

PRESS RELEASE

OSSMC receives \$10,000 from San Bruno Community Foundation

SBCF recognizes Ombudsman Services of San Mateo County, Inc. vital work

Redwood City, CA, February 2019: Ombudsman Services of San Mateo County received a \$10,000 grant from the San Bruno Community Foundation.

John McGlothin presented a check to Denis Fama, OSSMC President, at the January OSSMC board of Directors meeting. Mr. McGlothin is secretary of the San Bruno Community Foundation.

Mr. McGlothin said that he and the San Bruno Foundation Board recognize the vital work of OSSMC.



Denis Fama, OSSMC President (left) accepts a check for \$10,000 from John McGlothin, Secretary of the San Bruno Community Foundation Board of Directors on January 18.

Ombudsman Services of San Mateo County, Inc., an independent nonprofit organization, is the only agency in San Mateo County authorized to advocate on behalf of residents living in licensed long-term care facilities and investigate their complaints. **Although mandated by the government, OSSMC receives only partial government funding.**

"I am very much aware of what Ombudsman Services does both the immediate care of the resident and in providing community education," Mr. McGlothin told the OSSMC Board of Directors.

He added that he has a personal connection to Ombudsman Services of San Mateo County, Inc., and to an Ombudsman program in Southern California.

OSSMC advocates, educates and empowers all residents living in long-term care facilities in San Mateo County. OSSMC also informs the public and raises awareness about issues for people living long-term care facilities. The grant funds will provide support for services to 417 residents who live in 56 licensed long-term care facilities in San Bruno.

Bernadette Mellott, Executive Director, said that OSSMC is grateful and honored for the support of the San Bruno Community Foundation and for the recognition of the very important work of Long-term Care Ombudsmen in San Mateo County, especially in San Bruno.

"If residents have needs or problems, we advocate for them. Ombudsmen identify, investigate and resolve complaints of abuse and neglect," said Ms. Mellott. "This is particularly important for the 60% of residents who have no friends or family members to represent them."

There are currently 37 Volunteer Field Ombudsmen, four Regional Supervisors and one Program Manager. All are state certified.

For more information about the San Bruno Community Foundation, visit sbcf.org.

For more information about **Ombudsmen Services of San Mateo County, Inc.**, contact 650-780-5707 or visit www.ossmc.org.