



County of Monterey
Valerie Ralph
CLERK OF THE BOARD
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Behavioral Health Commission Application

Janet Frank

District: 5
Initialed Application: Yes

Applicant

First Name: **Janet**
Middle Initial:
Last Name: **Frank**

Employment

Occupation:
Job Title:
Employer: **Retired**

Interests and Experiences

Able to attend meetings regularly and devote the time necessary to fulfill duties as a member?

Yes

Currently serving on a County of Monterey Board, Commission, Committee or other Community Advisory Group?

No

Has served on an advisory group before?

Yes

I am currently a member of the California Commission on Aging and the California Behavioral Health Planning Council -- both organizations in statute to advise the Governor and legislature. I have also served on project-based advisory committees for guidance and oversight.

Please tell us about yourself and why you want serve:

I grew up in Morro Bay, California, and was the first in my family to go to college. I got my bachelor's in social welfare and master's of science in gerontology at the University of Southern California (USC). I then completed my doctorate in public health (DrPH) at the UCLA School of Public Health and worked at the UCLA School of Medicine for many years in the division of geriatric medicine and gerontology. I did not work in a clinical role, I did research, wrote grants and publications, and ran training programs to improve the care of older adults. Behavioral science and evaluation were my areas of focus. For my last 5 years at UCLA, I worked at the

UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, focused on health disparities, behavioral health and health promotion for older adults. I ran a large statewide project on the Older Adults System of Care in mental health, funded by the Mental Health Oversight and Accountability Commission which was completed in 2018. This work sparked my interest and subsequent focus on older adults and behavioral health services. I am currently a Commissioner on the California Commission on Aging (CCOA) and a member of the California Behavioral Health Planning Council, representing the CCOA. I have a family background in behavioral health issues, and this area is of great interest to me. I chair the CCOA Behavioral Health Committee. On a personal note, my husband and I have been married 53 years, and we have one son and two grandsons. After retirement, we moved to Monterey to be closer to our son and his family. Since living in Monterey, I have done some work and volunteered at the Alliance on Aging. I helped with the development of the Local Aging and Disability Action Plan, completed in 2025. In my spare time, I focus on being a helpful grandma, self-care activities like swimming and gardening. I would like to serve on the Monterey County Behavioral Health Commission so that I can help with planning for services locally and learn more about the local behavioral health system.

Please state the reason you would like to be a member of this board committee/commission/district:

I have both a family background in behavioral health issues and subject matter expertise in behavioral health and the older adult. In my view, behavioral health is a critical base for overall health and quality of life. I would like to join the Monterey County Behavioral Health Commission so that I can contribute to the planning and delivery of comprehensive and high-quality behavioral health services to people in our county. I am concerned with the most vulnerable population groups -- people living in poverty, population groups who have experienced discrimination, racism, and stigma throughout their lives. While I have dedicated my work to improving the quality of life for older adults, I understand the importance of intergenerational connections and linkages to community. As an older person myself, I am seeking purposeful involvement in making my community a better place to live.

How did you hear about the position?:

I have attended the Behavioral Health Commission meetings.