

STANISLAUS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

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

August 2018 Volume 14, Issue 8

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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 Redwood Conference Room, 800 Scenic Drive



Behavioral Health and Recovery Services

Josie's Place Drop-in-Center Kong Vang, CST I

TAYA is a population that exists and surrounds society today. The acronym TAYA is defined as Transitional Aged Young Adults specifically the ages from 16-25. TAYA consists of diverse individuals from many different backgrounds such as the culture they come from, the neighborhood they come, and the interests that they follow. There are those TAYA individuals who have felt the idea of "I don't belong." This idea of "I don't belong," translates to negative aspects such as feeling hopeless, and not seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. This long term negative aspect comes into play when there is not a supportive environment or atmosphere that provides a space where TAYA individuals can come "as they are," to enhance their lives/wellbeing and feel safe. The day I stepped foot and joined the team at Josie's Place, I realized that there is light at the end of the tunnel.

The mission of Josie's Place goes beyond providing a safe environment and peer support services. We also help connect TAYA individuals to mental health services to improve their lives/wellbeing. Josie's Place consists of the Drop-in-Center along with two mental health programs on site. The two mental health programs are identified as Josie's Service Team and Josie's TRAC Telecare. Both programs serve the ages 18-25. Criteria that qualify for the Drop-in-Center's space are TAYA individuals at the age of 16-25. The commitment and drive from our team along with the peer support services, mental health service, and safe space is what defines Josie's Place.

Much of our success comes from our peer support services in the drop in center along with our Young Adult Advisory Committee (YAAC). The peer support services consist of peer support groups. Some peer support groups that our team provides are life skills, anger replacement training, anime, gaming, outdoor recreational activities, addiction support, substance use, music, parent support, and many others. YAAC is a group that consists of drop in center members who gets the chance to voice the pros and cons of adjustments for changes or adjustments for the drop in center. As a program we strive to provide the best quality service possible, which is only accomplished by working as a team. As a team, it is important to us that we support all culturally diverse TAYA individuals where they are at and those that walk through our doors. In conclusion, Josie's Place is a place to belong just like our team slogan, "Where I Belong."

Josie's Place Address: 1208 9th St. Modesto CA 95354
Drop-in-Center Membership Parameters: Free
Acceptable Types of Payments for Mental Health Services: Medi-Cal

Highlights of June Cultural Competence, Equity and **Social Justice** Committee (CCESJC) Meeting

Cambodian Community Builds Resilience in New Home

Although the US Census indicates that Cambodians make up less than six percent of the population in Stanislaus County, the close knit community outgrew their previous Temple on Paradise Road. The congregation is made up of approximately 300 families spanning thought Stanislaus County. The Cambodian Buddhist Society serves as a home away from a homeland for a majority of the congregation members who are either refugees themselves or have parents who came to the United States as refugees as a result of the genocidal reign of Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge from 1975-1979.

Modesto Cambodian Buddhist Society, Inc., 1538 Grimes Ave., Modesto, CA. 95358 (209) 522-3138.

First Annual Kick Off Event/ May **Mental Health Community Events**

May is highlighted as Mental Health Month but we need to normalize the conversation every opportunity that we have when it comes to well-being; it is not a mental illness, that comes with stigma and discrimination. How can we have a dialogue in the community, among us and what can we do the rest of the year?

Cultural Diversity Week

To Celebrate Diversity this year, the Cultural Competence, Equity, and Social Justice Executive Committee has chosen the theme of "Recognizing the differences and the similarities of the individuals we serve."

It is important to understand our different backgrounds, experiences, and beliefs, but it's just as essential to recognize that "there's a thread that binds all of us together; pull one end of the thread, the strain is felt all down the line," _Rosamond Marshall.



Cultural Diversity Week

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

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