



# San Mateo County

## **November General Meeting - Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Program at work in our SMC Community**

### **Panel Speakers and Bios**

#### **Armando Sandoval – Facilitator (NAMI SMC Board President and BART CIT Program Coordinator and Community Outreach Liaison)**

Armando has been affiliated with NAMI for over 30 years and has worked in the mental health field and with law enforcement for 35 years. He is the President of the NAMI San Mateo County Board of Directors, along with also serving on the board of directors for NAMI CA and the California Crisis Intervention Training Association.

Armando has spent the last 15 years as a CIT instructor and the last 8 years with San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit Police as their CIT Program Coordinator and Community Outreach Liaison where he provides direct support in the field and training to BART officers where he provides outreach and support resources to the population that are in need of assistance.

Armando's passion for mental health and a career working with law enforcement led to his dedication to focus on many overlaying services such as the NAMI SMC CIT program partnership with SMC Sheriff's Office and BHRS, the Field Crisis Consultant Committee and First responder wellness. He also served 30 years on the Mobile Support Team with Mateo Lodge, one of his roles was the liaison for the Spanish speaking community and the mental health system.

## **Erik Rueppel - Detective at San Mateo County Sheriff's Office for Psychiatric Emergency Response Team (PERT)**

Detective Rueppel has over 20 years of experience in law enforcement and is currently assigned as a Detective for the Psychiatric Emergency Response Team (PERT), along with his partner Jennifer Basler-Cameron, they support people that struggle with mental illness, addiction and homelessness. They strive to reduce incarceration and hospitalization for this often-under-served community of people.

He was previously assigned in the Maguire Correctional Facility and the Sheriff's Office Transit Bureau for the SMC Sheriff's Office. As a Transit Deputy, he was a 2015 Medal of Valor recipient for a train related incident where he helped save the life of a man whose car was found on the tracks in Sunnyvale, CA.

Before joining the SMC Sheriff's Office, Rueppel served as the Police Sergeant at California State University Monterey Bay.

## **Jessica Zamora – Program Specialist of Psychiatric Emergency Response Team (PERT) and Field Crisis Collaborative Committee (FCCC)**

Jessica is the Work Out of Class Program Specialist for the Psychiatric Emergency Response Team (PERT), and has been with PERT since 2019. She is dually licensed as a Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) and Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC). She began her career in the mental health field in 2008 when she became a volunteer at Crisis Support Services of Alameda County. In her time with the agency, she served as a crisis counselor, crisis line trainer, Teens for Life presenter, senior in-home program counselor, and text counselor. She began working on her clinical hours at StarVista in 2012, working mainly with youth and

their families. While at StarVista, she worked at Camp Kemp, Camp Glenwood, and in outpatient settings. She then was hired by the County in 2016 and began working at Maguire Correctional Facility as part of the Forensic Mental Health team. She transferred to BHRS's Youth Services Center team in 2017, providing services to Camp Glenwood, Camp Kemp, and the Youth Services Center. She continues to provide after hours crisis coverage for the Youth Services Center. Jessica is trained and certified as a Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics (NMT) clinician with BHRS, as well as a trained facilitator for PhotoVoice.

## **Ian Adamson - CEO of Mateo Lodge, Inc., San Mateo, Mobile Support Team and Family Assertive Support Team (FAST)**

Ian is the CEO of Mateo Lodge, Inc., San Mateo, which started in 1975 by family members of the Alliance for the Mentally Ill of San Mateo County (later NAMI San Mateo County) to provide housing and support services for their loved ones.

Ian has been closely tied to Mateo Lodge, Inc. from the beginning when Ian was hired as a counselor. He is revered in the community for his mobile support team beginning in 1986 which would go out on the streets, under bridges, wherever the homeless mentally ill were to help them get mental health services. Ian also engages with families seeking direction navigating the mental health system.

Ian has helped Mateo Lodge, Inc. grow from one house to operating Wally's Place, Humboldt House, and Cassia House and operating the Family Assertive Support Team (FAST), a mobile support team that provides: In-home outreach service that offers assessment, consultation, and support services to adults (age 18+) experiencing a severe mental health challenge and their designated family members and consists of a therapist, family partners and peer counselor.