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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PENINSULA HEALTH CARE DISTRICT INVESTS \$2.15 MILLION
TO SUPPORT HEALTH-FOCUSED ORGANIZATIONS**

BURLINGAME, CA, January 28, 2013: The Peninsula Health Care District Board of Directors will invest \$2.15 million this year in health-focused organizations serving residents of the District. On January 24 at the Regular January Board meeting, the District distributed 16 grants through its Community Health Grants Program and honored “Community Leaders” for their advocacy and service in support of the District’s mission to ensure education, prevention and access to needed health care services for District residents.

Recognized this year as Community Leaders were Sheryl Young, CEO, Community Gatepath; Children’s Health Initiative Founders; Volunteer of the Year, Sharon Bishop, Mid-Peninsula Boys and Girls Club; and Dr. Donald Newman, past chair of the Peninsula Health Care District Board who served for more than 14 years on the Board and is resigning, effective February 1, 2013.

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:

- Access to care for indigent adults through a partnership with the County Health System.
- 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.
- Affordable assisted living in partnership with Lesley Senior Housing.
- A dental care model to remove barriers to access for elderly and special needs adults is being pursued, based upon a nationally respected model.

“The role of the Peninsula Health Care District is to promote the long-term health of all community residents,” said District Board Chair Dan Ulliyot, MD. “The organizations and individuals recognized tonight are doing vital work to safeguard the health and wellness of the people of San Mateo County. We are honored to have the opportunity to support them in fulfilling their important missions.”

Community Health Grants Program recipients are chosen annually based on a review of local health care needs and the evolving priorities of District communities. 16 organizations were awarded grant funding at the January 24 meeting for the programs and services that they provide to District residents.

For each grant recipient, funding supports:

- **Caminar Bridges to Wellness Program** – nurse staffing for the medical Bridges to Wellness Clinic
- **Catholic Charities Adult Day Health** – programs and services for the frail elderly

- **Children’s Health Initiative** –health insurance for 100% of the eligible children living within the District
- **Community Gatepath**- Children’s Health Camp
- **Edgewood Center** –Kinship project, visiting nurse services and Chronic Disease Self-Management workshops
- **InnVision Shelter Network** –mental health therapy services for children and their families
- **JFCS Seniors at Home** –care scholarships for homecare services not covered by Medicare for seniors living in the District
- **The Latino Commission** –transportation to appointments and group sessions
- **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
- **PJCC** – Get Up and Go senior transportation services
- **Samaritan House** – free medical and dental clinics
- **Senior Focus** - help seniors protect their independence, with education about how to stay healthy and services to assist when challenges appear
- **HepB Free** - education, screening and treatment outreach work in the Asian Pacific Islander community
- **StarVista** –Insights Program for teenagers suffering from substance abuse and mental health issues, and the Crisis Center and Suicide Prevention Program
- **SMART** –specially trained first responders and case management for mental health emergencies

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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.