

RESOLUTION NO.

RESOLUTION FINDING THAT, AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUING COVID-19 PANDEMIC STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED BY GOVERNOR NEWSOM, MEETING IN PERSON FOR MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN WOULD PRESENT IMMINENT RISKS TO THE HEALTH OR SAFETY OF ATTENDEES

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor proclaimed pursuant to his authority under the California Emergency Services Act, California Government Code section 8625, that a state of emergency exists with regard to a novel coronavirus (a disease now known as COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, on June 4, 2021, the Governor clarified that the “reopening” of California on June 15, 2021 did not include any change to the proclaimed state of emergency or the powers exercised thereunder, and as of the date of this Resolution, neither the Governor nor the Legislature have exercised their respective powers pursuant to California Government Code section 8629 to lift the state of emergency either by proclamation or by concurrent resolution in the state Legislature; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 that suspended the teleconferencing rules set forth in the California Open Meeting law, Government Code section 54950 et seq. (the “Brown Act”), provided certain requirements were met and followed; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB 361 that provides that a legislative body subject to the Brown Act may continue to meet without fully complying with the teleconferencing rules in the Brown Act provided the legislative

body determines that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and further requires that certain findings be made by the legislative body every thirty (30) days; and,

WHEREAS, California Department of Public Health (“CDPH”) and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) caution that the Delta variant of COVID-19, currently the dominant strain of COVID-19 in the country, is more transmissible than prior variants of the virus, may cause more severe illness, and that even fully vaccinated individuals can spread the virus to others resulting in rapid and alarming rates of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations

(<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/delta-variant.html>); and,

WHEREAS, the CDC has established a “Community Transmission” metric with 4 tiers designed to reflect a community’s COVID-19 case rate and percent positivity; and,

WHEREAS, the County of San Mateo currently has a Community Transmission metric of “substantial” which is the second most serious of the tiers; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission on the Status of Women has an important governmental interest in protecting the health, safety and welfare of those who participate in its meetings; and,

WHEREAS, in the interest of public health and safety, as affected by the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the Commission on the Status of Women deems it necessary to find that meeting in person would present imminent risks

to the health or safety of attendees, and thus intends to invoke the provisions of AB 361 related to teleconferencing;

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors strongly encourages all legislative bodies of the County of San Mateo that are subject to the Brown Act, including but not limited to, the Planning Commission, the Assessment Appeals Board, the Civil Service Commission, and all other oversight and advisory boards, committees and commissions established by the Board of Supervisors and subject to the Brown Act, to make a similar finding and avail themselves of teleconferencing until the risk of community transmission has further declined;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that

1. The recitals set forth above are true and correct.
2. The Commission on the Status of Women finds that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.
3. Staff is directed to return no later than thirty (30) days after the adoption of this resolution with an item for the Commission on the Status of Women to consider making the findings required by AB 361 in order to continue meeting under its provisions.
4. Staff is directed to take such other necessary or appropriate actions to implement the intent and purposes of this resolution.

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Commission on the Status of Women Mental Health Subgroup

October, 2022



Introduction and Background

Goal: To bring mental health knowledge and awareness of resources to women and girls through connections in the community, advocacy campaigns, expert spotlight presentations, and promotion of relevant educational opportunities.

Recommended project areas identified for 2021-22:

- Connections in Community Advocacy Campaign
- Expert Spotlights (Talks & Discussions)
- Resourcing webpage/digital portal

Team Members:

- Nirmala Bandrapalli
- Aileen Cassinetto
- Anya Drabkin
- Cheryl Fama
- Karen Pyles
- Ellen tafeen



Process - Data Gathering

The Mental Health sub-committee worked on mental health awareness in the community in partnership with the San Mateo County Behavioral Health & Recovery Services team and County Office of Education's Care Solace initiative in promoting programs and resources.

The sub-committee members met with several organizations and members of the community to understand the issues, gather information and identify opportunities for participation. Some of the meetings (not limited to) were with the following:

- ▶ Scott Gilman, Director of BHRS
- ▶ Sylvia Tang, Head of Planning committee for MH Month
- ▶ Claudia Saggese, Director of Consumer & Family Affairs, and leader of the Lived Experience Education Workgroup (LEEW)
- ▶ Also attended the MH Month Planning Committee on 4/22 to participate in Community Outreach Planning.





