinical Audit on Efficacy and Utilization of services at Bay Community National Health Service, UK, achieving targets with 95%+ consistency.

## EDUCATION

School Business Management University of Southern California, 2012: Specialization in Special Education & Public Education Finance

Behavior Analysis & Organizational Florida Institute of Technology, 2010 & University of West Florida 2020

Behaviour Management

M.B.A. Santa Clara University, 2009 Specialization in Finance

M.B.A. St. Gallen University, Switzerland, 2009, Specialization in European Finance

M. A. University of Lancaster, Department of Linguistics,  
Language Studies Lancaster, U.K., September 2003

B.Sc. A.Y.J. National Institute, University of Mumbai,  
Audiology & Speech Mumbai, India, May 1996, First Class

#### LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

UK Society for Behaviour Analysis – Full Member Applied Behaviour Analyst

Health Professions Council, United Kingdom – Speech and Language Therapist

Commission on Teacher Credentialing, California – Special Education Administrator

Commission on Teacher Credentialing, California – Language, Speech and Hearing

California State Speech Language Pathology License – Permanent, License Number 16034

New York State Speech Language Pathology License - Permanent

Clinical Competency Certificate – Speech Language Pathology, American Speech-  
Language Hearing Association (ASHA)

Member of HANEN Organization, Ontario, Canada

Clinical Audit Association, United Kingdom

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## **CURRENT RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE**

October 2012 – To Present, Nova Group of Companies

Chief Operations Officer

- \* Responsible for day to day management/operations of one of the fastest growing healthcare and special education based consulting firm in the USA and UK
- \* Clinical Lead for a Team of over 50 professionals in the areas of Speech and Language Pathology. Occupational Therapy and Special Education
- \* Have developed contracts with a variety of client organizations including School Districts, Regional Centres and Private Institutions
- \* Have developed a multi-million dollar revenue channels on the west coast.
- \* Have developed a management team to undertake operations and clinical support and delegated responsibilities towards business development, recruitment and payroll functions
- \* Developed business liaisons for recruitment and program management with Universities and Institutions
- \* Developed a team of support professionals such as Legal Counsel and Chartered Accountant for the firm to provide a sound framework of contracts and fiscal discipline

December 2011 – June 2013 Gilroy Unified School District

Director of Special Education and Student Services

- \* Cabinet level Director of Student Services, at Gilroy Unified School District (GUSD), directly reporting to the Superintendent, managing Student Services, Psychological Services and Special Education areas with over 130 staff, 1,165 students with special needs spanning over 16 sites, with 26 Special Day Classes
- \* Co-chair of the Budget Development Work Group for School Linked Services through County Mental Health department with budgetary pledges totaling \$100 million
- \* Reduced & avoided expenditures of ~\$360,000 by developing programs for students with Autism and, bringing back students from the SELPA VI program & NPS programs starting 2012- 13 SY.

- \* Responsible for planning, organization, budgetary allocation and developing expenditure controls at GUSD Student Services with a total budget of \$10.5 million

- \* Identified the discrepancy in allocation of students to Special Education transportation, thus revising the Special Education transportation budget to ~\$278,000 from \$1.1 million

- \* Contacted the Office of the Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom, extending an invitation for the 1st Gilroy Gifted Games. Received a 'Memorandum' recognizing the Games

- \* Negotiated NPA contractual rates achieving a reduction in contractual expenditures by 27% for Speech Pathologists, 15% for Occupational Therapists & 10% for Behavioral Services

March 2008 – December 2011, Orchard School District, San Jose, CA

Director of Special Education & Applied Behavioural Analysis; Assistant Principal (in Rotation)

- \* Part of the Management Team with direct reporting to the Principal of the District.

- \* Strategy and Service Development Panel member of Santa Clara County Autism Task Force.

- \* Special Education Law and Regulation Advisor to the School District

- \* Direct management of the Special Education Services for the School District serving over 860 primary and middle school students with 120 students with Special Needs.

- \* District contact for outside agencies, Parents and Teachers for initiating and coordinating multidisciplinary referrals and assessments.

- \* District Liaison Officer for County Child Protection Services, & Homeless and Foster Youth.

July 2008 – August 2008, Brocade Communications,

California, Corporate Internal Audit Intern

- \* An Internal Audit Internship role, which involved developing automatic tracking of management commitments. In addition, participated in the planning of 'Fraud Risk Assessment' audit.

- \* Undertook review of Internal Audit projects and identified the recommendations provided to Business Process Owners and to understand the relationship between the Internal Audit Team vis-à-vis the Business units within the organization
- \* To upload Internal Audit recommendations and commitment updates, transferring from Microsoft Excel to the Movaris system and developed training and documentation for the Movaris system
- \* Undertook and audited evaluation of feedback obtained from customers towards the application of ratings by the Internal Audit team, and presented the findings
- \* Identified critical issues in the areas of Rev Rec., Inventory Resources and Intellectual Property
- \* Maintained constant liaison with various BPOs and resolved issues regarding delegation / deferral of essential unit processes.

January 2007 – April 2008, AlphaVista Services Inc., California

Director of Clinics and Training

- \* As Line Manager and Senior Advisor imparted training packages to develop skills of professionals, who provided services for the organisation. Completed 5 training programs focussed on different areas of Health Sciences Administration and Management.
- \* Represented the organization on the Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings.
- \* Provided consultation on service plans offered to various School district administrators and actively sought placement of professionals through Alpha Vista Services.
- \* Undertook Training Seminars for Speech and Language Pathologists in the area of Hearing Impairment
- \* Developed business liaisons between Alphavista Services and other Educational and Health Agencies to develop clientele and provide Speech and Hearing Services
- \* Undertook and developed recruitment protocols to recruit candidates from Universities and Colleges for the organization
- \* Developed research programs for presentation in National Conferences.
- \* Supervised newly qualified professionals and ensured maintenance of highest clinical standards within the organisation

\* As the Lead Clinic Director, I won a coveted contract from the federal government which secured client referrals for a health clinic projected to provide gross revenue of \$640,000 per annum per clinic. I developed the structure of the first clinic which has been operational since November 2007.

