



*Housing That Heals:
A Search for a Place Like Home for Families Like Ours*

Words to Deeds 2022
Teresa Pasquini
Mom on a Mission

Crawling Through Glass in Search of Housing That Heals

Teresa Pasquini-Mom on a Mission for Housing That Heals

Meet Teresa Pasquini:

Mom on a Mission to Help Families with Mental Illness

- Patient advocate for mental-health patients, including her son
- Works alongside hospital executives as a patient advisor at Contra Costa County Regional Medical Center
- Participates in one of four formal patient-hospital partnership groups to address key hospital issues
- Motivated significant changes in health care and mental health care delivery in the hospital
- Changes in mental health waiting area and handling of patient admissions

“One of our community partners and I, representing consumer and family voices, joined the inner circle of the hospital leadership to further the opportunities to unite in innovative, strategic, operational change.”



Treatment Before Tragedy

DISPATCHES FROM THE FRONTLINE OF AMERICA'S MENTAL-HEALTH CRISIS

My son is inmate No. 201202796

BY TERESA PASQUINI | JULY 20, 2014 • 17 COMMENTS

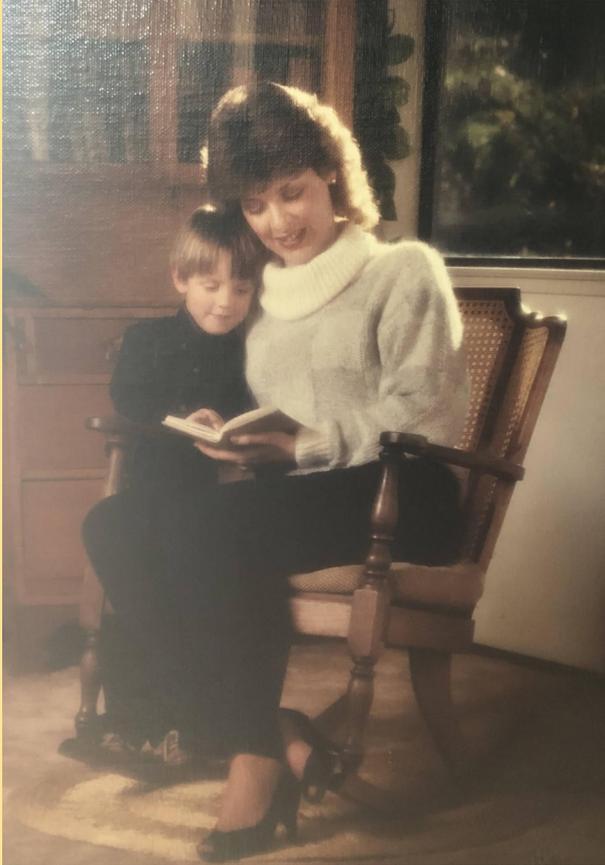


By Teresa Pasquini

In 1998, my first-born son, Danny, then 15 years old, booted, not far from our home in El Sobrante, Ca., high, drunk or in the midst of his first psychosis. When a local sheriff's deputy caught up to him, my son begged him, "kill me!"

- Former Contra Costa County Mental Health Commissioner 2006-2015
- Founding member/Chair BHCP at Contra Costa Regional Medical Center-2009
- Co-Founder Mental Illness FACTS-Family and Client True Stories-2010
- Co Author, Housing That Heals white paper-2020

Most Important Role, Danny's Mom



Data of the Soul - "Crawling Through Glass"

