

September 15, 2014

## In Brief

### AHS Welcomes New Team Members

*July-August 2014* – 30-year health care veteran David Cox joined AHS in July as Chief Financial Officer, as well as Tyler J. Bennett, who was named VP of Ambulatory Services. In August, the Mayo Clinic's Mark Fratzke joined as Chief Operating Officer and Kinzi Richolt was named Chief Nurse Executive. Kinzi had been serving as Interim CNE since February.

### New Web Portal Improves Patient-Physician Communication

*July 2014* – Highland Hospital launched MyAlamedaHealth.org, the first phase of an online patient portal that allows 24-hour secure access to medical information and the ability to communicate with doctors. The patient portal helps fulfill "Meaningful Use" requirements under the Affordable Care Act and makes AHS eligible for additional financial incentives.

### JGPH Honored for Excellence in Care

*August 2014* – The California chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) recognized John George Psychiatric Hospital with two awards for its exceptional care. The "Outstanding Treatment Provider" and "Zero Tolerance of Seclusion and Restraints" awards were awarded during NAMI California's Annual Conference in Newport Beach, CA.

### AHS Patient Navigation Program Receives \$125,000 Grant from Avon

*July 2014* – Alameda Health System and the Alameda Health System Foundation received a \$125,000 grant from the Avon Foundation for Women to assist high-risk patients in need of diagnostic and treatment services. AHS received the grant for the second year in a row during the 12th annual Avon Walk for Breast Cancer.

## Year in Review

**It has been a little while since I had a vehicle for sharing news, information, updates, and the ideas that I am pondering.** This newsletter is intended to serve as that vehicle. I decided to start this newsletter to increase the frequency by which we interact beyond the scheduled board meetings, committee meetings, and events that we may attend. As longstanding Trustees retire from the Board and new Trustees join our family, I am finding it critically important to explore new ways to share information with you. I look forward to your feedback on this newsletter.

Fiscal year 2014 ended with a few unexpected twists and turns. Most notably for me, I experienced a significant loss – the transition of my dearly beloved mother in February of this year. Despite the deep, deep loss my immediate family and I feel, the joy of knowing we all have one more angel in heaven is comforting.

Alameda Health System gained several new family members, including: Dr. William Peruzzi, Chief Medical Officer who joined us in July of 2014; Dr. Carladenise Edwards, Chief Strategy Officer who joined us in August; Mr. Dave Gravender, Chief Information Officer who started in September of 2014; and many others at the leadership and management levels and on the frontlines.

The addition of San Leandro Hospital and Alameda Hospital were major milestones and marked the beginning of a new era for health care delivery in Alameda County and in the nation as a whole. I think sometimes we forget that the work we are doing to build a sustainable health system that provides accessible, affordable quality health care for all is not just the work of AHS, but it is what many, if not all of our sister organizations across the country are doing as well. We will know that we succeeded when AHS celebrates its 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of providing exceptional care to the most vulnerable in our community in the year 2064.

### Looking Ahead

Fiscal year 2015 is around the corner and we are ready. We have set ambitious, but realistic financial and performance goals and the foundation has been laid for success. On behalf of the entire leadership team, thank you for your vote of confidence during our Joint Finance-Board Meeting on June 17<sup>th</sup>. I am looking forward to reporting on our successful achievement of our system level goals throughout the year.