September 2004 - December 2006– Tower Hamlets PCT & Southwark PCT

Locum Consultant Speech and Language Therapist – Mainstream Schools, Sure Start

Cambridge University Research Hospitals – Paediatric Rehabilitationist Hearing Impairment

- \* Undertook Screening and provision of services for hearing-impaired children and assessed their candidacy for Cochlear Implantation.
- \* Acted in a specialist capacity for Hearing Impaired children within the Mainstream school settings and Sure Start programs.
- \* Provided Counselling services to parents and care givers with regard to the procedures of cochlear implantation.
- \* Consultant Speech and Language Pathologist for pre and post cochlear implant rehabilitation procedure for the Eastern region of England.
- \* Worked in a Specialist multi-disciplinary team consisting of Otolaryngologists, Surgeons, Research Scientists, Audiologists and Teachers of the Deaf.
- \* Developed training resources for internal and external staff. Produced training lectures titled 'Audiology & Hearing Development', 'Diagnosis & Rehabilitative Procedures in Hearing' and 'Hearing Loss and effects on Language Development'.
- \* Enhanced networking opportunities through liaison with National & International Agencies.

September 2001 – August 2004, Enfield Primary Care Trust, Enfield

Speech and Language Therapist – Durants Special School, Enfield

- \* Developed and implemented Individualised Education Plan for MLD and SLD students.

- \* Liaised with Speech Needs Teachers, Instructional Aids, Parents and Healthcare Professionals to develop and implement programs and plans.

- \* Liaised with Teachers to implement best practices such as visual schedules, reinforcement strategies and Picture Exchange Communication Symbols.

- \* Maintained records in accordance with the NHS Trust and RCSLT guidelines.

January 2000 – August 2001, Bay PCT, Lancashire

Joint Finance Project between Lancashire Social Services & Morecambe Bay PCT

Speech & Language Therapist –Social Service Nurseries

- \* Provided peer supervision and supervised professionals within a multi-disciplinary team.

- \* Undertook supervision and mentoring responsibilities for newly qualified Therapists.

- \* Recommended & advised education staff towards procurement of suitable resources.

- \*Reduced the waiting lists for clients awaiting initial appointments and therapy blocks, and brought them in line with the national criterion.

- \*Complimented by the NHS on the success of the project, which reported above 90% efficacy and 95% utility of the Speech and Language units within the nurseries.

- \*Provided training and courses for co-professionals and educational settings.

- \*Undertook audit analysis and data collection of clinical appointments, turnover of clinical reports and efficacy of speech and language input.

Experience May 1996 – December 1999

E.A.R. Centre, Bombay, Dr. Bhumkar's ENT Hospital, Bombay - Lead Speech & Language Therapist & Audiologist

Dr. Monga's ENT Hospital, Bombay - Speech & Language Therapist & Audiologist

National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Bombay – Student Supervisor

CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- \*Task Force On Autism – Present Board member for development of survey on Autism in Santa Clara County
- \*Practical & Compliant Autism Programming: Evidence Based Strategies for Both, February 2009, San Jose
- \*Write Meaningful, Measurable IEP Goals: Using data to establish present levels of performance, November 2008, San Jose
- \*Response to Intervention Seminar – MEDS Professional Development Network, May 2008, San Jose, California, U.S.A.
- \*ASHA National Conference – November 2007, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.
- \*British Society of Cochlear Implantation National Conference – October 2006, Nottingham, United Kingdom
- \*Seminar on It Takes Two To Talk, HANEN Foundation – November 2005, London, United Kingdom
- \*Seminar on Case Trials and Litigations in Health Service – April 2004, London, United Kingdom
- \*Clinical Audit Association of United Kingdom, National Conference – 2003, Birmingham, United Kingdom
- \*National Conference on Corpus Linguistics – 2001, Lancaster, United Kingdom
- \*Seminar on Ototoxicity and Hearing Loss – 1996, Mumbai, India
- Indian Speech and Hearing Association, National Conference – 1995, Madras, India

#### PAPERS/ ACHIEVEMENTS

- \*Organised and liased with HANEN Organisation – Canada to impart a training program in Tower Hamlets.
- \*Appointed as a Principal Transcribers for the ‘Enabling Minority Language Engineering Project’, whilst studying for the MA degree.
- \*Lead Audiologist pioneering the neo natal hearing-screening program in Mumbai, 1998 – 1999.

\*Exceeded expectations and complimented on the success of the Clinical Audit on Joint

\*Finance Project between the Lancaster & Morecambe Social Services & NHS.

\*Achieved commendation in AYJNIHH conference 1996: 'Ototoxicity and Hearing Loss'.

\*Achieved the 'Best Paper' award in Indian Speech and Hearing Association

Conference and acknowledged for my contribution to the 'Hearing Aid Trial – A Follow – up Study' (1995).

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. (415) 554-5184
Fax No. (415) 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): #7, 8 or #11

Full Name: Silvia Erica Arabia, DNP, MPH, MSN, PMHNP, WHNP, PHN, RN

[Redacted] cisco, CA Zip Code: 94131

Occupation: Nurse

Work Phone: 650-413-1688 Employer: County of San Mateo

Business Address: 2000 Alameda, San Mateo, CA Zip Code: 94403

Business Email: sarabia@smcgov.org Home Email [Redacted]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Resident of San Francisco: Yes [X] No [ ] If No, place of residence:
18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

As a public health professional, with dual certifications as a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner and Women's Health Nurse Practitioner, I have been fortunate in acquiring a deep understanding of the healthcare landscape including trends in clinical practice, policy and research. As a Latina and native Spanish speaker, I value being able to provide culturally and linguistically congruent patient care to my community.