- **Special Education Classes in Jr. High**
- **Assessed Seriously Emotionally Disturbed(SED)in 9th Grade qualified for educational "supports."**
- **25 IEPs in 9th grade moved to "special" school.**
- **Diagnosed SMI at age 16 after first 5150 "suicide by cop" type event**
- **Wrapped in services, therapy, school supports, jobs, graduated high school.**
- **We thought we had managed his care.**
- **5150d for 2nd time on 18th birthday-The HiPAA Hammer**
- **Multiple 5150s by 19th birthday- Dually Diagnosed-SMI/SUDs**
- **"Why do you keep bringing him home?"**
- **Dually insured Kaiser and MediCal**
- **Gravely Disabled/LPS Conservatorship by age 19 lasted for the past 20 years.**
- **Approximately 40 total 5150s**
- **Placed in locked and unlocked facilities in 8 different counties away from family.**
- **Arrested as a patient at NSH, deemed Incompetent to Stand Trial, 3 Felony charges eventually dismissed after 4 years of solitary, 2 State Hospitals, court room revolving doors.**

Surviving Solitary at CPT



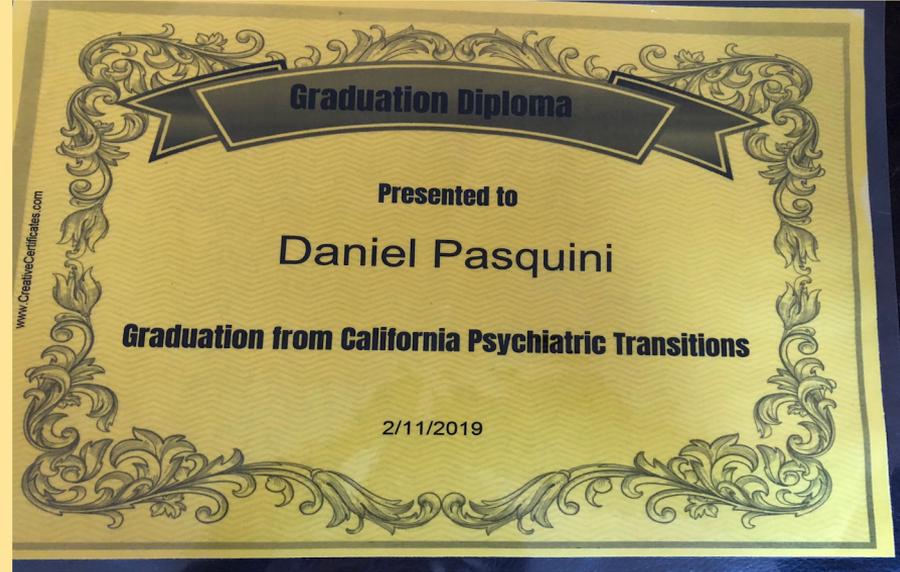
**California Psychiatric Transitions—Delhi, CA
Merced County
MHRC Mental Health Rehabilitation Center**

**Program
provides the
highest levels of
clinical & staff
support.**

**A tiered level
program that
can be used as
an alternative to
a State Hospital.**



Luck, Heroics and Housing That Heals



February 2019-Danny graduates from CPT to Psynergy, Morgan Hill

Psynergy, Inc.
A Community Based Residential Facility –Morgan Hill
Specialty Mental Health Clinic



Moms on a Mission for Housing That Heals



Facilities visited in 2019

We traveled over 3000 miles and visited 22 facilities including homeless shelters, Mental Health Rehabilitation Facilities/IMD, Adult Residential Facilities, Residential Facilities for Elderly, a Peer Respite Home and Self Run Recovery Homes.

