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**SUPERVISOR KATY TANG, NORTH EAST MEDICAL SERVICES AND  
SHANTI PROJECT CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AND  
"MAKE IT HAPPEN" FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH**

*Event provides free health screenings and information on women's health services to  
encourage greater awareness of women's equality.*

In recognition of International Women's Day, Supervisor Katy Tang, North East Medical Services (NEMS) and Shanti Project partnered to provide free health screenings and information to encourage greater awareness of women's equality with a focus on women's health.

"We hope to encourage women to access the services they need to lead healthy lives through this fair," said Supervisor Tang. "This year's theme is "Make It Happen," and we wanted to provide free health screenings and information for women in the hope that they will continue with regular screenings and daily care."

In line with the 2015 theme of "Make It Happen" to encourage effective action for advancing and recognizing women, the event featured a mammogram, glucose and blood pressure screenings with the assistance of California Pacific Medical Center – Sutter Health, and information on a variety of women's health issues.

This year, North East Medical Services is focusing our organization-wide clinical goal on improving cervical cancer screenings," said Dr. Rena Hu, an obstetrician and gynecologist at NEMS. "We want to make sure that all women between the ages of 21 and 64 receive a Pap test at least once every three years to detect early signs of cervical cancer."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 13.7 percent of women 18 years and older are in fair or poor health, 32.8 percent of women 20 years and older suffer from hypertension, and 67.1 percent of women 40 years and older have had a mammogram within two years.

"Our primary goal is to serve the most vulnerable communities in San Francisco," said Kaushik Roy, Shanti Project Executive Director. "Shanti is excited to partner with NEMS in order to reach more marginalized women as they face some of their biggest health

challenges, and we are very grateful to Supervisor Tang for her support and leadership on this issue."

Each year, International Women's Day is celebrated on March 8. International Women's Day has been observed around the world since the early 1900's. Annually on the eighth of March, thousands of events are held throughout the world to inspire women and celebrate achievements. It is now an official holiday in Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, China (for women only), Cuba, Georgia, Guinea-Bissau, Eritrea, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Madagascar (for women only), Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Nepal (for women only), Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Vietnam and Zambia.

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North East Medical Services (NEMS) is one of the largest community health centers in the United States targeting the medically underserved Asian population. Based in San Francisco, the non-profit community health center offers comprehensive health care services to a variety of patients, a majority of whom are uninsured or low-income. NEMS offers linguistically-competent and culturally-sensitive health care services in many languages and dialects, and currently operates ten clinics and three enrollment service centers in San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties. For more information, visit: [www.nems.org](http://www.nems.org).