



**Alameda County  
Mental Health Advisory Board**

## Meet the Members of the Mental Health Advisory Board



Lee Davis, Chair  
District 5

Lee Davis, a Civil Engineer and Journeyman Electrician by profession, comes to the work of the Alameda County Mental Health Advisory Board as a woman with lived experience of a mood disorder. Her recovery was supported by many local resources including John George and Fremont Hospital, Woodroe Place, and a stay in a licensed board and care. She recognizes how imperative each of these support systems were to her recovery and seeks to use her personal experience to help improve outcomes for others living with mood disorders or other mental health vulnerabilities. For more information on Lee's mental health journey visit the link:

<https://medium.com/@leandreadavis/being-bipolar-2950e86fab88>



L.D. Louis, Vice Chair  
District 4

L.D. graduated from Howard University in 1996 and UC Berkeley School of Law in 1999. She has been with the Alameda County District Attorney's Office for 21 years. During her tenure with the DA's office, she was assigned to the Domestic Violence Unit for 3 years. From 2009-2010, she was the co-leader of the Misdemeanor Trial Team in the Hayward Branch Office. For the last 11 years, L.D. has been assigned to the Mental Health Unit. This unit handles mostly involuntary civil commitments for Alameda County, including the Sexually Violent Predator cases, Mentally Disordered Offenders, Developmentally Delayed Persons, Persons Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity and Murphy Conservatorships. She also coordinated the District Attorney's Office working group on Collaborative Courts and Alternatives to Incarceration from 2017-2020. In August of 2018, L.D. was promoted to Assistant District Attorney and became head of the Mental Health Unit. In this new role, L.D. has worked on public policy and legislative issues and has provided testimony both for the California State Legislature and a Presidential Commission on Mental Health and the Law. L.D. has instructed others extensively on criminal defendant's mental competency, including a 4-part mental health webinar series for the California District Attorneys Association. In January 2020, L.D. planned and coordinated a 3-day state-wide training on Complex Mental Health Issues and the Law. She has also trained mental health professionals and attorneys regarding legal standards pertaining to Conservatorships and other forensic mental health topics. She is currently a technical advisor for the California District Attorneys Association in Mental Health & the Law. L.D. was President of the Bay Area Black Prosecutor's Association (2017-19) and has served on several boards including the Charles Houston Bar Association, the Earl Warren Inn of Court (past president) and the National Inns of Court Board. L.D. was appointed to the Alameda County Mental Health Advisory Board (MHAB) in 2017

by the Board of Supervisors and is currently Vice-Chair of the Board and currently chairs the MHAB Children's Committee.



Marsha McInnis  
District 1

My family has many brain-based challenges from autism to schizophrenia. When I was in college, my academic direction toward biology and medicine changed to a career in the art field, which enabled me to help my oldest son when he was a toddler, as he was diagnosed with autistic spectrum disorder. As an artist, I could earn a living at home and work closely with therapeutic staff to aid in his progress. Currently, one of my other sons and a granddaughter live with serious psychiatric disorders.

I learned to become an advocate and utilized my professional skills through community involvement as payback for all the help given to my family. In 2005, I founded NAMI Tri-Valley, a non-profit that provides support, education, resource information and advocacy skills to residents in the Livermore, Dublin and Pleasanton area.

In 2003, I was accepted on the Alameda County Mental Health Board representing District 1 and served 4-years, mostly chairing the Board. Having a voice at the County table proved to be invaluable as I learned much about how a county behavioral health agency operated and the many different public policies. In 2018, I again was appointed on the Mental Health Advisory Board, this time to lend a voice from East County. As of 2021, I also serve on the NAMI Tri-Valley Board as Second Vice President and on the Board of Directors for the Alan Hu Foundation.



Cicley Winston  
District 2

**Cicley Winston** has an A.S degree in Social and Behavioral Science and has been working with children, teens, and adults in the social and behavioral health field for over 25 years. She is a peer specialist, author and workshop facilitator and is genuinely passionate about seeking out resources and valuable information and engaging with the community to identify critical needs.

