



County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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PRESS RELEASE

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NEW DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES

Rama K Khalsa, PhD, the Santa Cruz County Health Agency Director, announced today that Ms Giang Nguyen, RN, MSN has been appointed as the Asst Director of the Health Services Agency. Ms. Nguyen will begin her assignment April 11, 2011.

Ms. Nguyen, has over twenty years experience providing clinical care and management in a variety of public health, mental health, and substance abuse services in a variety of different organizations and programs. She has worked in positions of increasing leadership responsibility in Fresno County and the State Department of Mental Health including Director of Public Health and Mental Health as well as Executive Administrator for the State Department of Mental Health. She functioned on the State executive team working on healthcare reform and the Mental Health Services Act and comes with a wealth of experience and knowledge on the opportunities for improving health provided through Federal Healthcare Reform.

Ms Nguyen has her Masters in Nursing from Sonoma State and is currently completing her Doctorate of Education at Argosy University. She also has a Bachelor Degree from California State University, Fresno.

Her long list of successes includes helping to shape the State 1115 waiver program including promotion of mental health and substance abuse services integrated into primary care, advocating for children's needs on the California Child Welfare Council and serving as a Gubernatorial appointment to the State Department of Rehabilitation Advisory Council.

Ms. Nguyen said, "I am looking forward to working in such a positive and progressive County with a clear goal of good health for all its community members and joining an excellent staff team with so many collaborative partnerships and fresh ideas for facing the future."