I received my Master of Public Health from the University of Edinburgh's Medical School in Scotland (U.K.) prior to training as a Registered Nurse at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF)'s School of Nursing. I received my MSN from Duke University as a Nurse Practitioner and my Doctorate in Nursing Practice from The Valley Foundation School of Nursing at San José State University. My doctoral project focused on perceptions of perinatal depression among immigrant mothers. I am certified in CenteringPregnancy® and in Perinatal Mental Health through PSI. Currently, I am a Nurse Consultant and the Perinatal Services Coordinator (PSC) for San Mateo County, pursuing advanced psychoanalytic training in Parent-Infant Psychotherapy (PIP) at Columbia University.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

My professional experience lies at the intersection of public health, policy and nursing. My background in public health has enhanced my nursing practice in positive ways. As a nurse, I have worked extensively with families in the peripartum, especially low-income immigrant mothers that have struggled with their mental health and the lack of culturally and linguistically concordant care in the clinical setting. The dearth of psychiatric mental health providers of color and the impact this can have on the mental health of my patients was one of the deciding factors in why I pursued my doctorate in nursing and trained in an additional specialty, becoming a PMHNP. I was trained in psychiatric mental health at the hospital where I was born, San Francisco General, where I learned to assess, diagnose and treat the mental health conditions of our City's most vulnerable including those navigating substance use disorder, homelessness, poverty and systemic racism. I am particularly interested and actively pursue work in perinatal mental health, addiction medicine, qualitative research, quality improvement, integrated behavioral health models and innovative patient-centered care models.



**Civic Activities:**

When I lived in Scotland, I volunteered at a Rape Crisis Center, answering their hotline and supporting people navigating crisis following a sexual assault or rape. As a nursing student at UCSF, I volunteered at MSC-South, San Francisco's largest homeless shelter and the location of the UCSF Shelter Clinic. Prior to that, I was a volunteer doula at CPMC Sutter Health in San Francisco, supporting monolingual Spanish speaking immigrant women birthing alone. I was also a volunteer as a medical interpreter at Clinic by the Bay in San Francisco's Excelsior District, a medical clinic for individuals without medical insurance. While here, I supported monolingual Spanish speakers and their English speaking providers, contributing to the health and wellness of SF residents with linguistic/cultural barriers in the clinical setting. I am a founding Board Member in the newly established (2025) Society of Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners of Color. Additionally, I am an active supporter of the Homeless Prenatal Program (HPP), an SF based non-profit that aims to empower homeless and low-income families, particularly mothers motivated by pregnancy and parenthood, to find within themselves the strength and confidence they need to transform their lives. I regularly attend local San Francisco events, like town halls and board meetings, to inform myself as a resident.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 11/30/2025

Applicant's Signature (required):

*(Manually sign or type your complete name.*

*NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

## Silvie E. Arabia, DNP, MPH, MSN, APRN, PMHNP-BC, WHNP-BC, NP-C

- Dual board-certified, **bilingual** (Spanish), Nurse Practitioner and Doctor in Nursing Practice.
- **10+ years** of healthcare experience gained across public health, nursing & research settings.
- Experienced as a **program director, nurse supervisor, clinical instructor and nursing leader**.
- 1270+ hours of **advanced practice clinical experience** across primary care, obstetrics & gynecology, women's health, oncology, psychiatry and mental health.

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### EDUCATION

2025	The Valley Foundation School of Nursing at San José State University <b>DNP, Doctor of Nursing Practice</b>
2025	Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions, Provo, UT <b>Postgraduate Certificate, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner</b>
2023	Duke University, Durham, NC <b>MSN, Master of Science in Nursing, Women's Health Nurse Practitioner</b>
2019	University of California at San Francisco (UCSF) <b>RN , Registered Nursing</b>
2013	University of Edinburgh, Scotland, U.K. <b>MPH, Master of Public Health</b>

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### LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATIONS

- *Registered Nurse*, California Board of Registered Nursing #95232010, *ex. 6/2026*
- *Public Health Nurse*, California Board of Registered Nursing #562851, *ex. 6/2026*
- CenteringPregnancy®, Centering Healthcare Institute, *ex. 9/2026*
- *Nurse Practitioner*, California Board of Registered Nursing #95035665, *exp. 6/2026*
- *Nurse Practitioner Furnishing*, California Board of Registered Nursing #95035665, *exp. 6/2026*
- *Drug Enforcement Administration*, DEA Sched. II-V, #MA9757507, *exp. 6/2028*
- *Women's Health Nurse Practitioner, Board-Certified*, NCC #104129578 *exp. 3/2028*
- *Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, Board-Certified*, ANCC #2025025177 *exp. 9/2030*
- *Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, Certified*, AANP #11250077 *exp. 11/2030*
- *Perinatal Mental Health Certification*, PSI #PSI2572339, *exp. 3/2027*

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### SKILLS

**Languages:** Bilingual (Spanish & English); Native fluency.

**Core Nursing:** Physical and Psychiatric Assessment & Care Planning, Nursing Documentation, Medication Administration, Clinical Pharmacology, Evidence-Based Practice, Cultural Competency, Infection Prevention & Control, Patient & Family Education, Situational Awareness, Motivational Interviewing, Interdisciplinary Collaboration, Clinical Judgement, Time Management.

**Behavioral Health:** Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Interpersonal Psychotherapy (IPT)

**Technical:** Electronic Health Record Documentation (Epic), Nursing Informatics/Nursing Workflows, Quality Improvement, Microsoft 365 Suite, CPT Coding & Billing, Telehealth (Doxy.me).