This research is collected and shared with others to assist in the process of identifying and connecting them with programs and services to help raise their awareness and quality of life. Through the National Association of Mental Illness (NAMI) Cicley has donated countless hours as a presenter in programs such as, In Our Voice, Law Enforcement Training and has been a participant in the Peer-to-Peer program. One of the many highlights in her career was owning and operating a successful preschool and wellness center for infants, toddlers, and schoolage children. Over the years, Cicley has obtained vast knowledge and experience in early childhood education, community organizing, business administration, mental health education and training, substance abuse education and youth development. Her vast knowledge and hands-on experience have prepared her to serve on Alameda Counties Mental Health advisory board with great honor and commitment.



Lucy Hernandez  
District 2

**Lucy Hernandez** was born and raised in the Mission District of San Francisco before calling the East Bay home. Ms. Hernandez has over 20 years of administrative experience in the health care environment. She advocates for healthy living, higher education, and equality.

She currently serves as the Community Outreach Manager for Washington Hospital. Ms. Hernandez oversees the Hospital's community engagement programs and the Wellness Center. Her previous roles include executive assistant and managing a health resource library. Ms. Hernandez is an Ohlone College Alum with two Associates degrees in Administration of Justice and Social Science; she then graduated from Cal State Hayward with a bachelor degree in History with an emphasis in the History of California and the American Southwest; and in 2014 she received her Masters of Public Administration from Golden Gate University. In 2015 Ms. Hernandez was inducted into the Pi Alpha Alpha (PAA), the National Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration. She also graduated from Leadership Fremont in 2016. In 2019, she became a member the American College Healthcare Executives. Ms. Hernandez is passionate in engaging her community by serving on the board of directors for Avanzando, Inc., Kids Breakfast Club (TKBC), Newark Chamber of Commerce, and Safe Alternatives of Violent Environment (SAVE). She is also a Rotarian with the Newark Rotary. In 2021, Ms. Hernandez was appointed to the Alameda County Mental Health Advisory Board. Her previous roles in the community include Ohlone College Puente Mentor, METAS Mentor (Newark Memorial High School); Past Commissioner, City of Hayward Human Relations Commission and Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women; and Past Board of Director, Hispanic Community Affairs Council.



Kurtis Riener  
District 2

**Kurtis Riener** is a transitional age youth consumer of mental health resources and is passionate about mental health and his community. Having dealt with mental illness first hand and knowing the impact it can make on a person's life, Kurtis have become increasingly vested in helping others who suffer in the same way. In pursuit of this goal, he facilitated multiple support groups in the community and is eager to make a difference on the Alameda County Mental Health Advisory Board. Outside of mental health, Kurtis is a graduate of James Logan High School and is currently attending Chabot College. He loves reading, hiking, and baking.



Ashlee Jemmott  
District 3

**Ashlee Jemmott** has worked in the youth development and mental health field, providing resources, assistance, and guidance to multi-systems involving youth and young adults for the past 10 years. She is a certified Wellness Recovery Action Plan facilitator, Emotional Emancipation Circle Facilitator, and a Youth Mental Health First Aid Responder. Ashlee earned her Master's in Business Administration from the Lorry I Lokey Graduate School of Business, Mills College in Oakland California. Ashlee looks forward to using her lived experiences, and her education to create new, sustaining, and equitable partnerships to support the mental health community in Alameda County. Ashlee is a proud member of the Pool of Consumer Champion.



Loren Farrar  
District 3

**Loren Farrar** is a Senior Program Administrator at First 5 Alameda County, where she oversees a large initiative designed to support prevention and early intervention related to early social-emotional (mental health) and developmental concerns in young children. Prior to working at First 5 Alameda County, she has worked in the social services and early childhood fields in both direct service and administrative positions. Loren has several immediate family members with mental health challenges and wants to work to ensure that Alameda County works to remove barriers to access to mental health prevention and treatment services, provide services through an equity lens, and increase focus on prevention and early intervention. Loren lives in San Leandro with her husband and two children.



