

# WORDS TO DEEDS

CHANGING THE  
PARADIGM FOR  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
AND MENTAL HEALTH



A PROJECT OF THE FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

## **Words to Deeds VII**

Friday, November 8, 2013

California State Association of Counties  
Conference Center  
1020 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento



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## ABOUT WORDS TO DEEDS

Since 2003, Words to Deeds has provided a unique forum that has evolved into a standard best practice for creating a true shift in the paradigm between criminal justice and mental health by fostering successful and ongoing collaboration among courts, criminal justice agencies, mental health professions, and governmental and nongovernmental agencies.

### **Mission**

The leaders in criminal justice and mental health participating in this effort strive to end the criminalization of individuals with mental illness by supporting proven strategies that promote early intervention, access to effective treatments, a planned re-entry and the preservation of public safety.

### **Vision**

A true shift in the paradigm between criminal justice and mental health will embody an effective jail diversion system that fosters a successful and ongoing exchange of information among courts, criminal justice agencies, mental health professions, governmental agencies, and nongovernmental organizations, to achieve a substantial positive change in the way individuals with mental illness are treated within our communities.

### **Words to Deeds Leadership Group**

Sharon Aungst – Partnership for Community Excellence, California Forward  
Bill Brown – Santa Barbara County Sheriff-Coroner  
Kathleen Connolly Lacey – UCSF/Citywide Case Management  
Carmen Green – California State Sheriffs' Association  
Elizabeth Howard Espinosa – California State Association of Counties  
Elaine Linn – Elaine Linn Creative Strategies  
Rosemary Lamb McCool – Chief Probation Officers of California  
Dave Meyer, Esq. – Institute of Psychiatry, Law & Behavioral Sciences, USC Keck School of Medicine  
Karen Moen – Judicial Council of California, Administrative Office of the Courts  
Megan Robison – California State Sheriffs' Association  
Patricia Ryan – California Mental Health Directors Association (retired)  
Kevin Smith – Orange County Behavioral Health Services  
Jolena Voorhis – Urban Counties Caucus  
Kit Wall – Kit Wall Productions  
Charlie Walters – Law Enforcement Consultant  
Molly Willenbring – Forensic Mental Health Association of California

For more information about Words to Deeds, please log onto [www.fmhac.net/W2D.html](http://www.fmhac.net/W2D.html).





## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

- 9:30 a.m. Registration**
- 10:00 a.m. Welcome**  
Munir Sewani, PhD – President, Forensic Mental Health Association of California  
Matt Cate – Executive Director, California State Association of Counties  
Dean Growdon, Lassen County Sheriff – Board Member, California State Sheriffs’ Association
- Introduction**  
Kit Wall – Policy Consultant, Kit Wall Productions
- 10:30 a.m. Collaborative Leadership: Mental Health and Justice System Partners**  
The Honorable Richard J. Loftus – Judge, Santa Clara County; and Chair, Judicial Council’s Mental Health Issues Implementation Task Force  
  
The Honorable Steven Leifman – Judge, Miami-Dade County, Florida; and Council of State Governments, Justice Leadership Initiative
- 12:30 p.m. Networking Lunch**
- 1:30 p.m. First Adapters in Action**  
Pre-Arrest: Ventura County  
*Geoff Dean – Ventura County Sheriff; and CIT Administrator Kiran Sahota*  
  
Post-Arrest: San Francisco County  
*Jennifer Johnson – Deputy Public Defender, San Francisco County*  
  
Re-Entry: San Bernardino County  
*Trudy Raymundo – Director, San Bernardino County Department of Public Health*
- 2:30 p.m. Moving from Words to Deeds: Breakout Sessions**
- 4:00 p.m. Ask the Experts**  
Moderator: Mark Refowitz – Director, Orange County Health Care Agency  
  
Corrections: Dean Growdon – Lassen County Sheriff  
County Government: Matt Cate – Executive Director, California State Association of Counties  
District Attorney: Nancy O’Malley – Alameda County District Attorney  
Judge: The Honorable Stephen V. Manley – Santa Clara County Superior Court  
Mental Health Director: Nancy Peña – Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Director  
Probation: Mack Jenkins – San Diego County Probation Chief  
Public Defender: Jeff Elias – San Diego County Supervising Deputy Public Defender (retired)
- 5:00 p.m. Closing**  
Hosted networking refreshment break at Ambrosia Café (across the street at 1030 K Street)
- 6:00 p.m. The Paradigm Awards and Reception**

### Evening Program Sponsors

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## BREAKOUT SESSIONS Moving from Words to Deeds

Words to Deeds convenes key decision makers to facilitate discussions resulting in the development of collaborative strategies that reduce incarceration of individuals with mental illness. Participants share experiences and best practices to solve challenges and stimulate the creation of viable strategies that will ultimately break the cycle of arrest and re-arrest of people with mental illness.

