

## A G E N D A

**SEQUOIA HEALTHCARE DISTRICT  
SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
5:00 PM, Thursday, December 15, 2022  
Conference Room, 525 Veterans Boulevard  
Redwood City, CA 94063**

This meeting will be held in person at 525 Veteran's Boulevard in Redwood City with access available via Zoom teleconference. To join the meeting from your cellphone dial [\(669\) 900-9128](tel:6699009128) and enter meeting ID: [854 0049 4194](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85400494194) or join from a computer to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85400494194>. Additional information regarding the meeting can be located at our website: [www.seqhd.org](http://www.seqhd.org)

1. Call To Order And Roll Call
  2. Public Comment On Non-Agenda Items\*
  3. Old Business
- ACTION
- a. Accept November 8, 2022 Election Results From San Mateo County Registrar's Office And Recognize Dr. William Fong, Dr. Aaron Nayfack, And Dr. Gerald Shefren As Elected Directors For The Term 12/2/2022 To 12/4/2026  
- President Shefren
  - b. Continue Discussion Of Dental Pilot With San Mateo County Dental Society And Health Plan Of San Mateo - Nakia Brandt (SMCDS) and Pat Curran (HPSM)
- ACTION
4. Adjourn to Closed Session For The Purpose Of:  
Under Government Code Sections 54957 and 54957.6 for the following purposes:  
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (54957) Title: Chief Executive Officer of Sequoia Healthcare District. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (54957.6)  
Agency Designated Representative: Jerry Shefren, Board President, Unrepresented Employee: Chief Executive Officer, Sequoia Healthcare District
- ACTION
5. Reconvene To Open Session: Announce Any Reportable Action Taken In Closed Session.
- ACTION
6. Adjourn  
The Next Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Directors Of Sequoia Healthcare District is Scheduled For 4:30 PM, Wednesday, February 1, 2023, District Conference Room, 525 Veterans Blvd., Redwood City, CA 94063

Jerry Shefren, MD  
Board President

\*Public comment will be taken for each agenda item prior to the board's consideration on that item.

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Board of Directors regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the District office, 525 Veterans Blvd., Redwood City, CA, during normal business hours. Please telephone 650-421-2155 ext 201 to arrange an appointment.

If you are an individual with a disability and need an accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact Sequoia Healthcare District at least 48-hours in advance at 650-421-2155 ext 201.



OFFICE OF  
**ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-  
RECORDER & ELECTIONS**  
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

**MARK CHURCH**  
CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER &  
ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

December 8, 2022

Pamela Kurtzman  
Chief Executive Officer  
Sequoia Healthcare District  
525 Veterans Boulevard  
Redwood City, CA 94063

Subject: Certificate of the Chief Elections Officer for the Statewide General  
Election held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022

Dear Chief Executive Officer Kurtzman:

This is to advise you that we have completed the Official Canvass of the vote and I have certified the election results.

Attached hereto is the official Chief Elections Officer's Certification of the November 8, 2022 Statewide General Election.

It has been a pleasure to work with you in conducting this election and I look forward to serving you again in future elections.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Church". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" and last name "Church" clearly distinguishable.

Mark Church

Enclosures

# CERTIFICATE OF THE CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER

State of California

SS.

County of San Mateo

I, **MARK CHURCH**, Chief Elections Officer of the County of San Mateo, State of California, do hereby certify that:

**WHEREAS**, the number of nominees for the Office of Member, Board of Directors, does not exceed the number of offices required by law to be filled at the Statewide General Election within the SEQUOIA HEALTHCARE DISTRICT ZONE C held on November 8, 2022; the time within which nominations may be made has expired; and a petition signed by ten percent (10%) of the voters or 50 voters, whichever is the smaller number, requesting that said election be held, was not presented to the Chief Elections Officer within the time provided by law.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to Elections Code §10515, the following qualified person, as listed below, is required to be appointed to the Office of Member, Board of Directors for a term of four (4) years:

Aaron Nayfack

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I hereunto affix my hand and seal this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2022, and file this date with the Chief Executive Officer of the SEQUOIA HEALTHCARE DISTRICT.



