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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**PENINSULA HEALTH CARE DISTRICT INVESTS \$1.8 MILLION  
IN LOCAL HEALTH-FOCUSED ORGANIZATIONS**

*The District's seventh annual Achieving Community Health Together event was held  
on January 29 at the San Mateo Public Library*

**BURLINGAME, CA, January 30, 2015:** The Peninsula Health Care District Board of Directors has awarded \$1.8 million to local health-focused organizations serving residents of the District. On January 29, 2015, at its regular Board meeting, the District distributed 19 grants through its Community Grants Program and honored a Community Health Leader and Volunteer of the Year for their efforts and commitment to the health of our local communities.

The 2015 Community Health Leader recognized by the Board was Assemblymember Kevin Mullin (D-San Mateo), a strong advocate of ensuring local communities have access to health care services. He promotes ACA enrollment education programs and health information fairs, with a particular emphasis on access to health care for underserved populations. In addition, the District honored a Volunteer of the Year, Agnes Herron, an 18-year volunteer at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Recreation Center in San Mateo. Agnes was recognized for her service as the Brown Bag Site Chair, in which she has invested hundreds of hours delivering food to low-income seniors and disabled adults in the community.

Community Grants recipients are chosen annually based on a review of local health care needs and the evolving priorities of District communities. 19 organizations were awarded grant funding at the January 29 meeting for the programs and services that they provide to District residents.

For each grant recipient, funding supports:

- **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
- **Community Gatepath** – children's therapy services
- **CORA** – support for survivors of domestic violence and education
- **Edgewood Center** – kinship project
- **InnVision Shelter Network** – mental health therapy services for children and their families
- **Jewish Family and Children's Services** – services for individuals facing life transitions
- **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** – senior peer-to-peer counseling program
- **Parca** – mental health services training
- **Police Activities League** – sport and leadership programs for the youth
- **Samaritan House** – "Throw Like a Girl" program

- **San Bruno Park School Health Clinic** – school-based health clinic
- **Second Harvest Food Bank** – community food provider for isolated seniors
- **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 supports organizations that demonstrate competencies in achieving measurable improvements in the health status of District residents,” said District Board Chair Lawrence W. Cappel, Ph.D. “We are committed to the health and wellness of all District residents, and we are proud to support organizations that are making such significant contributions in our communities.”

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:

- New assisted living and memory care facility with 124 units on District-owned property at 1600 Trousdale Drive, scheduled to open in fall 2016.
- 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 spring 2015.
- 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.

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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](http://www.peninsulahealthcaredistrict.org).