### Transforming Jail Diversion and Re-Entry Policy: Challenges & Achievements

Goals for this Session:

- Identify your specific community challenges and connect with individuals, organizations, and agencies having success in those areas
- Gain knowledge and support essential to creating collaborative strategies that will work in your jurisdiction

#### STEP 1: REVIEW & CONSIDER

Please refer to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMHSA) GAINS Center for Behavioral Health and Justice “Sequential Intercept Model” framework for small group discussions.

Consider the various Intercepts of the behavioral health service/criminal justice system in relation to your experiences with people with mental illness, and explore ways in which others can learn from your challenges and achievements.

#### STEP 2: DISCUSS

Conduct small group discussions at your table. Potential discussion formats include:

- Intercept segment components
- Pre-arrest, post-arrest, re-entry
- Organizational/collaborative team challenges and achievements

#### STEP 3: SHARE WHAT YOU KNOW; GET WHAT YOU NEED

Use the Sequential Intercept Model Boards to post your achievements, challenges, and request for information.

- Write your name, agency and contact information (phone, email) on the colored labels
  - GREEN for Achievement
  - PINK for Challenge
  - YELLOW for Seeking Information
- Stick label in the Intercept component corresponding to your achievement, challenge or request for information.
- Check the boards and collect contact information.
- Please feel free to share multiple experiences.



## ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

### **MATTHEW CATE**

Matthew Cate joined the California State Association of Counties in 2012, after serving for more than four years as Secretary of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. At CSAC, Mr. Cate plays an integral role in developing advocacy strategy and implementation. As Corrections Secretary, Mr. Cate was instrumental in directing sweeping reforms that resulted in reduced recidivism, the end of the prison overcrowding crises, reduced prison spending, and the realignment of many public safety services. Mr. Cate also served as Chairman of the Board of State and Community Corrections and the Prison Industry Authority. Prior to his appointment as Secretary, Mr. Cate served as the California Inspector General where he was responsible for public oversight of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Mr. Cate also served as a state and local prosecutor, Deputy state Attorney General, Special Assistant United States Attorney, a Deputy District Attorney for Sacramento County, and a business litigation attorney. Mr. Cate recently joined Stanford University School of Law as a Law and Policy Fellow. He earned his JD from the University of Oregon School of Law and a Bachelors in Business Administration from Linfield College.

### **GEOFF DEAN**

Geoff Dean is the 19th Sheriff of Ventura County and a 35-year veteran of the Ventura County Sheriff's Office. He is a lifetime resident of California, and he has lived in Camarillo for the past 21 years. Prior to being elected Sheriff, he worked varied assignments throughout the Department including commanding the SWAT Team, Chief of Police for the City of Moorpark and overseeing three of the Sheriff's four divisions. He has a Master's Degree in Public Administration from California State University Northridge and a second Masters Degree in Management from Cal Poly Pomona. He is also a graduate of the California State Peace Officers Command College.

### **JEFFREY G. ELIAS**

Jeffrey G. Elias served as the Supervising Attorney of the Mental Health Division for the Law Office of the Public Defender of San Diego County, where he helped to develop the Behavioral Health Court, and served as the principal screener and legal representative for all participants. Since retiring in 2012 he has continued to consult with agencies, individuals, and organizations on mental health law, involuntary civil commitments, community re-entry programs, and behavioral health courts on a variety of competency issues. Previously, Mr. Elias represented juveniles and mentally ill clients in his position with the Los Angeles County Public Defender. Mr. Elias has a Bachelor of Arts degree from UCLA and a JD from Loyola University School of Law.

### **DEAN F. GROWDON**

Dean F. Growdon has been the Sheriff-Coroner of Lassen County since 2011. He began his law enforcement career with Lassen County in 1994 and has held a wide range of assignments in both Custody and Operations Divisions. Sheriff Growdon was appointed by Governor Brown to the Corrections Standards Authority in 2011; and to the Board of State and Community Corrections in 2012, where he currently serves as Vice-Chair. Sheriff Growdon serves as a Board Member of the California State Sheriffs' Association (CSSA) and Chair of the CSSA's Detention and Corrections Committee. He has a Bachelors degree in Criminal Justice Management from Union Institute and University.

### **MACK JENKINS**

Mack Jenkins has worked in the criminal justice field for more than 34 years. He is currently the Chief Probation Officer for San Diego County. Previously, Chief Jenkins worked as a Director for the Orange County Probation Department. He is the former Chair of the Orange County Drug Court Oversight Committee, and served for four years on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Drug Court Professionals. He is currently a member of the National Center's DWI Court Task Force. Chief Jenkins is member of the Chief Probation Officers of California's Executive Committee, and as the Chair of the San Diego Community Corrections Partnership, he is charged with implementing the county's SB 678 and AB 109 plans. Chief Jenkins has provided training to criminal justice professionals throughout the country on the supervision of substance abuse offenders, Drug and DUI Court programs, and the fundamentals of drug testing. He was also a consensus panel member on Treatment Improvement Protocol 44 "Substance Abuse Treatment for Adults in the Criminal Justice System." Chief Jenkins has a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of California Irvine, and a Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from California State University Long Beach.