**MARK CHURCH**  
Chief Elections Officer &  
Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder

# COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

## CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION

This is to certify that

*Aaron Nayfack*

was appointed to the office of

*Member, Board of Directors*

*Sequoia Healthcare District*

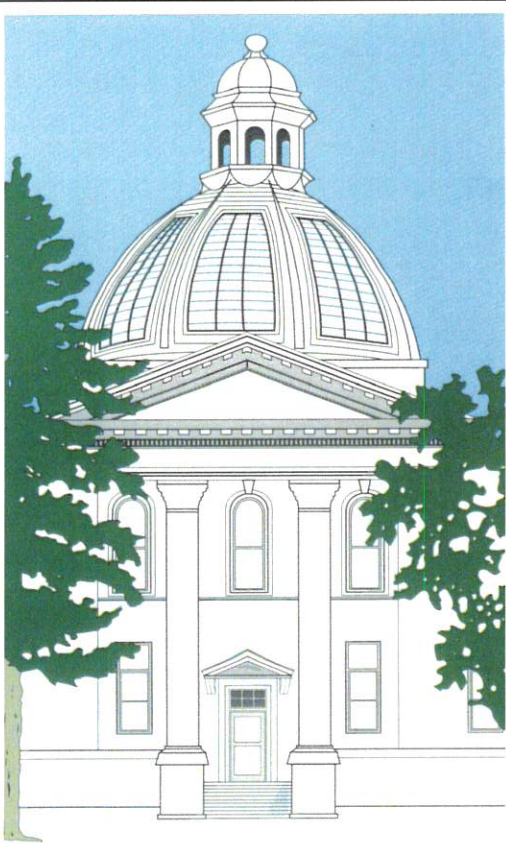
*Zone C*

In lieu of holding the Statewide General Election in San Mateo County on  
the 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022.

*In witness whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official  
seal this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2022.

*Mark Church*

MARK CHURCH  
Chief Elections Officer &  
Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder





## CERTIFICATE OF THE CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER

In the matter of the CANVASS OF VOTES CAST     )  
at the STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION             )  
held on November 8,2022                             )

I, **MARK CHURCH**, Chief Elections Officer of the County of San Mateo, State of California, hereby certify:

**THAT** an election was held within the boundaries of the SEQUOIA HEALTHCARE DISTRICT ZONE A on Tuesday, November 8,2022, for the purpose of electing one (1) Member of the Board of Directors for a four (4) year term; and I caused to have processed and recorded the votes from the canvass of all ballots cast at said election within the boundaries of the SEQUOIA HEALTHCARE DISTRICT ZONE A.

I **HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY** that the record of votes cast at said election is set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth at length.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I hereunto affix my hand and seal this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2022, and file this date with the Chief Executive Officer of the SEQUOIA HEALTHCARE DISTRICT.



**MARK CHURCH**  
Chief Elections Officer &  
Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder

1 Sequoia Healthcare District Member, Board of Directors, Zone A						
					1	1
		Registered Voters	Voters Cast	Turnout (%)	WILLIAM L. FONG	MICHAEL GARIB
21001	Total	2106	1209	57.41 %	467	418
21023	Total	196	112	57.14 %	46	28
22004	Total	2918	1720	58.94 %	707	497
22008	Total	3417	2154	63.04 %	889	623
22013	Total	656	432	65.85 %	168	124
22021	Total	2687	1652	61.48 %	730	464
22038	Total	0	0			
26012	Total	1477	752	50.91 %	344	235
26014	Total	1423	821	57.70 %	345	239
26016	Total	1321	859	65.03 %	282	292
36012	Total	1	3	300.00 %	***	***
36051	Total	0	0			
46003	Total	1	1	100.00 %	***	***
46050	Total	1154	661	57.28 %	257	207
46137	Total	0	0			
46138	Total	0	0			
46400	Total	2514	1547	61.54 %	582	521
46403	Total	2036	1246	61.20 %	478	425
46406	Total	2751	1705	61.98 %	693	551
46408	Total	28	19	67.86 %	5	6
Total - Vote Centers		24686	1040	4.21 %	496	269
Total - Vote by Mail		24686	13853	56.12 %	5499	4363
Contest Total		24686	14893	60.33 %	5995	4632

\*\*\* Indicates vote data was suppressed due to voter privacy settings.

# COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

## CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION

This is to certify that

*William L. Fong*

was elected to the office of

*Member, Board of Directors*

*Sequoia Healthcare District*

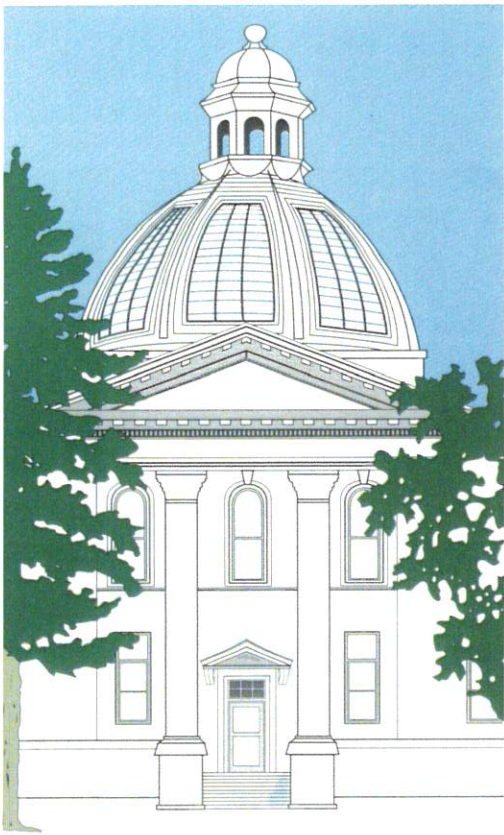
*Zone A*

at the Statewide General Election in San Mateo County  
on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022.

*In witness whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official  
seal this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2022.

*Mark Church*

MARK CHURCH  
Chief Elections Officer &  
Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder



# CERTIFICATE OF THE CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER

In the matter of the CANVASS OF VOTES CAST     )  
at the STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION             )  
held on November 8,2022                             )

I, **MARK CHURCH**, Chief Elections Officer of the County of San Mateo, State of California, hereby certify:

**THAT** an election was held within the boundaries of the SEQUOIA HEALTHCARE DISTRICT ZONE E on Tuesday, November 8,2022, for the purpose of electing one (1) Member of the Board of Directors for a four (4) year term; and I caused to have processed and recorded the votes from the canvass of all ballots cast at said election within the boundaries of the SEQUOIA HEALTHCARE DISTRICT ZONE E.

I **HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY** that the record of votes cast at said election is set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth at length.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I hereunto affix my hand and seal this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2022, and file this date with the Chief Executive Officer of the SEQUOIA HEALTHCARE DISTRICT.



**MARK CHURCH**  
Chief Elections Officer &  
Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder



1 Sequoia Healthcare District Member, Board of Directors, Zone E						
		Registered Voters	Voters Cast	Turnout (%)	GERALD "JERRY" SHEFFEN	KENNETH J. LOO
21004	Total	1016	615	60.53 %	212	225
21007	Total	565	403	71.33 %	146	158
21008	Total	2916	2064	70.78 %	787	693
21010	Total	2322	1720	74.07 %	679	623
21013	Total	1984	1400	70.56 %	512	477
21049	Total	0	0			
26063	Total	2268	1445	63.71 %	515	510
26064	Total	254	175	68.90 %	53	64
31015	Total	2419	1613	66.68 %	570	609
31017	Total	1272	722	56.76 %	237	294
31032	Total	1465	991	67.65 %	380	342
31036	Total	28	24	85.71 %	11	9
31037	Total	266	167	62.78 %	66	50
36001	Total	2953	2114	71.59 %	851	645
36019	Total	1407	998	70.93 %	386	343
36021	Total	2234	1587	71.04 %	603	540
36025	Total	1219	791	64.89 %	342	250
36027	Total	106	83	78.30 %	44	22
36031	Total	119	91	76.47 %	46	20
36038	Total	207	153	73.91 %	61	55
36049	Total	0	0			
36052	Total	28	21	75.00 %	5	13
37005	Total	50	22	44.00 %	10	4
37375	Total	119	77	64.71 %	36	24
37377	Total	95	77	81.05 %	34	21
37379	Total	16	13	81.25 %	7	2
37410	Total	1175	854	72.68 %	416	189
37420	Total	552	385	69.75 %	166	99
37421	Total	35	28	80.00 %	13	6
37431	Total	29	12	41.38 %	2	9
37433	Total	0	0			
37602	Total	549	413	75.23 %	159	128
37603	Total	44	25	56.82 %	7	7
37915	Total	0	0			
37916	Total	0	0			
38004	Total	361	243	67.31 %	86	54
38006	Total	808	552	68.32 %	221	178
38012	Total	621	445	71.66 %	164	128
38021	Total	110	74	67.27 %	24	23
39001	Total	2181	1660	76.11 %	773	424
39005	Total	1439	1089	75.68 %	487	280
Total - Vote Centers		33232	1403	4.22 %	439	559
Total - Vote by Mail		33232	21743	65.43 %	8674	6959
Contest Total		33232	23146	69.65 %	9113	7518

\*\*\* Indicates vote data was suppressed due to voter privacy settings.