Connections in Community Advocacy Campaign

Activities:

- Commissioners spoke (via public comment) at the May 2021 City Council meetings in 22 cities about the importance of mental health awareness and how to collaborate with the county to meet the community's unmet needs.
- Participated in meetings hosted by Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) and collaborated with BHRS to promote Mental Health Awareness as well as Suicide prevention in San Mateo County.
- Invited Care Solace to present to the Commission to inform & recruit advocates for this new countywide behavioral wellness service available to all school staff, students, and their families.
- Remained continuously vigilant to find and promote programs through Commissioners' networks that are being offered throughout the county to address behavioral wellness and mental health issues with a focus on women, girls, and underserved populations/areas.



Expert Spotlights (Talks & Discussions)



- Promoted Parent Venture free webinars and Parent Resource Library available in many languages on YouTube.
- Responsible for developing and carrying out three sessions of CSW's Women's Leadership Conference, March 2022.
 - Worked with BHRS's Lived Experience Education Workgroup to prepare a panel of members to present and facilitated the live session where three members shared their personal stories of inspiration. Panelists were:
 - Renee Harris, Peer Support Worker
 - Pamela Ward Pious, Co-Chair of the African American Community Initiative and the Co-Chair of the Spirituality Initiative.
 - Lupita Avalos, San Mateo County BHRS Health Ambassador
 - Recruited mental health leaders representing four organizations serving San Mateo County residents to address: How to access mental health services. Arranged live Spanish translation for this panel. Panelists were:
 - Colleen Buggs, County's BHRS
 - Anixa Carmona, Director of Mental Health & Addiction services, Sutter/MPMC
 - Nicole Ibarra, Area Director for Behavioral Health, Kaiser
 - Liz Camarna West, LMFT, One Life Counseling
 - Planned and recruited talent for a 2-part session on promoting behavioral wellness through based physical exercise and mental health techniques. Presenters were:
 - Monica Payne, RN, Certified Jazzercise and Yoga Instructor
 - Maija Cruze, Student Support Specialist at Stanford's Well-Being Center



Future - Next Steps :1/2

1. Conduct at least two “Expert Spotlights” and 1-2 panels that focus on priority areas of women’s and girl’s mental health as identified by the national, state, and/or county recently published reports. Examples:
 - ***Mental Health America’s 2022 The State of Mental Health in America*** : “Only 26% of California’s youth with severe depression received some outpatient treatment”
 - ***San Mateo County Suicide Prevention Roadmap, 2020-2025***: Feature a county speaker on progress to date on implementation of Strategic Aims and Goals outlined in its Roadmap document,
 - **Care Solace**: This 24/7/365 service to connect folks to mental health and substance use treatment has been available to San Mateo Union High School District for >2 years and all of County’s K-8 staff, students and families for >1-1/2 years. Host a panel discussion with school leadership and Care Solace representatives on how’s it working?
 - **State’s new Youth Suicide Reporting and Crisis Response Pilot Program**: Over the next three years, \$250 million in the state’s budget will go toward addressing the behavioral health needs of people under age 25. This program will include a wellness and resiliency support program, establishing peer-to-peer support programs and developing digital support services for remote mental health support and video services for parents of children struggling with mental health issues. Invite a County BHRS speaker to address how county’s programs will be incorporated.



Future - Next Steps :2/2

2. Explore collaboration and community engagement. Examples:

- **Star Vista's new Youth Stabilization, Opportunity, and Support Team:** This new program will provide a mobile response team specializing in treating mental health crises of youth ages 0-25. Invite Star Vista to inform commissioners and help them amplify their new program, with a focus on reaching girls and young women.
- **San Mateo County Mayors Mental Health Initiative:** Meet with members to learn about their initiatives and see if and how CSW can help advocate for and spread the impact of their work.

3. Create a link on CSW website that will connect girls and young women to all mental health resources in the SF Bay Area.

The Mental Health Sub-committee is seeking New Members to increase engagement.



To: San Mateo County Commission on the Status of Women
From: Tanya Beat, Director
Date: October 25, 2022
Subject: Status of recent events/projects

Advancing pay equity and combating gender-based price discrimination

SB 1162 requires employers to make pay scale information available to employees and included in job postings. Building on a [measure](#) the Governor signed in 2020 to identify patterns of wage disparities through mandated statewide pay data reporting, SB 1162 expands state pay data reporting requirements, which include employee sex, race and ethnicity information, to cover contracted employees.

