

Media Contact:
Jen Gainza
MacKenzie Communications, Inc.
jen@mackenziesf.com
Office: 415.403.0800

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PENINSULA HEALTH CARE DISTRICT AWARDS \$1.35 MILLION TO
38 LOCAL HEALTH-FOCUSED ORGANIZATIONS**

BURLINGAME, CA, February 8, 2018: The Peninsula Health Care District (PHCD) Board of Directors last night awarded \$1.35 million in grant funding to 38 local organizations that partner with the District to promote prevention, education and access to care for the health and wellness of its residents.

PHCD's Community Grants Program, established in 1996, is just one example of how the District invests tax-payer dollars for the benefit of community health and wellness. The Board annually identifies local health priorities, solicits grant applications from community organizations addressing those priorities, and awards grant funding to support their work and outreach. If there are gaps in services addressing the priorities, the District seeks out and supports partnership opportunities to address the gaps. Recent examples of this are the Sonrisas Dental Health Center in San Mateo and the Teen Mental Health Program in partnership with the San Mateo Union High School District.

“Last night’s 10th Annual Community Partners event was a celebration of the power of partnerships,” said Lawrence Cappel, PhD, chair of the PHCD board of directors. “On behalf of my fellow directors, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the 2018 community grant recipients for their dedication to the health and wellness of our community. We are proud to partner with organizations of this caliber to make our vision a reality: that all residents of the District enjoy optimal health.”

In addition to the grant awards, PHCD honored and recognized two Community Health Leaders and a Volunteer of the Year. Bonnie Jue, DDS, CEO of Sonrisas Dental Health, and Nigel Taverner, chair of the Sonrisas Dental Health Board of Directors, were recognized for their commitment to removing barriers to dental care for all, their leadership during the establishment of the Sonrisas Dental Health San Mateo Center, and their personal investment of time and talent to make it happen. Judy Wasow was recognized as Volunteer of the Year for her work with CASA of San Mateo County. For 17 years, she has impacted the lives of six children in the foster care system by advocating on their behalf.

For the full list of grant recipients, visit www.peninsulahealthcaredistrict.org.

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About the Peninsula Health Care District: Founded in 1947, the Peninsula Health Care District addresses the health and wellness of the San Bruno, Millbrae, Burlingame, Hillsborough, San Mateo and Foster City communities. The District is governed by a 5-member elected board of directors and is responsive to the unique health and wellness priorities of Peninsula communities. The District is developing facilities for future community benefit, remains focused on responsible stewardship of tax-payer assets, and is committed to full transparency.

To learn more about PHCD, visit www.peninsulahealthcaredistrict.org.