# COUNTY OF SAN MATEO CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION

This is to certify that

*Gerald "Jerry" Shefren*

was elected to the office of

*Member, Board of Directors*

*Sequoia Healthcare District*

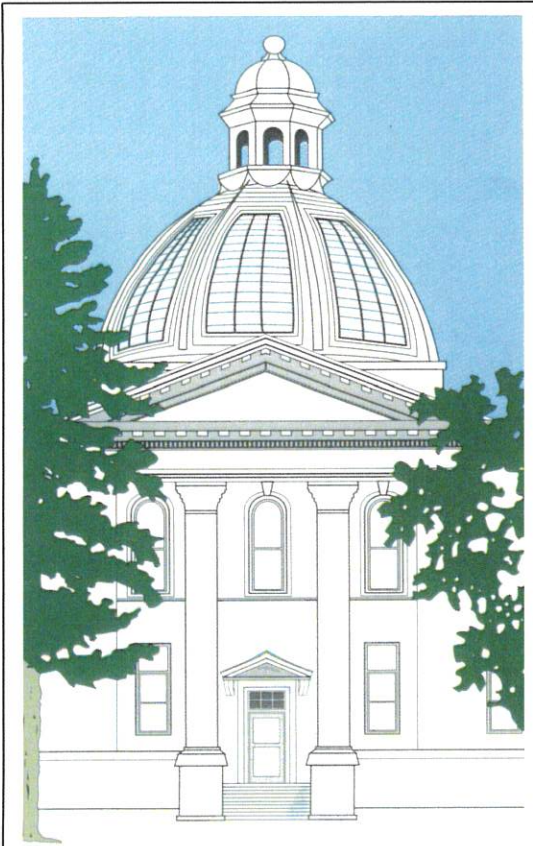
*Zone E*

at the Statewide General Election in San Mateo County  
on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022.

*In witness whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official  
seal this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2022.

*Mark Church*

MARK CHURCH  
Chief Elections Officer &  
Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder



## Sequoia Healthcare District Pilot Program To Increase Access To Comprehensive Dental Services for District Residents

### *Executive Summary*

*This initiative would provide funds for District residents facing barriers to dental access to receive immediate comprehensive oral health services through a partnership with San Mateo County Dental Society (SMCDS) and its member dentists, the Health Plan of San Mateo (HPSM), and our community dental providers. It would also help address the critical shortage of private practice dentists that accept Denti-Cal and it would serve to strengthen relationships among our partners and private dentists and other community groups concerned about addressing oral health needs.*

*Dentists would treat patients through a system of comprehensive visits until the patient is stabilized. Then, they will be returned to their medical home (referring clinic) for ongoing routine care.*

*District funds would be used to pay private dentists the difference between the Denti-Cal reimbursement rate (administered through HPSM) and a pre-determined fee-for-service rate which would incentivize dentists to see Medi-Cal patients because we would help cover more of the cost of services than Med-Cal alone reimburses.*

*An initial investment of \$1M would provide comprehensive restorative dental care for approximately 400 low-income district residents.*

### *Narrative*

In San Mateo County there are significant oral health disparities among its residents, with the burden of oral disease being particularly high among racial and ethnic minorities, those with lower income, with less education, and those without dental insurance. Recent data show that eight percent (8%) of San Mateo County residents lack any form of health insurance and roughly an astounding one-third of residents (33%) lack coverage that pays for routine dental care. A survey of middle-aged adults in the county revealed that four in ten had dental problems within the past two years-- problems that caused pain, difficulty eating, and missed days of work.

For those unable to access even basic dental care, the consequences can be dramatic. Studies have repeatedly documented connections between poor oral health and a variety of serious medical conditions, such as diabetes and heart disease. Other

consequences of untreated decay include severe pain, infections, speech difficulties, tooth loss, missed workdays and more. Among adults seeking jobs, those with visible dental problems are at a distinct disadvantage compared to those with healthy smiles.

Medi-Cal is California's public health fee for service insurance program (California's Medicaid) that provides free or low-cost medical services for children and adults with limited income and resources. The Medi-Cal Program currently offers dental services (Denti-Cal) as one of the program's benefits, but in San Mateo County, many dentists in private practice refuse to accept Denti-Cal, citing that payments are too low and the red tape burden too high. Those providers that do participate are often unable to recoup even their overhead costs due to reimbursement rates that are some of the lowest in the nation. That likely explains why the number of dentists serving Medi-Cal patients in the county has been steadily declining since 1998. Currently, the county website shows that now only 23 dentists serve this population, 6 of whom are currently accepting new patients. This severe lack of sufficient dental providers to care for people facing systemic barriers to oral health, is even more pronounced among people with unique access issues such as physical or developmental disabilities that many dentists either cannot or will not meet.