Facilities Visited January – December 2019

Facility Name	Organization	County	Program Type
Moore Village	John Henry Foundation	Orange County	Community-based residential treatment on-site mental health services/licensed ARF
Kirker Court Apartments	Eden Housing	Contra Costa County	Affordable housing designated for SMI
Garden Park Apartments	Hope Solutions	Contra Costa County	Affordable housing/family-only On-site mental health services
AOT Pittsburg	Mental Health Systems	Contra Costa County	Master leased shared housing
AOT Antioch	Mental Health Systems	Contra Costa County	Master leased shared housing
The Family Courtyard	United Family Care, LLC	Contra Costa County	Residential care facility for the elderly with a mental illness/licensed RCFE
Brookside Shelter	Shelter, Inc.	Contra Costa County	Adult emergency shelter
Anne Sippi Ranch	Riverside Ranch, ASC Treatment Group	Kern County	Community-based residential treatment facility with direct access to a specialty mental health outpatient clinic/licensed ARF
Enclave at the Foothills	Ever Well Integrated Health Care	Kern County	Community-based residential treatment facility (currently under construction)
Foothills at the Alta	Psych/Social Rehabilitative Services	Tulare County	Residential care for elderly with psych/social rehabilitative services/licensed RCFE
Enclave at the Delta	Ever Well Integrated Health Care	San Joaquin County	Community-based residential treatment facility with psych/social rehabilitative services/licensed ARF
Delta at the Sherwoods	Ever Well Integrated Health Care	San Joaquin County	Community-based residential treatment facility for seniors providing psych/social rehabilitative services/licensed ARF
Delta at the Portside	Ever Well Integrated Health Care	San Joaquin County	Residential care facility for the elderly with psych/social rehabilitative services (currently under construction)
California Psychiatric Transitions	California Psychiatric Transitions	Merced County	Mental health rehabilitation center
The Farmhouse	Yolo Community Care Continuum	Yolo County	Adult residential treatment facility
Crestwood Healing Center	Crestwood Behavioral Health, Inc.	Contra Costa County	Community-based residential treatment facility providing psych/social rehabilitative services/licensed ARF
Nueva Vista Morgan Hill	Psynergy Programs, Inc.	Santa Clara County	Community-based residential treatment facility with direct access to a specialty mental health outpatient clinic/licensed ARF
Nueva Vista Sacramento	Psynergy Programs, Inc.	Sacramento County	Community-based residential treatment facility with direct access to a specialty mental health outpatient clinic/licensed ARF
Second Story	Encompass Community Services	Santa Cruz County	Peer respite center
Oxford House	Oxford House, Inc.	Contra Costa County	Self-run, self-supported addiction recovery homes

The Human Log Jam



“Every system is perfectly designed to get the results it gets.”

– Paul Batalden

One Size Fits All Fails Too Many

Fairness and Equity-While the country rightfully focuses on racial and other health disparities, we must not forget the population that is living with the *greatest health disparity*. According to the National Council of Behavioral Health, “People with serious mental illness die an average of 15 to 30 years younger than those without. This difference represents the largest health disparity in the U.S.; larger than gender, racial or socioeconomic differences. And unlike some of the other gaps that are slowly closing it isn’t shrinking.”

Beyond Housing First-Homes for the most seriously mentally ill people must be adequately funded at parity with other vulnerable, disabled populations so that there will be no financial incentive to pick and choose who is helped first or who won’t be helped at all.

“As with the fight for civil rights or climate change, it’s going to take a movement, with families at the core of that efforts.”

Dr. Thomas Insel

“When Hearts are Broken, Minds are Open”

We can't be the forgotten families anymore. We must all come together to scale up common sense and build **Housing That Heals** on common ground.



*Housing That Heals:
A Search for a Place Like Home for Families Like Ours*

Contact & Additional Information

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Additional information about Moms On a Mission:

<https://namica.org/community-voices/team-nami-spotlight-housing-that-heals-project-report/>

Housing That Heals paper: https://hth.ttinet.com/Housing_That_Heals_2020.pdf

<https://www.accoglienza.us/why-is-no-one-talking-about-this-housing-crisis/#comments>

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/1283882/5904598-housing-that-heals-part-one-a-conversation-with-lauren-rettagliata-and-teresa-pasquini>-Heart Forward -Episode 1-Podcast Launch

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/1283882/5968912-housing-that-heals-part-two-a-conversation-with-lauren-rettagliata-and-teresa-pasquini>-Heart Forward Episode 2

<https://namisantaclara.org/2021/06/moms-on-a-mission/>