

May 9, 2016

To: The Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors

This letter is intended to serve as an endorsement for all of the members of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to approve and fund the Laura's Law proposal for Santa Barbara County. I am the Executive Director of NAMI Ventura County and our organization was actively involved in the advocacy effort in our county for the implementation and funding for Laura's Law. It should be noted that all five members of the Ventura County Board of supervisors voted to approve the Laura's Law proposal in Ventura County that will serve 20 clients at any given time. We anticipate a start date within the next 6 months for clients to begin receiving services that are very much needed.

Laura's Law will allow for Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) services to be provided to persons who are amongst the population of people who are most in need of mental health treatment. Implementation of such a program in Santa Barbara County will facilitate services being provided to persons who might otherwise remain outside the system of mainstream mental health care. I strongly urge you to support the implementation of Laura's Law in Santa Barbara County.

If I can answer any further questions please do not hesitate to call me at 805-641-2426 or on my cell phone at 805-890-6738.

Sincerely,



David Deutsch, LCSW
Executive Director
NAMI Ventura County

*NAMI Ventura County is an IRS recognized 501(c) (3) Non-Profit Organization and all donations are tax deductible.
Federal Tax ID #77-0037450*

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