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# County of Santa Cruz

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 500, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4069  
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FIRST DISTRICT

WALTER J. SYMONS  
SECOND DISTRICT

MARDI WORMHOUDT  
THIRD DISTRICT

TONY CAMPOS  
FOURTH DISTRICT

JEFF ALMQUIST  
FIFTH DISTRICT

AGENDA: 2/1/00

January 20, 2000

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
County of Santa Cruz  
701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION

Dear Members of the Board:

Attached is the Annual Report of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission for calendar year 1999. I recommend that the Board accept and file this report and direct the Chair to thank the members of the Commission for their efforts on the County's behalf.

Sincerely,

MARDI WORMHOUDT, Chair  
Board of Supervisors

MW:ted

cc: Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission

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# County of Santa Cruz

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## HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

POST OFFICE BOX 962, 1400 EMELINE AVENUE SANTA CAUZ, CA 95061-0962

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### ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION

January 10, 2000

Board of Supervisors  
County of Santa Cruz  
70 1 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

### **SUBJECT: Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission 1999 Annual Report**

Dear Board Members:

As required by Section 2.38.170 of the County code, attached is the 1999 Annual Report of the Santa Cruz County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission.

The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission looks forward to working with your Board and the Health Services Agency during 2000 to further improve and expand drug and alcohol-related services and awareness.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Merrithew".

Michael Merrithew, Chairperson  
Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission

Attachment

## ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION 1999 ANNUAL REPORT

### Role of the Commission

To advise the Board of Supervisors and the Alcohol and Drug Program Administrator on alcohol and drug abuse issues through participation in the planning process, development of the goals and policies of the County Alcohol and Drug Program, education of the public about alcohol and drug abuse problems and services, advocacy on alcohol and drug-related legislative issues, review of alcohol and drug services provided by the County to ensure quality, and review of the procedures used to ensure citizen involvement in alcohol and drug abuse program policies and procedures.

### Meeting Dates, Time and Location

Second Monday of each month at 5:00 p.m. at rotating locations in North, South and Mid-County.

### Commission Structure

The structure of the Commission was revised during the year. Effective November 1999, each Supervisor appoints two members who represent the Supervisor's district. During 1999, the Chairperson was Argelia Flores until March 1999 and then was followed by Michael Merrithew. The Vice Chairperson was Jeff Roth. Other commissioners are listed on the attached attendance roster.

### Commission Staff

The Health Services Agency Alcohol and Drug Program provides staff support to the Commission, including preparation of meeting minutes and some correspondence.

### Attendance

See attached roster.

### Accomplishments - 1999

- The Commission voted unanimously to accept the January 26, 1999 report to the Board of Supervisors regarding the consolidation of administrative services between and alcohol/drugs and mental health. It was recommended that the Commission and the Mental Health Advisory Board be maintained as separate advisory boards.
- The Commission participated in research and discussions which culminated in a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors that they consider funding, during 1999-2000, for a residential treatment program for adolescent alcohol and drug abusers who are not on

probation. The Commission was represented on a proposal review committee that recommended a provider of services for this program.

- Commissioners participated in a meeting and subsequent discussions surrounding the future viability of establishing a Juvenile Drug Court in Santa Cruz County.
- The Commission decided to continue its tradition of giving out Robert E. Neff awards to individuals for exemplary service in the substance abuse recovery field.
- The Commission's Budget Committee reviewed projected revenues and proposed program expansions for the 1999/00 fiscal year.

### Future Goals

- Maintain consistent contact and improve working relationships with local officials, including the Board of Supervisors.
- Discuss the Commission's role in light of the consolidation of alcohol/drug and mental health administrative services, review reports on the process of the consolidation, and advise the Board of Supervisors accordingly.
- Review the Commissioner's job description, role, and work in the community.
- Review how to work more effectively with service providers and advocate for more and better chemical dependency services.
- Monitor contract service providers for culturally appropriate services and implement the goals of the Cultural Competence Framework related to diversity.
- Review specific issues in the alcohol and drug field, including:
  - Alcohol and drug-related deaths, violence and traffic crashes
  - Dual diagnosis
  - Challenging the drug war paradigm
  - Decriminalization of drug possession
  - Truth in research and education

### Recommendations

- The Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisors make timely appointments to fill vacant Commission seats.
- The Commission recommends an increase in communication with the Board of Supervisors and an increase in the Board's responsiveness to Commission requests.
- The Health Services Agency and the Board of Supervisors should continue to advocate for substance abuse prevention and treatment services without regard to pressure from alcohol industry companies or representatives.

### 1999 ADAC ATTENDANCE

Members	Jan 99	Feb 99	Mar 99	April 99	May 99	June 99	Jul 99	Aug 99	Sept 99	Oct 99	Nov 99	Dec 99
Diane Benson	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	E	P
Jarrell LeGate	P	E	E	P	E	P	P	P	P	E	P	E
Jeff Roth	P	P	E	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	E
Valerie Corral	E	P	P	E	P	P	P	A	E	E	P	P
Argelia Flores	P	P	P	Resigned								→
Ivan Foote	P	A	P	P	E	E	E	P	E	P	E	P
PJ. Warner	P	A	P	E	P	P	P	E	A	P	E	P
Art Ventura	P	P	P	P	P	E	E	E	P	P	P	E
Erin Keeffe	A	Resigned										→
Michael Merrithew	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Tom McClellan	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	E	P	P	P
Don Hutchinson	→	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	E	A

**KEY**

- P = Present**
- A = Unexcused Absence**
- E = Excused Absence**