### **JENNIFER JOHNSON**

Jennifer Johnson is a Deputy Public Defender in San Francisco and represents about 125 seriously mentally ill clients in Behavioral Health Court. Ms. Johnson has been with the mental health court since 2002, and was involved in both the planning and implementation stages of the program. Beyond her work in the courtroom, she is actively involved in helping shape public policy related to mentally ill offenders at the local, state and national levels. Ms. Johnson is a partner in Johnson Woods Education where she has created a national continuing education program for lawyers in all practice areas entitled *Where Mental Health Meets the Law*. She is on an expert panel for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and has recently joined the faculty at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law. Ms. Johnson is a Words to Deeds Paradigm Awards recipient, receiving the inaugural County Champion award in January 2013.

### **HON. STEVEN LEIFMAN**

Judge Steven Leifman is an Associate Administrative Judge for the Miami-Dade County Court, and a nationally known advocate for people with mental illnesses. Judge Leifman currently serves as chairman of the Florida Supreme Court Task Force on Substance Abuse and Mental Health. From 2007-2010 he served as Special Advisor to the Florida Chief Justice of the Supreme Court on Criminal Justice and Mental Health issues charged with bringing together key state policy makers to help identify and recommend ways to improve Florida's response to people with mental illnesses who become involved in the criminal justice system. Recently featured on NBC and CNN, Judge Leifman helped spearhead the 11th Judicial Circuit Criminal Mental Health Project which has been recognized as a model of excellence and received the National GAINS Center 2008 Impact Award. Judge Leifman has been appointed to numerous local, state and national initiatives, including the Council of State Governments Judges' Criminal Justice/Mental Health Leadership Initiative and as Co-Chair of the Miami-Dade County Mayor's Task Force on Mental Health. He is Immediate Past Chairman of the Board of Directors of Florida Partners in Crisis, Inc.

## **SPEAKER BIOS, continued**

### **HON. RICHARD J. LOFTUS, JR.**

Judge Richard J. Loftus, Jr. is Chair of the Mental Health Issues Implementation Task Force; and he was a member of the Task Force on Criminal Justice Collaboration on Mental Health Issues. He is the past Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of Santa Clara County, where he was appointed in 1998, and has served in both the civil and criminal courts. Judge Loftus was supervising judge of the Family court and supervising and presiding judge of the Juvenile court. While in Juvenile court, he presided over the first juvenile mental health court and has promoted the establishment of such courts throughout the nation. He has served on numerous Judicial Council committees including: Vice-chair of the Presiding Judges Advisory Committee, Working Group on Criminal Justice Realignment, Judicial Branch Leadership Budget Group, AB 1208 Ad Hoc Legislative Committee, Judicial Recruitment and Retention Working Group, and CJER faculty. He received his Bachelors and Masters Degrees from the University of Detroit and his JD from the University of Michigan.

### **NANCY E. O'MALLEY**

Nancy E. O'Malley is the first woman to serve as Alameda County's elected District Attorney, a position once held by former United States Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren. Known nationally and across California for her innovation and vision, Ms. O'Malley is also a nationally recognized expert in issues involving violence against women and persons with disabilities, as well as interpersonal violence, including sexual assault, domestic violence, elder abuse, child abuse, stalking/threat management, and human exploitation and trafficking. Ms. O'Malley has authored and successfully advocated several bills that have become law in California, including advancing protections for crime victims with developmental disabilities, laws that enhance victims' rights, and strengthening victims' voices in the criminal justice, labor, and medical environments.

### **HON. STEPHEN V. MANLEY**

Judge Stephen Manley has served on the bench for more than 30 years and is currently a Superior Court Judge in Santa Clara County. He is President of the California Association of Drug Court Professionals and a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals. He has authored reports and legislative proposals at the local, state and national levels and is a tireless advocate for mental health and re-entry courts. Judge Manley is a member of the Judicial Council's Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee and is the Chief Justice's appointee to the Council on Mentally Ill Offenders. Judge Manley is a Words to Deeds Paradigm Awards recipient, receiving the inaugural Judicial Champion Award in January 2013.

