

January 24, 2020

Dear Dr. Grant Colfax,

We're a group of people with mental health disabilities organizing to advocate for ourselves. We support universal access to consumer-directed mental health care, full integration of people with mental health disabilities into society, and stable, dignified housing for all. We oppose expanded conservatorship, involuntary treatment, and criminalization of people with mental health disabilities. We believe that mental health services should be easy to access for everyone regardless of income, insurance, or diagnosis.

We would like to see a commitment from the Mayor's Office to fund Mental Health San Francisco now instead of waiting for a ballot measure that may not pass. This expansion of services is greatly needed, and people waiting for treatment could die before the funding comes through. We hope to see the Mayor and the Department of Public Health work together with the MHSF implementation board to fund and roll out this program as soon as possible. In addition, we support the full funding of Treatment on Demand, which voters approved years ago but is still not a reality.

While there is much discussion of the mental health crisis amongst homeless people, we see few attempts to provide decent, long term housing that's affordable to people with low incomes, such as people with mental health disabilities living on SSI. We would like to see community mental healthcare in conjunction with housing to ensure the wellbeing and safety of all San Francisco residents.

Sincerely,

Mad Mob SF

(Contact: Raia Small, Senior and Disability Action, 1360 Mission St. #400, 415.546.1333, ext. 308)