**Compliance:** HIPAA, Mandated Reporting (Child Abuse), Workplace Violence Prevention, IT Security.

**Research/Academia:** Qualitative Research, Reflexivity, IRB, Focus Groups, Data Analysis, Peer-Reviewed Publications, Clinical Instruction, Nursing Education.

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**PMHNP POST-GRADUATE CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**
**Adult, Child & Adolescent Psychiatry** **540 hours**

UCSF Family and Community Psychiatry

**High Risk OB Psych/Team Lily** at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital (ZSFG)

Preceptors: Melanie Thomas, MD, Jennifer Annunziata, MD, and Kate Dube, LCSW

- Under the guidance and supervision of two board-certified psychiatrists and a licensed therapist, I provided evidence-based psychiatric/mental health care for patients across the lifespan through psychopharmacologic and/or psychotherapeutic interventions at the bedside, the outpatient setting and via telehealth/telepsychiatry.
- Performed initial psychiatric assessments and follow-up care including diagnosis, medication management, add-on psychotherapy and billing/coding in Epic EHR.

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**WHNP GRADUATE CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**
**Gynecologic Oncology** **220 hours**

Sutter Health, Preceptor: Kay Harger, MSN, AGNP-C

- Performed #70 pelvic/bi manual exams, assisted with #20 biopsies.
- Attended #20 procedures in OR to observe surgical interventions.
- Under minimal supervision, provided care of new and established patients with gynecological malignancies including ovarian, cervical, uterine and vulvar cancers through assessment/surveillance, chemotherapy, supportive medications, patient/family psychosocial support and education. Independently documented patient encounters in Epic EHR which were co-signed by MD or NP.

**Obstetrics & Gynecology**

 UCSF/Ole Health; Preceptors: Karen Merzenich, MS, CNM & Laura Weil, CNM **300 hours**

- Performed #50 pap smears, inserted #10 IUDs and #10 Nexplanon LARCs.
- Under the guidance and supervision of nurse-midwives, performed well woman exams, provided routine prenatal care including ultrasound, fundal height measurement, fetal heart tones, medication management, fertility counseling, pelvic/bi manual exams, STI testing/treatment, BV, candidiasis, birth control pills/injections, tubal ligation counseling, DVT in pregnancy, pregnancy loss/SAB, postpartum visits, perinatal depression screenings, breastfeeding/lactation support.

**Primary Care**

UCSF Mt Zion/Foster City Urgent Care Clinic

Preceptors: Amanda Howard, MD and Molly Kenward, MS, FNP-BC

**200 hours**

- Under the supervision of a primary care physician and nurse practitioner, I performed physical exams, focused on preventative care and/or management of acute or chronic illnesses including HTN, DM, obesity, hyperlipidemia, asthma, anemia, bronchitis, sinusitis, bacterial/viral URI, otitis media, chronic fatigue, musculoskeletal conditions, influenza, pneumonia, syncope, vertigo, depression, anxiety, substance use disorder, peripheral neuropathy and stress incontinence.

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**PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

- Chambers, B. D., Arega, H. A., **Arabia, S. E.**, Taylor, B., Barron, R. G., Gates, B., Scruggs-Leach, L., Scott, K. A., & McLemore, M. R. (2021). Black Women's Perspectives on Structural Racism across the Reproductive Lifespan: A Conceptual Framework for Measurement Development. *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, 25(3), 402–413. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10995-020-03074-3>
- Chambers, B. D., **Arabia, S. E.**, Arega, H. A., Altman, M. R., Berkowitz, R., Feuer, S. K., Franck, L. S., Gomez, A. M., Kober, K., Pacheco-Werner, T., Paynter, R. A., Prather, A. A., Spellen, S. A., Stanley, D., Jelliffe-Pawlowski, L. L., & McLemore, M. R. (2020). Exposures to structural racism and racial discrimination among pregnant and early post-partum Black women living in Oakland, California. *Stress and Health*, 36(2), 213–219. <https://doi.org/10.1002/smi.2922>
- Chambers, B. D., Arega, H., Spellen, S., **Arabia, S. E.**, Stanley, D., Gomez, A. M., Franck, L., Berkowitz, R., Feuer, S., Jelliffe-Pawlowski, L., & McLemore, M. R. (2018). 961: Pregnant Black women's experiences of racial discrimination. *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*, 218(1), S569–S569. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajog.2017.11.448>

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**NURSING & HEALTHCARE EXPERIENCE**
**Adjunct Professor, Psychiatric Nursing**

01/2026 -Present

University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA

- Supervises graduate student (MSN) nursing groups assigned to three locked inpatient psychiatric units at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital (ZSFG) as part of their clinical requirements for licensure including the Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES), 7B and 7C units.
- Promotes individual and group psychiatric/mental health learning opportunities that align with didactic/theoretical concepts while developing learner confidence and safety across varying levels of patient acuity in the inpatient psychiatric setting.
- Regularly engages with advanced practice psychiatric nurses, psychiatric nurse managers, charge nurses and psychiatric nurses to promote high quality psychiatric patient care through collaboration, professionalism and nursing education.
- Evaluates student nursing performance in the inpatient psychiatric clinical setting, providing timely feedback throughout the clinical rotation experiences to promote optimal student learning, confidence and success; Assigns mid-term and end-of-course grades.

**Nurse Consultant**

9/2022 -Present

San Mateo County Health, CA

- Performs physical and mental health assessments of patients and prioritizes timely clinical documentation in the patient's electronic health record including Epic and myAvatar.
- Screens for developmental progress and milestones through evidence-based tools like the Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ), actioning any psychomotor, cognitive or speech delays/concerns.
- Routinely provides clinical consultation and guidance to nurses and non-nursing community health staff, including triage and clinical guidance/training on Epic (EHR).

