

## Mental Health Board Members

Jack Waldorf, Chair  
Vern Masse, Vice-Chair  
Terry Withrow, Board of Supervisors  
Kimberly Kennard, DSW  
Annie Henrich  
Frank Ploof  
Jerold Rosenthal  
Tony Flores  
Virginia Solórzano  
Yvette McShan  
Carmen Maldonado

## MISSION

- Advocate for the highest possible quality of life;
- Advocate for the elimination of stigma through education;
- Advocate for the removal of barriers to service; and
- Provide oversight and work in partnership with the staff of the County Behavioral Health Department.



## Sponsored by the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services  
A Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug Service  
Organization

800 Scenic Drive  
Modesto, CA 95350  
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<http://www.stancounty.com/bhrs/mh-board.shtml>



## STANISLAUS COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

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State law requires that each county have a Mental Health Board or Commission. The Board of Supervisors appoints members for three-year terms. Board members advise the Board of Supervisors and the Behavioral Health Director on various aspects of local mental health programs.

The role of the Board is established in the Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code under section 5604.2:

- Review and evaluate the community's mental health needs, services, facilities and special programs.
- Review any county agreements entered into pursuant to W&I Code Section 5650.
- Advise the Board of Supervisors and the local mental health director regarding any aspects of the local mental health programs.
- Review and approve the procedures used to ensure citizen and professional involvement at all stages of the planning process.
- Submit an annual report to the Board of Supervisors on the needs and performance of the county's mental health system.
- Review and make recommendations on applicants for the appointment of the local mental health director. The Board shall be included in the selection process prior to the vote of the governing body.
- Review and comment on the county's performance outcome data and communicate its findings to the State Mental Health Planning Council.
- Assess the impact of the realignment of services from the state to the county on services delivered to clients and on the local community.

The Board of Supervisors may transfer additional duties or authority to the Mental Health Board.

## MEMBERSHIP

The Stanislaus County Mental Health Board consists of 16 Board members. By law, one member of the Board must be a member of the Board of Supervisors. Section 5604 of the W&I Code sets very specific membership requirements. Fifty percent of the Board membership shall be consumers or the parents, spouse, sibling or adult children of consumers who are receiving or have received mental health services. Consumers constitute at least 20% of the total membership. Families of consumers constitute at least 20% of the membership.

Consumers and family members are valued partners in the operation of the mental health system, and consumer and family member participation is essential in the successful planning and evaluating of programs.

The law also establishes special requirements on ethnic diversity and conflict of interest. Mental Health Board membership should reflect the ethnic diversity of the client population in the county and the demographics of the county as a whole to the extent feasible.

With regard to conflict of interest, the W&I Code states, "No member of the Mental Health Board, or his or her spouse, shall be a full-time or part-time county employee of a county mental health service, an employee of the State Department of Mental Health, or an employee or a paid member of the governing body of a ... contract agency."

**If you are interested in becoming a member of the Mental Health Board, please contact Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Administration at 525-6225.**

## MENTAL HEALTH BOARD COMMITTEES

- Executive Committee
- Administrative/Fiscal Management Committee
- Children's System of Care Committee
- Adult/Older Adult System of Care Committee
- Managed Care Committee
- Criminal Justice Oversight/Forensics Committee
- Impact Committee

## MENTAL HEALTH BOARD MEETINGS

The Stanislaus County Mental Health Board meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 5:00 p.m. The Board does not meet in December. Twice a year, the Mental Health Board has joint meetings with the Stanislaus County Advisory Board on Substance Abuse Programs.