The County Dental Clinics provide most services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries. However, even there, patients still have significant barriers to receiving dental care due to difficulties obtaining appointments, long wait times for appointments, and long wait times at the clinics when at their appointments. In addition, the full range of specialty dental services often needed by patients is generally not available at the clinics. Recruiting pediatric dentists has been an ongoing problem due to an overall shortage of pediatric dentists, compensation issues, and the limited scope of practice opportunities at the county clinics. The county clinic regularly refers patients to our partner not-for profit dental clinics.

### ***Proposed Program Description***

Through a partnership with the San Mateo County Dental Society and HPSM, member dentists agree to sign on with HPSM to become credentialed Denti-Cal providers. District residents in need of comprehensive dental services would be chosen from waitlists at any of our partner non-profit or county dental clinics (patient's dental home) and assigned to a private dentist to receive the treatment they need. Once the patient receives full treatment and is stabilized, they return to their dental home for ongoing routine care. Non-profit and county partners include Ravenswood, Sonrisas, Samaritan House Clinic RWC, and SMMC dental clinic at North Fair Oaks.



Prior to a patient being assigned to a private dentist, they will receive an oral health screening by Kells- an artificial intelligence (AI) system that analyzes scans of a patient's mouth. This will serve to triage, prioritize, and inform the level of care needed and help assure an appropriate type of dentist is assigned. The assigned dentist may use the screening results and may take additional x-rays to develop a treatment plan. The Kells technology will also be used to gather data to inform outcomes during program evaluation.

### ***Target population and number of people to be served***

The program will enable access to timely comprehensive oral health services for approximately 400 low-income District residents of all ages who are on waitlists at our partner non-profit dental facilities between October 2022 through September 2023. This population of patients are racially and ethnically diverse, including individuals who self-identify as Latinx (30%), Caucasian (31%), Asian (28%), and African American (1%) with 10% unknown. This population may or may not have any dental benefits depending on the mix of patients needing to be seen.

### ***Payor Model***

Contract with Health Plan of San Mateo (HPSM) to enroll dentists in plan. The Health Plan will reimburse dentists at the Denti-Cal rate and SHD will pay the difference between the Denti-Cal rate and the actual treatment costs. The rate SHD reimburses dentists will be based on an agreed usual and customary fee or Delta Dental Premier rate which is reasonable and attractive enough for private dentists to participate.

This model helps to incentivize dentists to enroll in Denti-Cal and provides a pathway for them to contribute to the solution of increasing access to care for indigent patients who would otherwise go without care.

Patients who are ineligible for Medi-Cal and those who lack any insurance, such as those seen at Samaritan House Clinic, would not be excluded from this program. Rather, we would not have the Denti-Cal reimbursements to help pay for their care.

### ***Assignment of Patients***

The general idea is that clinic patients on waitlists at any of our partner providers will be assigned via a central assignment center through the health care district office or their medical home to a private-practice general practitioner or specialists based on a pre-determined set of criteria. We would avoid referring patients to dentists who are already at capacity with Denti-Cal patients (dentists determine how many patients they are willing to serve each month) and we would ensure equitable assignment for all participating dentists. The Health Plan will hire a dental coordinator who makes

appointments for clients and follows up on services needed. This position will be on a part time, temporary 1 year assignment or as needed during the 1-year pilot project.

### ***Program Evaluation***

- a) Maintain communication from SHCD with providers: check in with office staff for any concerns
- b) Survey at six-month period- utilize qualitative and quantitative programmatic, primary and secondary data to determine our progress in:
  - implementing the program as intended,
  - reaching target goals,
  - providing a cost-effective program,
  - providing a program valued by community members,
  - collecting the data necessary to measure impact
- c) Kells Ai screening tool- will provide data and help inform outcomes.

### ***Funding Requirements***

For this pilot, we are looking at a \$1M investment to treat a minimum of 400 patients over a 12-month period. With the partnership with HPSM, the reimbursements would allow the District to leverage those dollars to be able to pay for more patients to be seen or for specialty services not covered by the plan.

- An assessment of costs for services provided by our county clinics averaged:
  - 3.5 visits per patient for comprehensive treatment
  - average cost per treatment \$900
  - Average total per patient = \$3,150
- Each Kells scan costs \$250
- A part-time dental coordinator will be supported through this program (estimated cost of (\$25k for the year)

### ***Implementation Timeline (first 3 months) and Next Steps:***

December 2023

- Hold Board study session in December to continue Board discussion at public meeting

January 2023

- Submit formal proposal and funding request at special District Board meeting in January
- Develop formal MOU's/agreements working with District legal council

January- February 2023

- Schedule screenings and begin the process of assigning patients
- Simultaneously work with private dentists to begin MediCal credentialing process.