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Warm Water Wellness Inc is a  
501(c)(3) non-profit organization  
that promotes aquatic therapy  
resources for seniors and  
disabled individuals of all ages.  
Tax ID 87-4048687

July 7, 2022

SENT VIA CERTIFIED U.S. MAIL

Mr. James Conforti, Interim President and CEO  
Sutter Health  
2200 River Plaza Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Mr. Conforti:

We are requesting that Sutter Health reopen the Mack E. Mickelson Arthritis and Rehabilitation Center therapy pool in San Mateo—a facility that is vital to the health of many people in our community. By closing the only warm water rehabilitation pool in the Peninsula area, Sutter Health has added to the pain and suffering of its patients and placed people's lives in jeopardy.

Keeping the therapy pool open is supported not only by numerous editorials and articles in local newspapers but also by civic leaders, city and county governments, and various organizations. These include:

San Mateo County Board of Supervisors\*  
Belmont City Council\*\*  
Burlingame City Council\*  
Foster City City Council\*  
Half Moon Bay City Council\*\*  
Millbrae City Council\*  
San Carlos City Council\*\*  
San Mateo City Council\*  
Sequoia Healthcare District Board of Directors\*  
Peninsula Health Care District Board of Directors  
San Mateo County Central Labor Council\*\*  
San Mateo Lions Club  
Assemblymember Kevin Mullin  
State Senator Josh Becker  
Belmont Vice Mayor Charles Stone  
Half Moon Bay Mayor Robert Brownstone  
Hillsborough Mayor Alvin Royse  
City of San Mateo Senior Citizens Commissioner Ellen Wang  
San Mateo County Central Labor Council Executive Director Julie Lind Rupp  
Sequoia Healthcare District Director Kimberly Griffin  
Pomeroy Recreation & Rehabilitation Center CEO David Dubinsky  
Joseph W. Cotchett, Esq.

\*Organizations that have passed formal resolutions in support of reopening the Mickelson therapy pool

\*\*Organizations with resolutions on upcoming agendas

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You can read more about the public outcry over the closure of the Mickelson therapy pool in some 30 newspaper items about the situation, view our petition signed by nearly 5000 supporters, and read many compelling stories from former users at [warmwaterwellness.org](http://warmwaterwellness.org).

Although we have tried repeatedly to meet with Sutter Health Mills-Peninsula Medical Center CEO Janet Wagner to present practical ideas for reopening the Mickelson pool, she has been unwilling. She also declined two offers from the Peninsula Health Care District (PHCD), a local publicly elected body that addresses community health needs, to finance any necessary remodeling and repairs and procure a contractor to manage the facility allowing for an expeditious reopening.

Built in the early 1990s, the Mickelson pool was financed entirely by community donations before being acquired along with the rest of the Mills-Peninsula health center campuses by Sutter Health. There is no equivalent facility on the Peninsula able to appropriately serve seniors, rehab patients, pregnant women, children with special needs, and disabled adults. By closing the pool and refusing to work with interested parties, Sutter Health is not "serving the community" but actually hurting it.

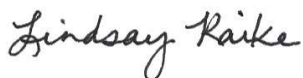
Sutter's declaration of permanent closure of the Mickelson therapy pool in June 2021 was misguided. Sutter's refusal to meet about the pool or reverse its decision is unconscionable and will be met with even greater opposition as our movement continues to gather more government and popular support.

The importance of the Mickelson therapy pool to the community cannot be overstated. Hundreds of former Mickelson therapy pool users are now bedridden or suffering other declines of physical or mental health—a direct result of over two years of lack of access to this facility. This suffering has gone on long enough. We are not going away, and we are resolved to fight for the pain relief of the most vulnerable members of our community.

Sutter's reputation and integrity are at stake. Please reverse this decision and reopen the Mickelson therapy pool for the well-being of the people who built it, have long depended upon it, and all those who will depend upon it in the future.

When can we meet? We are available at your convenience. We look forward to hearing from you soon and to resolving this issue. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,



Lindsay Raike, CEO  
Warm Water Wellness Inc  
(650) 400-8975

cc: Sutter Health Board of Directors

Grace Davis, Vice President and Chief Public Affairs Officer/Chief of Staff, Sutter Health  
Janet Wagner, CEO, Sutter Health Mills-Peninsula Medical Center  
Hon. Kevin Mullin, Assemblymember  
Hon. Josh Becker, Senator  
Hon. David Canepa, former President of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors  
Hon. Carole Groom, San Mateo County Board of Supervisors  
Peninsula Health Care District Board of Directors  
Joseph W. Cotchett, Esq.