

## Sean Patrick Monette-Shaw

975 Sutter Street • Apartment 6 • San Francisco, CA 94109-6018

Home: (415) 292-6969 • e-mail: pmonette-shaw@earthlink.net

January 27, 2005

City Operations and Neighborhood Services Committee

The Honorable Bevan Dufty, Chair

The Honorable Jake McGoldrick, Chair-Elect

The Honorable Sean Elsbernd

The Honorable Fiona Ma

San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

City Hall

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

San Francisco, CA 94102

### **Re: Social Rehabilitation Grant at Laguna Honda Hospital**

Dear Members of the City Operations and Neighborhood Services Committee,

I believe this Committee is prematurely considering acceptance of a California HealthCare Foundation (CHCF) grant to implement social rehabilitation at Laguna Honda Hospital and Rehabilitation Center (LHH), and I believe you do not have complete information regarding this proposed programming on which to base an informed decision.

First, the Resolution that you are considering today states in the fourth “Whereas” to this Resolution that grants may be placed automatically on this Committee’s consent agenda **when matters are consider to be routine items**. Acceptance of this grant will be anything *but* “routine,” since the proposed grant seeks to change the model of care delivered at LHH. Since this grant involves a major policy change, it is not a routine matter.

Second, while the grant was announced at the December 23 LHH-Joint Conference Committee, it received only a cursory announcement, and no meaningful discussion. Furthermore, the matter has not been heard before the full Health Commission, and has not, to date, been afforded a proper public hearing at the Health Commission level. Indeed, neither the LHH-JCC nor the full Health Commission bothered to place this grant on its agendas in order to provide notice to the public of this major policy change affecting the delivery of services at LHH. For that matter, because it will affect the delivery of services for decades to come, affecting thousands of San Franciscans with the curtailment of long-term care services, a Bielson hearing may be required prior to acceptance of this grant. By not scheduling a full Health Commission hearing, DPH may be bypassing rules concerning acceptance of grant funding.

Third, the Board of Supervisors background file for this Resolution is incomplete; that file does *not* contain the full grant application made to CHCF, the CHCF reviewers’ concerns about the definition of “social rehabilitation, nor the LHH response to the CHCF reviewers. Before you consider this matter any further, I urge you to read the complete information about this grant noted above. Those materials, obtained under a public records request filed by another citizen, are available on the [www.stopLHHdownsize.com](http://www.stopLHHdownsize.com) web site.

Fourth, Laguna Honda Hospital is not licensed by the State of California Department of Social Services to provide social rehabilitation; social rehabilitation usually is provided in non-medical facilities. LHH does not have a license to co-locate these services in LHH’s medical facilities.

Finally, the proposed services were initially developed, as stated in the response to the CHCF reviewers concerns, as a BioPsychoSocialSpiritual model of care for the San Francisco General Hospital’s Mental Health Rehabilitation Facility. The model of care was never implemented nor tested in the MHRF; as such it is an untested, unproven approach. As you also know, Laguna Honda Hospital is not licensed as a mental health rehabilitation facility, and as such, this programming may be an inappropriate model of care for San Franciscans needing long-term care at LHH.

This Committee has failed to schedule a follow-up hearing to the June 24 City Services hearing on the changes to the LHH admissions policy. Therefore, I believe that you are improperly considering this grant without first holding a hearing on LHH’s changing admissions policy, effects it is having on the mission of Laguna Honda Hospital, and the differential displacement of elderly San Franciscans who are having great difficulty gaining admission into LHH.

January 27, 2005

**Re: Social Rehabilitation Grant at Laguna Honda Hospital**

Page 2

I ask that you table acceptance of this grant until such time as the full Health Commission holds a hearing on this grant, and until the City Operations and Neighborhood Services Committee schedules and concludes the follow-up hearing on the LHH admission policy.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Monette-Shaw

Independent Community Observer/Accountability Activist

cc: Gavin Newsom, Mayor of San Francisco

San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

The Honorable Aaron Peskin, President, District 3

The Honorable Michela Alioto-Pier, District 2

The Honorable Ross Mirkarimi, District 5

The Honorable Chris Daly, District 6

The Honorable Tom Ammiano, District 9

The Honorable Sophie Maxwell, District 10

The Honorable Gerardo Sandoval, District 11

Gloria Young, Clerk of the Board

Health Commission

Benson Nadell, Director of San Francisco Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, Family Service Agency of San Francisco

Susan Mizner, Director, Mayor's Office on Disability

Bruce Livingston, Executive Director, Senior Action Network

John Farrell, Laguna Honda Committee for the West of Twin Peaks Central Council