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**Perinatal Services Coordinator (PSC)**  
San Mateo County Health, CA

*9/2022-Present*

- Builds and maintains responsive and effective relationships with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH)'s Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health executive leadership team, regional and local health department division executive leadership, managed care plans, hospitals, clinics and other stakeholders to promote the health of pregnant and postpartum patients.
- Independently develops and delivers perinatal webinars and trainings aimed at promoting the professional development and continuing education of nurses and OBGYN providers.
- Promotes active engagement and sharing of new insights and perinatal/maternal health guidelines.
- Drives internal initiatives through development and active contribution to improvement charters; Regularly represents the Family Health Services (FHS) division at County initiatives focused on maternal and infant health priorities including Substance Use Disorder (SUD) in pregnancy, Perinatal Mental Health and Gestational Diabetes, to improve health outcomes through galvanized action plans and collaboration.
- Synthesizes collective and alternate priorities and concerns to move initiatives and ideas forward.

**Senior Nurse (Work-Out-Of-Class)**  
San Mateo County Health, CA

*2/2024-9/2024*

- Supervised and a team of nurses and health workers in a time limited managerial position.
- Identified clinical inefficiencies and created nursing workflows to improve nursing practice.
- Provided individual weekly reflective supervision to staff, supporting & promoting their growth.
- Prioritized patient referrals through timely assignments to nursing and community health workers, ensuring prompt patient care coordination and appropriate clinical intervention(s).

**Forensic Nurse/Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner**  
San Mateo Medical Center, CA

*9/2022-4/2025*

- Delivered trauma-informed acute nursing care to adult and adolescent patients presenting to the emergency department following sexual assault, rape and/or strangulation.
- Independently conducted forensic exams, often during moments of significant psychological distress for patients and/or their families.
- Prepared and administered prophylactic medications and provided patient education.
- Produced highly detailed nursing documentation in Epic (EHR) for use in legal/criminal cases.

**Clinical Nurse**  
San Mateo County Health, CA

*6/2021-9/2022*

- Delivered provider and hospital leadership trainings that promoted infection control standards and patient safety in the inpatient and community settings during a global pandemic.
- Supported health system emergency response efforts and community outreach through regular dissemination of rapidly changing CDPH and San Mateo County Health Officer communication to hospitals, long-term care facilities and outpatient clinics.
- Prepared, stored and administered vaccinations to pediatric and adult patients, often at San Mateo County's mass vaccination events, as well as in the clinical and community settings.

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**Registered Nurse**

*3/2021–6/2021*

San Mateo County Health, CA

- Conducted nursing assessments of patients hospitalized at San Mateo Medical Center with SARS-CoV-2 ahead of their proposed hospital discharge and developed appropriate discharge/service plans to prevent/reduce community transmission and promote public health.
- Provided nursing case management to vulnerable patients with complex health needs including homelessness, co-morbidities and mental health needs including schizophrenia and substance use.
- Coordinated referrals, both internal and external, as part of patient’s service plan.

**Clinical Lead RN**

*1/2021-3/2021*

San Francisco Department of Public Health, CA

- Provided nursing care to patients hospitalized with COVID-19.
- Developed and promoted best practices across public health, public health nursing, epidemiology, infection control and prevention during the City’s emergency preparedness response efforts.
- Provided guidance to key healthcare leaders, promoting actionable and cost-effective solutions.
- Supported health system emergency response efforts and community outreach through regular dissemination of rapidly changing CDC and CDPH communication to hospitals, long-term care facilities and outpatient clinics in the City and County of San Francisco.
- Prioritized the safety of vulnerable populations through education and advocacy.

**Private Duty RN-Behavioral Health**

*10/2020-10/2022*

CDSS, Sacramento, CA

- Performed behavioral health and cognitive assessments, including assessing suicidal ideation and homicidal ideation, and initiation of individualized care plans.
- Observed and documented behavior of mentally ill geriatric patients in electronic medical record (Epic) to safeguard against injury and hazards.
- Administered psychiatric medications as prescribed, including monitoring patient reactions to treatment(s), to promote and improve their overall mental health and psychiatric well-being.
- Regularly communicated behavioral/psychiatric patient changes to interdisciplinary team.

**Program Director**

*2/2016- 6/2018*

UCSF, San Francisco, CA

- Supervised a team of Registered Nurses and non-clinical program/research staff.
- Managed research budget by exploring financial solutions that promoted cost savings; Adjusted and prioritized spending as needed.
- Translated study materials from English to Spanish to maximize study recruitment and participation.
- Recruited study participants, managed consent process, scheduled and conducted qualitative interviews and focus groups.
- Performed data analysis of study findings and contributed to dissemination of research through peer-reviewed publications as second author.

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**HONORS AND AWARDS**

- 2025 **Women In County Government Award Finalist**, Board of Supervisors, County of San Mateo  
 2024 Judy and Conrad Schmitt **Nursing Endowment**, The Valley Foundation at San José State Univ  
 2024 Full-funding **Doctoral Nursing Grant**, The Valley Foundation at San José State University  
 2023 Full-funding **Doctoral Nursing Grant**, The Valley Foundation at San José State University  
 2023 **Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society**, Beta Epsilon Chapter at Duke University  
 2022 United Health Foundation Diverse **Clinician Advancement Scholarship**  
 2022 State of California **Advanced Practice Healthcare Scholarship**  
 2021 State of California **Advanced Practice Healthcare Scholarship**  
 2020 State of California **Advanced Practice Healthcare Scholarship**  
 2020 Emmy Lou Tompkins **Nursing Scholarship**, Duke University  
 2019 **Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society**, Alpha Eta Chapter at UCSF School of Nursing  
 2018 United Health Foundation **Diverse Scholar Initiative Award**, National Assoc of Hispanic Nurses  
 2018 Betty Gabriel **Endowed Scholarship**, UCSF School of Nursing  
 2018 Ronald and Ann Williams **Nursing Scholarship**, UCSF School of Nursing  
 2013 MPH **Full Tuition Scholarship**, University of Edinburgh, Scotland  
 2012 MPH **Full Tuition Scholarship**, University of Edinburgh, Scotland

