

11/09

**NAMI SBCO Public Policy Committee
California Advocates for Treatment**

Hello Friends,

This upcoming Tuesday, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors will receive an update from its' public safety departments, and will consider a rehab of our jail facility.

Please see attached the testimony submitted by our NAMI Affiliate, emphasizing gaps in treatment needed by the most ill among us. These gaps account for an ever growing number of persons statewide on IST felonies, waiting lengthy periods of time in our jails for state hospital beds.

We would like to thank all of you in the IST Solutions Workgroup for your good work and conscientious approach to identifying gaps in the continuum of care that have placed us in this predicament of jail "boarding" Working together, we know we can solve this problem.

Respectfully,

Lynne Gibbs, Chair, NAMI SBCO Public Policy Committee
and President, California Advocates for Treatment