



Charles Pontious

Behavioral Health Board member since October 2009; appointed by Supervisor Yeager.

Mr. Pontious serves as a family member of a person with a serious mental illness. He has spent his career in the Information Technology field here in the Bay Area. [His career bio is available on LinkedIn](#). Charles had a relatively normal life until his 20 year old son Aaron had a sudden psychotic break and was diagnosed with schizoaffective disorder, general psychosis in 2006. He died as a result of his illness within a year after initial treatment. Mr. Pontious feels that the health care system failed his family on many levels. He serves on the Behavioral Health Board to represent other family members who like him felt powerless and helpless in the face of devastating mental illness. Charles is committed to serving and to give other similar families a voice in County policy regarding mental illness. He is particularly interested in Hope, Recovery and Wellness, Urgent Care, and bringing compassion to the treatment of the mentally ill who have fallen into the criminal justice system.