

HEALTH CARE / By Chris Rauber

Mills-Peninsula to expand mental health services

Mills-Peninsula Health Services is moving and expanding its Behavioral Health Program to San Mateo in early December as part of a restructuring of operations connected with the planned opening of a \$618 million replacement hospital in Burlingame next February.

The program, which provides inpatient and outpatient mental health and chemical dependency services, will move outpatient programs into a portion of the Mills Health Center, which has been renovated to the tune of \$20 million. Overall, it will grow from 40 inpatient beds to 52.

Psychiatric emergency services will remain at Burlingame's Peninsula Medical Center until the new Mills-Peninsula hospital opens, a moving target that most recently has been set for February. Dr. Dan Becker, a psychiatrist, is the program's medical director.

Services offered by the program include psychiatric emergency services, mental health care for adults and teenagers, chemical dependency services, dual diagnosis treatment for patients with addiction

and mental health issues and treatment for eating disorders.

Mills-Peninsula, part of Sutter Health, says its behavioral health program is one of the few such programs remaining in Northern California, and includes the only inpatient care for adolescents between Santa Cruz and the San Francisco county line, the only detox center in the region for Medicare enrollees, and the largest private not-for-profit adult mental health facility on the Peninsula.



Becker

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