



March 5, 2014

Mr. Chuck Matthews
Deputy Director North Inland and North Coastal Regions
Health and Human Services Agency
County of San Diego

Re: Resolution for the North County Community Action Network (NorCAN) to become a *Live Well San Diego* Partner

Dear Mr. Matthews,

This resolution, passed by the Steering Committee of The North County Community Action Network (NorCAN) is intended to serve as our pledge to become a County of San Diego *Live Well San Diego* (LWSD) partner; and thereby exhibit and actively support the LWSD principles in the five areas of: History, Partnership, Promotion of Positive Choices, Communication, and Commitment to Policy, Systems, & Environmental Change.

NorCAN was established in 2005 as a community collaborative designed to bring together health care and mental health providers, social service agencies, senior/older adult service providers, transportation agencies, housing resources, home care providers, nutrition resources and recreational resources across multiple sectors of the community such as, but not limited to, private enterprise/business, educational institutions, non-profit agencies, government and faith communities. Our mission is *to advocate for and improve the lives of older adults, persons with disabilities, and their families by working efficiently and collaboratively to enhance the services they receive.*

In 2012, we underwent a complete reorganization and strategic planning process to reassess, redefine and realign our initiatives and actions to better meet the shared goals and objectives of our members and constituent communities. We developed guidelines for membership and a system of governance that is sustainable and allows us to continue to grow to meet the changing needs of San Diego's North County region. As an all-volunteer community collaborative, NorCAN's governing body consists of a Steering Committee whose purpose is to build consensus and guide activities. It is positioned to assess the needs of the community, educate about available services and advocate for effective systems. Steering Committee members serve as liaisons to the six different NorCAN Action Teams: Membership, Marketing, Education, Events, Technology, and Needs Assessment, and we have an additional Liaison to the County of San Diego's Intergenerational Council.

All of the different Action Teams of NorCAN work together to achieve our mission and to help promote opportunities for positive choices by our members and constituent communities, advocate for wellness and healthy living, and develop systems and environmental changes which create a seamless system of care in North County. We serve to help connect individuals and entities to existing resources, assess the need(s) for

additional/new resources, and advocate for the development of more streamlined systems which promote our shared goal of a thriving community that is safe and healthy for older adults, individuals with disabilities (intellectual, physical, mental/behavioral, or emotional), and their families.

Examples of the types of activities that NorCAN has supported include: sponsorship of monthly educational programming at membership meetings; collaboration and production of End of Life, Meet the Pharmacist, and other Wellness events; advocacy for and the initiation of an annual North County Aging Summit/Vital Aging/LiveWell event for residents who face transportation challenges; coordination of needs assessment efforts in North County; partnership in the re-establishment of the Intergenerational Games; and the continued collaboration with agencies and entities across North County to help support our mission. In addition to these efforts, we are actively involved in the LWSD North County Regional Leadership Team and serve to support and promote the initiatives of LWSD among our members, our community partners, and our constituent communities.

Representation and active involvement by the County of San Diego's Healthy and Human Services Agency (HHS) North County Regions and Aging and Independent Services (AIS) in NorCAN's Open House Event in January of this year, celebrating the culmination of our strategic planning and restructuring process, demonstrates the strength of our reciprocal relationship with the County of San Diego, and our continued commitment to share LWSD's efforts, best practices, and success stories with the community. It is our sincere hope, that you will allow us to share our pledge to become a formal LWSD partner by delivering the official Proclamation and Seal at the North County Aging Summit on June 12th, at the Escondido Center for the Arts, to solidify NorCAN's partnership and celebrate another successful North County event that not only supports NorCAN's mission, but also promotes LWSD's principles.

As we continue to expand our reach and grow our collaborative through the systemic changes that we enact as a result of our recent restructuring and strategic planning efforts, we are committed to adopting and pursuing policies for physical and nutritional wellness and behavioral health (mental health and substance abuse), continuing to advance our efforts to provide information and education surrounding injury prevention and emergency preparedness, and helping to promote environmental, systemic changes to support and advocate for those we serve. We look forward to continuing to integrate the principles of LWSD into our activities and efforts as we move forward and grow as a thriving part of the LWSD initiative in North County!

Sincerely,

NorCAN Steering Committee

NorCAN Steering Committee:

Aurora Behavioral Health Care – Susan Writer
County of San Diego HHS North Regions - Brynn Viale
County of San Diego, HHS AIS – Marty Dare
Interfaith Community Services - Lila Featherhoff
North County Transit District - Pamela Jackson & Kelly Makatura
Phillips Lifeline Medical Alert Systems - Cindy Sawyer
Sunshine Care Homes - Lisa Lipsey

Cc: Carey Riccitelli, Community Health Promotions Manager North Coastal/North Inland Regions, HHS