



## **NAMI Tri-Valley's February Guest Speaker: Marye Thomas, M.D.**

Marye L. Thomas, M.D., is the Director of Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services (BHCS). Her department is responsible for the delivery of all publicly funded mental health, alcohol, and other drug services in the County. With a budget of \$260 million, more than 3000 employees in county and community based organizations deliver more than 1.6 million units of BHCS services to 29,000 people each year.

As the physician/administrator for BHCS, Dr. Thomas has more than 20 years experience in the provision of services and the administration of federal, state and local programs. During her tenure as director, the behavioral health service system has evolved from a \$58 million county operated mental health service to a more comprehensive behavioral health care system of nearly \$300 million. Through her leadership, the resource base for children's services has grown by more than \$40 million annually, developed and opened numerous behavioral health facilities (including an adolescent sub-acute facility, a regional neurobehavioral program, and an acute psychiatric hospital), and increased revenues for alcohol and drug services by approximately \$9million annually.

A native of Texas, Dr. Thomas began working in the San Francisco Bay Area in 1969 and in Alameda County in 1978. Dr. Thomas is a psychiatrist, a graduate of Fisk University and Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tennessee. She completed her psychiatric training at Langlely Porter Neuropsychiatric Institute, University of California at San Francisco. Dr. Thomas has won numerous local and national awards, and holds leadership positions and membership in many professional societies and community organizations.