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**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**
Memberships

- 2024-Present American Psychiatric Nurses Association  
 2024-Present American Association of Nurse Practitioners  
 2024-Present American Society of Addiction Medicine  
 2024-Present Postpartum Support International  
 2022-Present National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health  
 2018-Present Sigma Theta Tau: International Honor Society of Nurses

Service

- 2025 Society of Psychiatric Mental health Nurse Practitioners of Color: Board Member  
 2025 California Breastfeeding Coalition: Board Member  
 2019-Present Homeless Prenatal Program (HPP), San Francisco: Ongoing Supporter

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): 1-Supervisor 2, 3, 4 Consumer, 5, 6, 7, 8-12 *Representing the public interest*

Full Name: Stephanie Yolanda Gonzales



Zip Code: 94134

Occupation: Mental Health Worker III

Work Phone: 628. 154-8484 Employer: City + County of San Francisco

Business Address: ~~3905~~ 3905 Mission St Zip Code: 94110

Business Email: Stephanie.gonzales@sfgov.org Home Email:

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Resident of San Francisco: Yes  No  If No, place of residence: \_\_\_\_\_  
18 Years of Age or Older: Yes  No

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

I am a born and raised San Francisco native and formally homeless in the past. I have been in the field of helping and supporting our mentally challenged community for over 20 years. Being a trust-worthy empathic role model for our homeless, incarcerated- formally incarcerated community, along with our transgender, disabled community. Providing services and resources for healthy + safe living in San Francisco. The SF community trust me, and has a special open relationship to where I can get them the help they deserve and need. Listening and not judging + treating our mental health clients like human beings not just numbers. I am well known all over San Francisco.

(Applications must be submitted to BOS-Appointments@sfgov.org or to the mailing address listed above.)

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

I ran Glides Women Center for 5 years, changing the restroom and group protocols for our transgender clients suffering from mental health issues. Providing counseling and services to all genders and our Senior Adults. I also worked in Jail Psych at San Bruno & 850 Bryant providing services to our mentally challenged PDS. I also worked at SF Sheriff Dept/SRP program providing mental health services to our survivors of Domestic Violence. I also worked at St. Vincent De-paul providing and supporting homeless clients with mental help & resources. During COVID I worked at COVID Command Center in charge of the DPH HOTLINE providing mental health resources for individuals and families. I know work at Southeast Mission Clinic with our Older Adults providing & helping clients 50 and older with mental health issues.

**Civic Activities:**

Supervisor of different CBO's at The Linkage Center downtown SF  
Supervisor of Vaccine Site Ella Hill Hutch in the Fillmore  
Voted by District Attorney Office of SF for Victims Crime Week  
Rallied for Transgender & Mental Health Services at City Hall  
Speaker at City & State Building for Domestic Violence Month  
Voted for Women's Month on KTVU Channel 2 News  
Marched in PRIDE Parade on Market St.  
Table for Sunday Streets with some clients  
Writing Letters to officials for mental health rights  
Support Community Clean-up in the Tenderloin  
Volunteer at Glide Foundation Kitchen

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 11/20/25 Applicant's Signature (required): Stephanie Gonzalez  
(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_



# STEPHANIE GONZALES

## MENTAL/HEALTH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNSELOR/ADVOCATE

DEAR SAN FRANCISCO, INTRODUCING MS STEPHANIE AKA AS THE DV LADY

Serving the homeless/mental health community for over 20 years from Glide Women Center, Sheriff Dept/SRP, SVDP Homeless Shelters/Covid Command Center, Ella Hill Hutch Vax Clinic, Linkage Center, Jail Psych, Behavioral Health Clinic

### CONTACT



[stephanie.gonzales@sfdph.org](mailto:stephanie.gonzales@sfdph.org)

San Francisco, CA



Stephanie Gonzales  
Mental Health/DV  
Department of Public Health  
All over San Francisco CA  
Helping/Serving  
Women, Men, Children

- Women Month Selected KTVU Channel 2 News 2025
- Selected Speaker at City Hall for DV Month 2025
- Earned 3 Degrees in Community Health, Health Education Libera Arts and Social Behavioral Science 2018-2025
- Voted by SF District Attorney Office Victim Crime Week 2017

Where I come from people like me don't make it this far. Giving back to my community is probably one of the best feelings I ever had. I get to work and help people that most frown or look down upon. This journey was not easy; I have been through a lot of storms since I was a child. I come from a toxic trauma, hurting community. Born across from Geneva Towers, ran with 2VC Crew, and moved to Potrero Hill. I am a EX everything and I am not ashamed because that life made me the strong women I am today. I speak up for those that can't.

I am truly grateful for the Ulu family that took me in when I was a child. I got to feel what a real family felt and looked like. I would not have made it this far in life, I honestly would be dead or in prison.