### **NANCY PEÑA**

Nancy Peña, Ph.D., is Director of the Department of Mental Health for Santa Clara County, and Director of Santa Clara Valley Health & Hospital System's Mental Health Administration. A licensed Clinical Psychologist, Ms. Peña has worked in the field of mental health service delivery in Santa Clara County since 1984, and has spent her career serving in various management roles. Ms. Peña has served as a State Performance Evaluation Advisory Committee member and Co-Chair of the Statewide Children's System of Care Committee of the Mental Health Directors Association (CMHDA). She is past President of the CMHDA, and the first Co-Chair of the CMHDA's Social Justice Advisory Committee.

### **KIRAN SAHOTA**

Kiran Sahota is a lifelong resident of Ventura County. She has worked in social services since 1992, beginning her career at several local non-profits. In 1994, Ms. Sahota received her graduate degree in Clinical Psychology from California State University Northridge and continued to remain active in the community while working as a social worker with Child Protective Services. Ms. Sahota also served as a Program Manager at Casa Pacifica, a residential center for children and transitional aged youth where she wrote policy and procedures, and provided oversight for a newly opened TAY housing option. In January 2013, Ms. Sahota joined the Ventura County Sheriff's Office as the Program Administrator for the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT).

### **MARK REFOWITZ**

Mark Refowitz has served as Director of the Orange County Health Care Agency since 2012. He also serves as Chairman of the largest county-operated health system in California, CalOptima and Children's & Families Commission. Mr. Refowitz joined the County in 2004 as the Agency's Deputy Director for Behavioral Health Sciences, where he was instrumental in developing the statewide formula for the allocation of Prop 63 funds. Also during his tenure, Orange County designed, constructed, and opened a first-of-its-kind wellness campus featuring crisis, occupational, and therapeutic services for mental health – funded entirely through Proposition 63. Mr. Refowitz previously served as Assistant Commissioner for Mental Health in Massachusetts, and as senior staff for the Federal Receiver appointed to transform the community mental health system in Washington, DC. Mr. Refowitz also has a background in managed care, moving to California in 1998 to expand primary care for seniors. Prior to joining the County of Orange, Mr. Refowitz served as Director of Mental Health Services for San Diego County.

### **TRUDY RAYMUNDO**

As San Bernardino County's Public Health Director, Trudy Raymundo takes a collaborative approach to improving the health and well-being of all county residents. Most recently, she spearheaded Community Vital Signs, an effort in partnership with the County to establish a health improvement framework, which is supported by the County's three health departments – Public Health, Behavioral Health, and Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. Under Ms. Raymundo's leadership, the County received grants from the Office of Justice Programs for the Second Chance Act Adult Offender Reentry Program to fund the San Bernardino County Reentry Collaborative (SBCRC), which she now chairs. In conjunction with the County's Probation Department and a diverse set of stakeholders, the SBCRC has developed a countywide strategic plan to address the needs of the recently incarcerated and their successful reintegration.

### **KIT WALL**

Promoting everything from policy reform issues, nonprofit organizations, and political campaigns to rock shows and media events, Kit Wall uses her repertoire of organizational/communication skills for policy consultation, writing, production, and management. Her promotion and publicity experience includes such wide-ranging fields as pro sports, entertainment, commercial real estate, and government affairs. Since 1987, Ms. Wall has focused on government relations and public policy, managing coalition and grassroots efforts as well as legislative and ballot initiatives, and candidate campaigns. In 2001, while working for Eli Lilly and Company, she embarked on efforts in jail diversion specialization across the U.S., initiating the Words to Deeds concept, which has developed into the existing interdisciplinary leadership forum, Words to Deeds VII.

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*Recognizing leaders in criminal justice and mental health who champion efforts to end criminalization of individuals with mental illness by supporting proven strategies that promote early intervention, access to effective treatments, a planned re-entry, and the preservation of public safety.*

## **Words to Deeds VII: The Paradigm Awards November 8, 2013**

*Emcee*

Kit Wall – Policy Consultant, Kit Wall Productions

*Welcome*

Munir Sewani, PhD – President, Forensic Mental Health Association of California

Matt Cate – Executive Director, California State Association of Counties

Adam Christianson – Stanislaus County Sheriff; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, California State Sheriffs' Association

### **Awards Presentations**

**Community Champion – Mark Gale, California Treatment Advocacy Coalition, Los Angeles**

*Presented by Sharon Aungst, Partnership for Community Excellence, California Forward*

**County Champion – Scott MacDonald, Santa Cruz County Probation Chief**

*Presented by San Diego County Probation Chief Mack Jenkins*

**Law Enforcement Champion – Former San Benito County Sheriff Curtis J. Hill**

*Presented by Stanislaus County Sheriff Adam Christianson*

**Lifetime Achievement – David Meyer, Esq., Research Scholar, Institute of Psychiatry,  
Law and Behavioral Sciences, University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine**

*Presented by Patricia Ryan, California Mental Health Directors Association (retired)*

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