



STANISLAUS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES

CULTURAL COMPETENCY UPDATE

...a newsletter to address cultural issues that enable us to effectively work in cross cultural situations.

Father Involvement

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My name is Sergio Lara, Project Liaison for the Father Involvement Learning initiative at Center for Human Services (CHS). Prior to beginning this project in 2015 I spent two years with Mi Familia Vota (MFV) (My Family Votes), a national non-profit/non-partisan civic engagement organization. MFV helped organize Voter Registration drives and Citizenship Workshops among other community events. Previous to (MFV) I was a Promotor Comunitario (Community Health Worker) at CHS under Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) Prevention Early Intervention (PEI) initiative.

Today, under the Father Involvement project, we are working with Fathers in Stanislaus County to have a positive impact on their Mental Health and Wellbeing and increase their involvement with their children.

The Father Involvement Learning Network (FILN) meets on the last Wednesday of the month from 1:30PM – 3:30PM and is open to any Social Services agency that has a vested interest in having a positive impact on fathers. The network has begun to evolve into six different cohorts including: Curriculum, Conference, Learning and Education, Father Friendly Environments, Events and Touring. As such the network has taken a multi-sector approach on impacting fathers.

We are working with government entities, schools, social services, non-profits, businesses, and faith based organizations to build county capacity. Some of these efforts include agencies and programs like the North Modesto Family Resource Center (FRC) Father Group, Hughson (FRC), Ceres Partnership, The Bridge, Project Uplift, Boys and Girls Club of Stanislaus County, Workforce Development Programs, Me-Wuk Tribal TANF Program, Sunshine Community Church's "Men's Breakfasts", Apostolic Jubilee Center's "Fight Nights" and opportunities like On My Shoulders (OMS) from the Pathways to Self Sufficiency (PASS) program.

The Parent Café framework has also been essential in utilizing the Five Protective Factors: Resilience, Relationships, Knowledge, Support, and Communication within our Father Groups.



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BHRS Cultural Competence, Equity and Social Justice Committee meets on the 2nd Monday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the Martin Conference Room, 830 Scenic Drive



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We have learned that fathers thrive in an environment where there is trust and support and no judgment. Dads have emotions, and are capable of expressing themselves given the opportunity. These fathers can provide a healthy and nurturing environment to their children. They have shown that they can come together to build, uplift, own and transform their role in their families and communities. Father have demonstrated that they are eager to learn and they are more aware of the importance of their role as a father and what responsibilities that brings.

On behalf of (FILN) we are excited to invite Community Fathers – old and young – to the first annual Our Story Father Conference on April 1st 2017 at Modesto High School. The purpose of the conference is to have fathers connect with one another, learn about resources, receive the messages and hear the stories shared by our distinguished panelists and keynote speakers. Our goal is to connect fathers with resources and support that exists in their neighborhoods and community.



For more information you may contact Program Coordinator, Sergio Lara at 2000 W. Briggsmore Ave. Ste. I Modesto, CA 95350, (209) 526-1476 ext 153 or via email at slara@centerforhumanservices.org.

Highlights of February Cultural Competency, Equity and Social Justice Committee (CCESJC) Meeting



Cultural Competency Champion Award

Stanislaus County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Cultural Equity and Social Justice Committee (CESJC) is dedicated to promoting cultural competence by being responsive to and addressing racial, ethnic and cultural disparities in the behavioral health care needs of diverse individuals and communities. The Champion Award criteria and handout was reviewed with the committee. The award is presented quarterly. Please submit your nominations to Monica Avina at Mavina@stanbhhs.org.

CCESJC Goals and Objectives

Items from previous meeting were reviewed. Some of the items were:

Family Advocate, continue to have stigma reduction as goals and objectives, CLAS Standards, add column to newsletter to include individuals that are involved in different cultural committee trainings and CCESJC attendance from the committee members. Feedback from the committee:

*Timeline for CLAS Standards if reviewing one CLAS Standard a month

*Continue to look at various populations that continue to be underserved

*Stigma Reduction activities

*Focus on recovery resilience and wellness

*Track and monitor level of cultural trainings that are offered

*Triannual results will be reviewed with this committee. Some of the changes that involve cultural competency will be discussed.

*Medical Key Indicator-Penetration Rate. How to capture data? How are we serving the community

Any further goal and objectives please contact Abraham Andres at AAndres@stanbhhs.org.

Stigma Reduction/Welcoming Environment

What are offices doing to reduce stigma and create a welcoming environment?

*GVHC: In the lobby reading material is provided in Spanish. Working on logo to tailor all sites. Conducting site visits ex: report cards to evaluate sites.

*Turning Point: Art work displayed in the lobby to make it feel more welcoming.

*Wellness Recovery: Volunteers approach consumers and show them around to make them feel more welcomed.

*PEI: Having the material in their own language and a lot of outreach.

*QIC: LGBTQ Welcoming Environment will be providing welcoming packages. It's not just what you put in your lobby but what energy staff provides.

Final note – be educated and have a heart with all individuals who walk through the door and take time to know your consumers.

**If you have questions or suggestions regarding Cultural Competency, please e-mail:
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