Governor Newsom also signed AB 1287 by Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D-Orinda) which eliminates the discriminatory “pink tax” by prohibiting different prices for goods based purely on what gender they are marketed to. AB 1287 allows for price differences when there is a significant difference in the cost or time to produce a particular good.

Vacancies and Reappointments

- Karen Pyles and Kelly Keele are finishing their terms at the end of this year. Thank you for your service!
- CSW Interview process expected to happen in November. New Commissioners will start in January, 2023.
- Fantastic Boards and Commission Webpage on [Training](#). Request that you all review; especially the Brown Act information.

November 15 – Last CSW Meeting of the Year

- In-Person Dinner at 5:30pm in Room 101 at 455 County Center. Free parking at the Garage or the Open Lot for Commissioners.
- CSW meeting starting at 6:30pm (hybrid)
- We also will be saying goodbye to Karen Pyles and Kelly Keele.

Retreat Dates for 2023

- Added two more Saturdays: March 4 and March 11
- Please edit what you originally filled out; OR fill out your availability if you have not done so already: <https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/aKZknWre>

Elections:

- Both Maya Tussing and Susan Kokores have nominated themselves as officers for another year. Please email me if you are interested in running for an officer role.

WHY vote?

YOUR VOTE COUNTS

Voting is a way to have your voice heard.

All votes matter. In 1983 East Palo Alto was incorporated as a city by just 15 votes! In 2020, San Mateo Measure Y, which regulates building heights and density, was passed by 43 votes. Some city council races have been decided by just 20 votes! Your vote can sway an election.



HOW will I vote: mail or in person?



MAIL YOUR POSTAGE-PAID BALLOT BACK

Mail your ballot back early as it must be postmarked by Election Day, Tuesday, November 8.



DROP OFF YOUR BALLOT

You can drop off your completed ballot at any secure DropBox or Vote Center.



VOTE IN PERSON

You can vote in person at any Vote Center. In addition, you can do the following:

- Drop off your completed ballot
- Vote with an accessible voting machine
- Register to vote
- Get language and disability assistance



REMOTE ACCESSIBLE VOTE BY MAIL (RAVBM)

- For voters with disabilities

Do you have a voting plan?



WHEN will I vote?

HOW will I vote?

WHERE will I go to vote or drop off my ballot?



Locations, dates & times for Vote Centers
smcvote.org



WHEN can I vote?

Important Dates

Tuesday, Oct. 11

Three Vote Centers open from 9 - 5 pm

Saturday, Oct. 29,

Nine Vote Centers open from 9 - 5 pm

Saturday, Nov. 5 – Tuesday, Nov. 8

All 45 Vote Centers open from 9 - 5 pm

Tuesday, Nov. 8

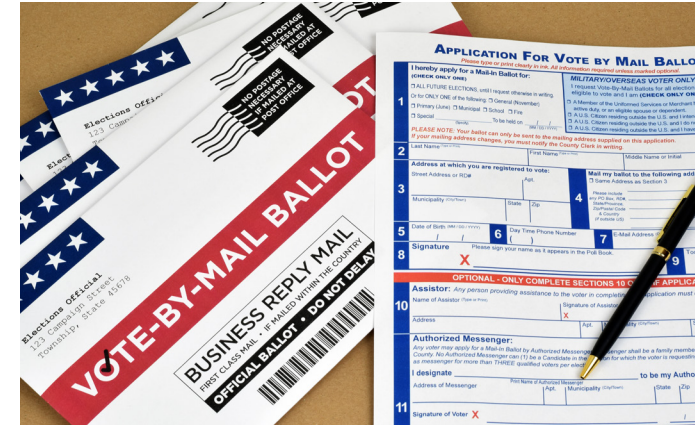
Last day to vote. All Vote Centers will be open from 7 am - 8 pm. Vote-by-mail ballot must be postmarked on or before Tues, November 8.

WHO is eligible to vote?



- A United States citizen
- 18 years old or older on Election Day
- Not currently serving a state or federal prison term for the conviction of a felony
- Not currently found mentally incompetent to vote by a court

HOW do I learn more?



You will receive a sample ballot in English with voter information before Monday, October 10. After that date, you will receive your ballot with all local races and measures.

Track your ballot & find additional language resources

smcvote.org



Register to vote or check registration status

registertovote.ca.gov



Non-partisan information about candidates and ballot measures

votersedge.org/ca

