Empowerment Opportunities
Membership in the POCC opens opportunities to apply for scholarships and reimbursements that will support you to attend conferences, trainings, workshops, and committee meetings.

POCC Accomplishments:
We organized in May 2007. In only five years, we have grown to over 900 members, representing the diversity of Alameda County. Representatives of the POCC serve on important Behavioral Health Care Services Advisory/Planning Committees.
POCC members successfully advocated for a major, consumer-run, Stigma and Discrimination Elimination Campaign, which is now funded by Alameda County's MHSA Prevention and Early Intervention Plan.
POCC Members developed the Consumer Employment Toolkit, which is part of the funded MHSA Workforce Education & Training plan.

Join the POCC
In order to join the POCC, you must have life experience as a mental health consumer, and live or work in Alameda County.
A mental health consumer is a person who has a mental health issue that has disrupted his or her education, employment, physical health, housing, social connections and/or quality of life. He or she has utilized services for this, and has been stigmatized, discriminated against or socially excluded because of this condition.

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Alameda County BHCS
2000 Embarcadero, Suite 400
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People in Recovery Leading the Way...

The POCC...
Our mission is to improve the quality of life for Alameda County residents who have mental health issues, and to provide the consumer perspective in transforming Alameda County Mental Health Services with a recovery vision that is consumer-driven, culturally competent, and holistic in its services & supports. We provide a strong consumer voice in the mental health system and in the community. Committees include the following:

Steering Committee
Oversees the work of the POCC.

Membership & Orientation Committee
Welcomes prospective new members and explains the functions of the POCC.

Asian American Committee
Endeavors to expand the number of Asian clients employed where mental health services are provided, increase social inclusion dialogue within Asian communities about mental health recovery.

. Healing Trauma Committee
Raises awareness and educates about trauma and mental health, as well as healing from the effects of trauma.

African American Empowerment Committee
Promotes, educates, and informs the African American community on wellness and recovery through sharing lived experience and using history to support the African American community in making positive choices.

Latino Committee
Spanish-speaking, provides outreach & education about mental health and services to this underserved community.

Consumer Employment Advisory Taskforce
Advocates and collaborated to develop consumer employment, consumer leadership and consumer run programs.

POCC TAY Committee
Addresses the issues of transitional youth consumers, such as depression, violence, homelessness, substance abuse, sexual exploitation, social issues/stigma, and loss of control.

Berkeley Chapter
Seeks to increase participation in the POCC by Berkeley consumers and to enhance consumer participation in the Berkeley MHSA process.

Public Policy Education
Educates on public policy involving mental health and public policy processes.

POCC Elders Committee
Advocate, Empower, Educate and train people 55 years and above

Luncheon/Training Committee
Supports mental health consumers through administrative support for trainings and workshops.

SAGA Committee
Sexuality and Gender Alliance and allies advocate for individuals that identify as LGBTQI2S