

# CONNECTION

## Welcome Our New ED!

**T**HIS PAST SUMMER was a busy one at BACS, as we conducted our search for a new Executive Director. Now the search has ended. In this special issue, Bay Area Community Services is pleased to announce Kent Ellsworth as our new ED.

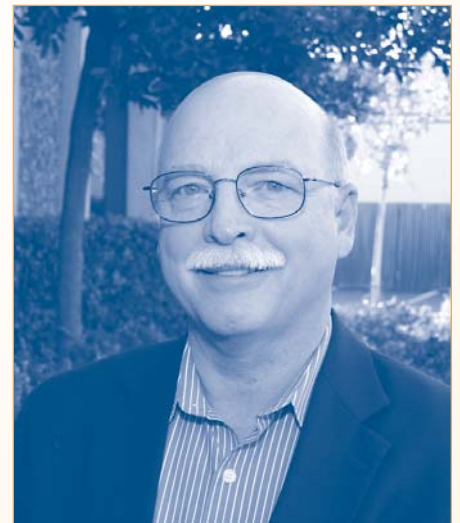
In Kent, BACS has a leader who possesses vision, energy, and management skills. For many years, Kent held leadership positions at agencies whose mission complements the work of BACS, including Director of Elder Care Services for Missoula Aging Services, a regional Area Agency on Aging in Western Montana, and Director of Aging Services and Business Development for Catholic Charities of San Francisco.

Kent's appointment is the result of a thorough search process. After an initial screening of resumes, the Board of Directors Search Committee met with a select group of candidates, choosing an even smaller

group to meet with senior BACS staff. After the meetings, the Search Committee made their recommendation—a recommendation the Board accepted, leading Kent to the position he holds today.

What stood out for the board and staff was Kent's understanding of BACS both as a business and as an organization supporting our community. Elise Balgley, BACS Board president, explains: "You get a lot of people who could run the business side, but we are fundamentally about compassion and caring, and not everybody can exhibit leadership in both of those areas. Kent did."

In just a few months, Kent has already made proposals to help BACS enhance its services and increase its resources. Kent has



*Kent Ellsworth  
Executive Director, BACS*

also proven to be a great team player, working well with staff and communicating regularly with the Board.

With all of this energy and initiative showing itself in these early days, we at BACS can only say: "Welcome, Kent! We are excited about what our future together will bring."

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# From the Desk of the Executive Director

**I** T MAY BE a cliché to say, “I’m honored and pleased to be here,” but as I step in as the new Executive Director of BACS, the cliché is only too true. It is indeed quite an honor to be part of an agency with such a long and successful history of providing quality services—both in the mental health arena and to older adults.

As I look at the factors in this success, one word springs to mind: Partnerships. Partnerships with individual donors; with corporate sponsors; with foundations and churches; county and local governments and with the board of directors, staff, and volunteers. And, of course, partnership with the over 4,000 individuals we serve every year—partnering with our senior members to maintain independence and community, partnering with those with severe and persistent mental illness throughout their journey towards recovery.

I have made it my initial goal and focus to further develop all of our partnerships, across the entire range of services we provide. Every one of our partners, the board of directors, volunteers, and staff—all of us must take a look at who we are here at BACS, at what our strengths are. We must put our heads together to see what more we can do to make a difference across our entire community of care.

Because BACS is, above all, a *community* of care. We offer a holistic approach, providing a continuum of services for individuals and their families along the path to recovery, self-sufficiency, and continued independence. Ultimately, we help people make lasting change. My job is both to facilitate all of our existing partnerships within this community—to grow these partnerships and strengthen them—and to reach out to find additional talent and passion that will make BACS stronger and further our mission. I invite everyone reading this story to join us as we work to provide services to all of those in need.



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As a first step, I invite all of our community members to take a tour of BACS. Each month, we will host tours so you can come see BACS and take a closer look at our community of care. Please join us for these events by calling 510-613-0330.

***I look forward to meeting and working with you all.***

— Kent Ellsworth, *Executive Director, BACS*

## **BACS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **Elise Balgley, President**

*Attorney and Partner  
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### **David Stoloff**

*Community Volunteer, Berkeley*

*You are invited*



## **Community of Care Tour**

I am excited to show you our work first hand and get your feedback about our programs that bring help and hope to nearly 4,000 clients each year. Beginning in February, BACS will offer a one-hour program and tour two or three times each month to connect with our current and future friends.

### ***Please join us to:***

Learn about the unique ways in which BACS meets the needs of our community.

Partner with us in our mission of ensuring that everyone in need of our care will have access to BACS.

Share your thoughts on how BACS can best meet our goals.

You won't be asked to make a financial contribution—we will only ask for your advice and feedback following the tour. We look forward to seeing you.

Sincere regards,

*Please contact Julie Ha at  
510-613-0330  
to arrange a date that is  
convenient for you.*

## BACS Telephone Directory

*BACS helps right here at home in Alameda County.*

### Among our 40 locations are:

#### Administrative Offices

Administration	510-613-0330
Accounting/Finance	510-613-0327
Development Office	510-613-0323
Personnel	510-613-0326
FAX	510-569-4589
TDD	510-613-0328

#### Older Adult Services

<b>TDD for Following Programs</b>	<b>510-986-8902</b>
Adult Day Care Services, Fremont	510-656-7742
Adult Day Care Services, Oakland	510-601-1074
Affordable Home Care Services	510-271-6078
Care Management	510-271-8843
Money Management Assistance Program	510-271-6075
Meals on Wheels	510-986-8900
Senior Nutrition	510-986-8907
Senior Transportation	510-272-4769

#### Mental Health Services

<b>TDD for Following Programs</b>	<b>510-271-8832</b>
Case Management/Supported Independent Living	510-272-4797
Creative Living Centers	510-613-0320
Four Bridges, Alameda	510-750-8810
Hedco House, Hayward	510-247-8235
South County, Tri-Cities	510-657-7425
Towne House, Oakland Valley, Tri-Valley	510-658-9480
Crisis Residential Program – Woodroe Place	925-484-8457
Employment Program	510-537-1688 510-654-7355

Website: [www.bayareacs.org](http://www.bayareacs.org)

E-mail: [bacs@bayareacs.org](mailto:bacs@bayareacs.org)



Keeping Adults Connected  
to Their Communities.

Since 1953.

Bay Area Community Services

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