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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PENINSULA HEALTH CARE DISTRICT INVESTS \$2.10 MILLION
TO SUPPORT HEALTH-FOCUSED ORGANIZATIONS**

*The District's sixth annual Achieving Community Health Together event was held
on January 23 at the District office*

BURLINGAME, CA, January 29, 2014: The Peninsula Health Care District Board of Directors has awarded \$2.10 million to health-focused organizations serving residents of the District. On January 23, 2014 at its regular Board meeting, the District distributed 15 grants through its Community Grants Program and honored two "Community Health Champions" for their tireless advocacy in promoting health education, prevention and access to needed health services for all.

The 2014 Community Health Champions recognized by the Board were Srijia Srinivasan, director of strategic operations for the San Mateo County Health System and leader of the County enrollment efforts in implementing the Affordable Care Act for our residents; and Gloria Brown, founder of the African American Health Advisory Committee of Mills-Peninsula Health Services, and active educator and facilitator in achieving effective community outreach. In addition to the Champions, the District honors a Volunteer of the Year. Bob Sawyer, a Children's Health Initiative and InnVision Shelter Network volunteer, was recognized for his investment of personal time to obtain needed certifications to allow him to enroll individuals into County programs and Covered California plans.

Community Grants recipients are chosen annually based on a review of local health care needs and the evolving priorities of District communities. 15 organizations were awarded grant funding at the January 23 meeting for the programs and services that they provide to District residents.

For each grant recipient, funding supports:

- **Breast Cancer Connections** – screenings and services for men and women
- **Caminar Bridges to Wellness Program** – integrating primary care with behavioral health
- **Catholic Charities Adult Day Health** – day programs for frail seniors
- **Children's Health Initiative** – health care coverage for low income children
- **Edgewood Center** – Kinship project and Chronic Disease Management education
- **InnVision Shelter Network** – mental health therapy services for children and their families
- **Kimochi** – launching culturally sensitive, Japanese language-based programs for seniors in San Mateo
- **Mid-Peninsula Boys and Girls Club** – Nutrition and Physical Fitness Program at the San Mateo club
- **Ombudsman Services** - advocacy work for the institutionalized, frail elderly
- **Peninsula Family Services** – support for food and nutrition services for children
- **PJCC** – senior transportation services
- **Samaritan House** – free medical and dental clinics
- **Senior Focus** –adult day care and Alzheimer programs

- **StarVista** – support for Insights Program and Crisis Center and Suicide Prevention Program
- **The Latino Commission** – support for behavioral health services and education

“PHCD’s role in the community is to make investments that will directly benefit current and future generations of District residents,” said District Board Chair Larry Cappel. “By investing in local organizations, we enable them to provide much-needed health care services. We are honored to support these organizations, and commend them for the tremendous impact they have in our community.”

The Peninsula Health Care District’s Community Health Grants Program is just one facet of its overall community health investment strategy. Several important initiatives that fall under this strategy and address the broad health care needs of District residents include:

- Healthy Schools Initiative, a three-year program designed to serve 20,000 K-8 grade school students through school wellness coordinators, nurses, counselors, PE instructors, and a school-based health clinic.
- Access to care for indigent adults through a partnership with the County Health System.
- Affordable assisted living units in partnership with Lesley Senior Housing.
- Apple Tree Center for Dental Health, a dental care model to remove barriers to access for elderly and special needs adults, on District-owned property at 430 N. El Camino Real in San Mateo, scheduled to open in the summer of 2014.
- New assisted living and memory care facility with 124 units on District-owned property at 1600 Trousdale Drive, scheduled to open in 2016.

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About the Peninsula Health Care District:

Created by state legislation and launched by local voter approval in 1947, the Peninsula Health Care District serves the communities of San Bruno, Millbrae, Burlingame, Hillsborough, San Mateo and Foster City by responding to local priorities and allocating resources to programs and services that address these needs. For more information, visit www.peninsulahealthcaredistrict.org.