Warren Cushman  
District 3

**Warren Cushman** is a thirty-year advocate who acquired a mental illness in 2007. He is a consumer who is still navigating the effects of mental illness on those who suffer from it. His specialties include adult committee issues, housing, CalAIM and locked facilities. Warren is completely blind. He is a San Lorenzo resident and enjoys music, sports and outdoor dining.



Jessie Conradi Slafter  
District 4

**Jessie Conradi Slafter, A.S.W., J.D.**, is a Mental Health Attorney and Social Worker with East Bay Children’s Law Offices and a partner on the statewide organization Parents & Caregivers for Wellness. Jessie provides specialty representation to foster youth who have profound mental health needs, are at risk of sexual exploitation, or who also have open delinquency cases. She brings a social work background, having practiced family therapy with delinquency youth for several years prior to attending law school. Jessie has worked with adolescents in various settings for over a decade and utilizes a trauma-informed approach to her representation, training, and relationships. Jessie is an Oakland native who is committed to promoting mental wellness for youth and families across Alameda County.



Brian Bloom  
District 4

**Brian Bloom** has been a member of the Mental Health Advisory Board since 2014. He is one of Supervisor Nate Miley's appointees to the Board. He currently co-chairs the Board's Criminal Justice Committee. Brian represented the Board on the Justice Involved Mental Health Task Force in Alameda County from 2017 to the present. He was a High School Social Studies Teacher from 1984 to 1989. He recently retired as an Assistant Public Defender for the Office of the Alameda County Public Defender, having worked there for 27 years. He handled all manner of cases: from civil commitments to misdemeanors to complex capital litigation; supervised the Office's Training Program; was the Manager of various Branch Offices; and specialized in legal ethics as well as the interplay between criminal justice and mental health. Brian and his wife of 32 years live in Berkeley and have two adult children. He enjoys hiking, cooking, and playing guitar.



Dr. Anh Thu Bui  
District 5

**Dr. Bui** came to the U.S. at age eleven as a refugee from Vietnam. She has worked as a community psychiatrist for more than twenty years. Much of her work in advocating for individuals with serious mental illness has been informed by witnessing trauma in her family and community. She graduated from UC San Diego with degrees in History and Animal Physiology and earned her Medical Degree from the Mayo Clinic School of Medicine. She holds board certifications in Psychiatry, Community and Public Psychiatry, and Addiction Medicine. Since 2015, she has served as Associate Medical Director of Psychiatry for LifeLong Medical Care, a Federally Qualified Health Center with several primary care clinics in the Bay area. She is currently a fellow at the California Health Care Foundation (CHCF) Health Care Leadership Program, since December 2019.



Juliet Leftwich  
District 5

**Juliet Leftwich** has served on the Mental Health Advisory Board since 2018, representing District 5. She is Co-Chair of the Criminal Justice Committee, which has focused its efforts on reducing the number of seriously mentally ill individuals at Santa Rita Jail and improving mental health care at the facility, as well as in the community.

Ms. Leftwich is an attorney and the former Legal Director of the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, where she helped draft, enact and defend hundreds of state and local gun safety laws in California and nationwide. Since leaving the Law Center in 2017 to pursue her passion for other social and criminal justice issues, she has served on the Berkeley Police Review Commission and Berkeley Commission on the Status of Women, in addition to the Alameda County Mental Health Advisory Board. In June of 2021, the Berkeley City Council confirmed Ms. Leftwich's nomination to serve on the Berkeley Police Accountability Board, a new entity formed to succeed the Police Review Commission and strengthen its powers of oversight.



Rebekah Kharrazi  
BOS Representative, District 3

**Rebekah Kharrazi, MPH, CPH** currently serves as a Senior Policy Advisor to Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan (District 3) overseeing health policy and legislation. Rebekah previously worked for the California Department of Public Health's Genetic Disease Screening Program, Oakland-based non-profit Prevention Institute, and as a Legislative Assistant to former California Governor Jerry Brown. She earned her Masters of Public Health from Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health in Epidemiology with a certificate in Health Policy and Practice.