A MESSAGE FROM KAISER'S NORTHERN CALIFORNIA MENTAL HEALTH THERAPISTS

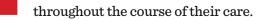
SHAY LOFTUS, PH.D. Clinical Psychologist, Kaiser Fairfield

# HELP US PROTECT OUR PATIENTS.

## Kaiser is denying them the mental health care they need.

elp us, Kaiser's dedicated therapists, hold Kaiser Health Plan and The Permanente Medical Group accountable so we can provide our patients the quality mental health care they need!

We are the therapists who treat Kaiser patients, but to give them the treatment they deserve, we must be able to see them regularly and in a timely manner FOR KAISER PATIENTS, THEIR FAMILIES, AND EVERYONE CONCERNED WITH MENTAL HEALTH PARITY AND HOLDING CALIFORNIA'S LARGEST HMO ACCOUNTABLE TO ADHERE TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LAW:



Providing mental health care promptly and consistently is so important that a new state law requires timely follow-up appointments within ten business days. Kaiser is flagrantly violating this law and endangering its patients by denying them access to the timely care they need.

For many years, we have made proposal after proposal to Kaiser for greater investments in timely care, but Kaiser has rejected all of them. We have worked hard to pass legislation that will improve patient access, but Kaiser refuses to change its practices to comply with the law.

Kaiser documents demonstrate that today, across Northern California, most patients with mental health needs are being forced to wait between six and eleven weeks for follow-up care, and at four Kaiser clinics, no follow-up mental health appointments are available whatsoever.

To ensure our patients get the timely care to which they are entitled, we have no option but to strike. We take this action only as a last resort due to Kaiser's refusal to address this crisis.

Starting today, we will strike as long as it takes for Kaiser to commit to recruiting and retaining sufficient staff for us to provide patients the timely care required by law.

## PLEASE HELP US HOLD KAISER ACCOUNTABLE.

#### KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AND USE THEM: Scan the QR code

to learn about Kaiser mental health patients' rights to timely treatment, what Kaiser must do if they can't provide it to you, and how to get help from the state's Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) if you need it.

#### SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR KAISER PERMANENTE THERAPISTS and our

patients by scanning the QR Code to sign the petition.



## The health and lives of our patients depend on you.