Sincerely, Stephanie Mahalo

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



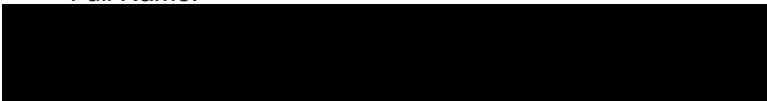
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TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): 8-12

Full Name: Tara Gamboa-Eastman



Zip Code: 94103

Home Phone: Occupation: Director of Government Affairs

Work Phone: Employer: Steinberg Institute

Business Address: 1121 L Street, #300 Zip Code: 95816

Business Email: tara@steinberginstitute.org Home Email: [Redacted]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Resident of San Francisco: Yes [X] No [ ] If No, place of residence:
18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:
San Francisco is the community that shaped my values, my career, and my commitment to behavioral health. I was born and raised in the Mission District and today live just a 20-minute walk down Valencia Street from where I grew up. My mother served as a psychiatric social worker for the City and County in day treatment and Assertive Community Treatment programs, and through her work I saw firsthand the importance of community-based care for individuals living with serious mental illness. My own lived experience with mental illness further shaped my commitment to ensuring systems are accessible, compassionate, and responsive to the needs of individuals and families. Professionally, I serve as Director of Government Affairs at the Steinberg Institute, a statewide nonprofit public policy institute focused on breaking the cycle of homelessness, incarceration, and hospitalization for people with serious mental illness and substance use disorders. In this role, I work on implementation of major statewide behavioral health reforms, including the transition to the Behavioral Health Services Act, CalAIM, 988, and BH-CONNECT. This work plus my personal experience provides a unique vantage point into the policies San Francisco is actively implementing.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

I am the Director of Government Affairs at the Steinberg Institute, where I lead statewide behavioral health policy and implementation efforts. My work focuses on major system reforms that counties, including San Francisco, are actively implementing, including the Behavioral Health Services Act, CalAIM, 988, and BH-CONNECT. I have led development of major behavioral health legislation, including AB 988, and secured more than \$243 million in behavioral health investments, including sustainable funding for California's crisis response system. Previously, I served as a Legislative Aide to Assemblymember Phil Ting, where I managed a portfolio focused on housing, homelessness, and human services and worked closely with San Francisco agencies and stakeholders. I also worked for the San Francisco Treasurer's Financial Justice Project and the San Francisco Department on the Status of Women. I hold a Master in Public Policy from Harvard University and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from UC Berkeley.



**Civic Activities:**

(Empty box for Civic Activities)

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 3/28/2026

Applicant's Signature (required):

*(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

Appointed to Seat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Vacated: \_\_\_\_\_

**Tara Gamboa-Eastman**  
San Francisco, California, United States

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**PROFILE**

Behavioral health policy and systems leader with experience working at the intersection of state agencies, counties, and community partners to design and implement complex initiatives. Known for a relationship-driven and results-oriented approach, with a strong ability to translate policy into practical, on-the-ground strategy and align diverse stakeholders around shared goals. Secured over \$243 million in behavioral health investments and helped establish a dedicated funding stream generating approximately \$150 million annually to support California's crisis response system.

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**EDUCATION**

**Harvard University**, Master in Public Policy  
**University of California, Berkeley**, Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

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**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

Aug 2023 – Present

**Director of Government Affairs, Steinberg Institute**

Apr 2022 – Aug 2023

**Senior Advocate**

Dec 2020 – Apr 2022

**Legislative Advocate**

Advise the CEO on government affairs and behavioral health policy strategy, translating executive priorities into actionable legislative, budget, and coalition plans. Develop and execute legislative, budget, and regulatory strategies to advance statewide behavioral health reforms, translating policy priorities into actionable implementation guidance across agencies and partners.

- Prepare and deliver executive-level briefings, memos, and presentation materials in, often in partnership with the Institute's research team, for Board members, legislators, the Governor's office, and Administration officials, synthesizing complex policy and program information into clear decision-ready recommendations.
- Own end-to-end financing and budget advocacy for statewide initiatives, securing \$243.8 million in state funding for workforce programs and crisis response.
- Lead the development and execution of major behavioral health legislation, including drafting and advancing California's 988 crisis response system policy through legislative (AB 988, Bauer-Kahan, 2022) and regulatory processes to support statewide implementation.
- Lead high-visibility, cross-functional coalition strategy through influence, convening 25+ organizations to develop a behavioral health workforce proposal that resulted in \$500+ million in state investments.
- Drive cross-functional alignment without direct authority by convening and mobilizing advocates, government partners, and stakeholders to resolve competing priorities and move shared reform objectives forward.
- Provide strategic policy guidance on program development and budget proposals, advising clients (including counties and community-based organizations) on grant opportunities and policy options to support behavioral health system improvements and equity-focused outcomes.
- Represent the organization in legislative hearings and media engagements, communicating policy positions with political acumen and discretion while navigating evolving regulatory and political landscapes.
- Supervise five staff and consultants working on our government affairs and policy work.

Jan 2019 – Dec 2020

**Legislative Aide, Office of Assemblymember Phil Ting, California State Assembly**

Oversaw a legislative portfolio spanning housing, homelessness, and human services, supporting the Assemblymember's decision-making in a complex public-sector environment.

- Owned bill review for a high-volume legislative docket, analyzing hundreds of bills annually and translating policy and political implications into clear vote recommendations for the Assemblymember.
- Drafted legislation and executive-ready materials, including fact sheets, briefing memos, and hearing packets, synthesizing complex issues into concise guidance for hearings, negotiations, and public communications.

- Represented the office in stakeholder meetings and negotiations, coordinating input across community organizations, advocates, and government partners to surface tradeoffs and drive timely decisions.
- Supported district and intergovernmental engagement by working with local Board of Supervisors offices, mayoral staff, and other agencies on constituent and policy priorities tied to housing and human services.

May 2019 – Dec 2019

**Consultant, Financial Justice Project, San Francisco City & County  
Office of the Treasurer & Tax Collector**

Conducted research and drafted a policy report on government-owed child support debt and its impact on low-income families; findings informed state legislative changes and budget advocacy.

- Led an equity-focused policy research project assessing how government-owed child support debt affects low-income families, synthesizing qualitative and quantitative inputs into clear problem statements and policy options.
- Authored an executive-ready policy report translating complex findings into actionable recommendations for public-sector decision-makers, supporting legislative strategy and priority-setting.
- Developed data-informed materials to support budget advocacy efforts, aligning research insights to funding and implementation considerations for government programs serving impacted communities.

