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Community Leader Dr. Jennifer Hastings Honored as 29th Assembly District Person of the Year for 2017

SACRAMENTO –Assemblymember Mark Stone (D-Monterey Bay) has awarded Santa Cruz resident and community leader Dr. Jennifer Hastings with the 2017 Person of the Year designation for the 29th Assembly District as part of the California State Assembly’s Annual Woman of the Year Ceremony.

Dr. Jennifer Hastings, a physician and professor at the UCSF Department of Family and Community Medicine, is a trailblazer in the field of transgender care and reproductive rights including abortion care. Jen, who identifies as non-binary, is founding Director of the Transgender Health Care Program, Planned Parenthood Mar Monte, and works to increase medical access and understanding about the gender journey.

“Dr. Hastings has served our community for many years, and I’m proud to honor Jen as the 2017 Person of the Year for this Assembly District,” said Stone. “Jen has been instrumental in increasing access to medical care for traditionally underserved groups, especially people who are transgender.”

Jen joined Planned Parenthood’s Westside Health Center in Santa Cruz in 1998 as the Lead Physician for Primary and Reproductive Care. Recognizing the lack of transgender care, Jen founded the Transgender Health Care Program at Planned Parenthood Mar Monte, which has become a model for Planned Parenthood sites and other providers nationwide. Recently, Jen has been dedicated to Mindfulness in Medicine, and the integration of behavioral health and primary care as part of the Patient Centered Medical Home process. Jen is also an active member of the Health Improvement Partnership of Santa Cruz County, the Integrated Behavioral Health Action Coalition and Safe Rx Santa Cruz, an organization working to address the opioid epidemic.

Jen helps to train the next generation of doctors as Assistant Clinical Professor with the University of California San Francisco Department of Family and Community Medicine. Jen also serves the UCSF community as a member of the Medical Advisory Board at the Center of Excellence for Transgender Health, and with the TEACH Program, teaching family medicine residents abortion care.

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