Aug 2013 – Aug 2014

**Public Policy Fellow, San Francisco City & County  
Department on the Status of Women**

Public Policy Fellow supporting a city and county department focused on advancing gender equity through policy, public-private partnerships, and community engagement Led key initiatives to expand employer participation in workplace equity programs, advance local implementation of international human rights standards, and strengthen stakeholder coordination across public, private, and community based partners.

- Managed the Gender Equality Principles Initiative, a public-private workplace equity program based on advancing 7 gender equality principles; increased corporate participation in the Gender Equality Challenge by 30%.
- Developed and led a national campaign, “Cities for CEDAW,” to pass local women’s human rights measures in 100 cities.
- Tasked with internal and external departmental communications including writing press releases, writing a newsletter for a 4000+ audience, and managing social media; doubled Department Twitter following in 6 months.
- Facilitated collaboration between key non-profit, private, community-based and city stakeholders on multiple projects.

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. (415) 554-5184
Fax No. (415) 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Behavioral Health Commission

Seat # (Required - see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): 2

Full Name: Theresa Muehlbauer

[Redacted] San Francisco CA Zip Code: [Redacted]

Occupation: Civil Servant

Work Phone: 628 271 2012 Employer: City and County of San Francisco

Business Address: 49 South Van Ness Ave, 3 Floor San Francisco CA Zip Code: 94103

Business Email: [Redacted] Home Em [Redacted]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Resident of San Francisco: Yes [ ] No [ ] If No, place of residence:
18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [ ] No [ ]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

I was diagnosed with my mental health condition in my early adolescence and have had to learn to navigate life with this disability. I have had to learn how to advocate for myself and effectively communicate my needs. I have learned my rights and how to insist they be respected. I have learned how to access and utilize medical providers, programs, and resources. I have learned how to maintain employment while continuing to attend frequent appointments and experiencing frequent symptoms. I have also learned to balance school while working and navigating my disability. I have also managed to maintain my housing despite a mental condition which traditionally leads to financial instability. But most importantly I have learned to accept myself as I am with my disability. I have learned to embrace my mental health as a part of me and appreciate the unique gifts it does give. As someone who has managed a mental health disability for over 20 years, I look forward to using my experiences to advocate for others like me. Others who may not outwardly appear to suffer from mental health conditions but who still need representation. We are an under-represented and unheard group. I would like to show a different side of mental illness.
A little background about myself, I am a SF native. Born and raised in the Lakeview. I currently live in Diamond Heights. I have worked for the City and County for 22 years (since I was 14). Currently I work for DPW as an administrative analyst. I have a BA in psychology and two masters one in Law Studies and the other in Public Administration. Currently my two major projects are working to get my student loans discharged as my school took advantage of mental health condition and fraudulently withdrew \$164,000 in loans. Additionally, I am working on getting my reasonable accommodation permanently approved. I want to use my background in law and public administration to help the board access information and the people they need to create the changes they want to see in the city. I also want to try my hand at effecting the mental health system so San Francisco residents can see the changes we need.

**Business and/or Professional Experience:**

I have 22 years of experience with the City and County, starting in 2003 when I was 14. Initially I worked with Recreation and Parks as a public service trainee, assistant recreation director, and recreation leader III. I performed duties ranging from facility monitoring to class facilitation to program development. I also worked with the Department of Elections on elections days as a poll worker and field election deputy. In 2013 I was hired to work with Department of Building Inspection as a Senior Clerk. Here I worked with Housing Inspection Services maintaining records, providing customer service, administrative and clerical support, related to residential code complaints, violations, and inspections. In 2014 and again in 2017 I worked with HSA first a Human Service Technician transporting clients to scheduled activities. In 2017 I worked as an Senior Eligibility Worker determining eligibility for general assistance. In 2014 and 2017 I worked with SFMTA as a Senior Permit and Citation Clerk in the Customer Service Center. Currently I work with DPW as an administrative analyst reviewing permits. In this role I work with multiple departments, including the Mayor's Office on special and sensitive projects. My current assignment is the new Love our Neighborhoods permit program. Which is a neighborhood beautification permit program.

My academic experience includes two child development certificates, a BA and a minor, and two masters degree. I also have two years of law school though I did not finish that program. My child development certificates are in School Age Development and Administration of School Age Programs. My BA is in psychology and my minor is in Business Administration. My masters are in Public Administration and Law Studies. My certificates are from City College. My BA, minor and MPA are from SF State. My Masters in Law Studies is from Golden Gate University.

**Civic Activities:**

One of my civic activities is my public service. I take pride in my civil service career and strive to ensure the utmost quality in all my work. I ensure that every action I take is grounded in integrity and equity. I know that many people have a negative view of city workers but I believe my actions do not have to exemplify that characterization. I try my best to change that perception by going the extra mile. Doing things such as giving my direct contact information, explaining all the options and helping the resident understand why the policy or action is necessary, and following up without being prompted. I also actively volunteer to engage with the community when applicants, residents, or internal/external city staff need training or require other presentations.

I also have experience in advocacy through the SFUSD's Student Advisory Council, as well as with the Youth Leadership Institute, and Kellogg Foundation. In these roles, I formally sat on advisory boards advising the Board of Education on matters of student concern. I also awarded grants to youth lead projects and participated in conferences with the Kellogg foundation reporting on the status of those grants. I also have experience in advocacy in less formal settings advocating for those in need by providing information and access to resources. As well as help individual to understand and navigate government programs, public services, and health care systems. I do this with people I know personally and people I have just be introduced to. I am looking forward to being involved with the Behavioral Health Commission as it gives me an opportunity to be formally involved with the civic process once again.

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes  No

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Date: 5/11/2025 Applicant's Signature (required): \_\_\_\_\_

*(Manually sign or type your complete name.  
NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

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