



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.

September 2018

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Street Medicine Team

Golden Valley Health Center

by Lise Talbott, MBA, Director of Clinical Education and Outreach

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MHSA Document

A draft of the MHSA Supportive Services Plan—Palm Valley Housing Project document is available for 30-day public review and comment September 6 – October 5, 2018. To access the document, go to: www.stanislausmhsa.com

**Cultural Diversity Week
October 1—5, 2018**

Recognizing the differences and the similarities of the individuals we serve.

“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



Behavioral Health and Recovery Services

Access to health care is challenging for many homeless persons often due to lack of transportation, lack of ability to transport/store personal belongings or pets, and lack of health coverage. A comprehensive “street medicine” approach can help combat many of these barriers to care.

Street Medicine is a systematic approach to the provision of health care to persons experiencing homelessness. Golden Valley Health Center's Street Medicine Team provides acute medical services and access to care to people who are homeless. A Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) and a Community Health Worker (CHW) are connecting with the homeless population by bringing medical services to them with the use of a medical van equipped with medical supplies to perform basic medical services such as wound care, blood pressure checks, and glucose checks. The general scope of the medical team is to provide outreach, triage, mobile medicine, transportation, and referrals to GVHC and community partners. Outreach entails making connections with the homeless population by listening and learning their needs as told by the community. The CHW provides water, snacks, socks, and education on how to access health care and other community resources.

Improving the health and wellbeing of persons experiencing homelessness benefits the entire community. Because of decreased access to medical care, homeless individuals often use emergency departments as their primary source of health care. Lack of preventive care causes disease that is more advanced and they require longer hospitalization. Bringing healthcare directly to this population can help address medical issues before they become emergencies. It also helps build trust with the healthcare system that can help people experiencing homelessness establish care with a primary care provider and better manage their health.

The Street Medicine Team has made a significant impact in efforts to assist people without homes in Stanislaus and Merced Counties. The team takes the van to various locations within these two counties. They have formed relationships with other community-based organizations that assist homeless persons, and they go to many encampments throughout their weekly rounds. They have encountered 880 people in just three months of operation. They have provided food, water, new socks, and knowledge about accessing healthcare. They have provided 300 medical visits and made seventeen appointments for people to access medical services at our health center locations. Some people outreached anxiously await our weekly return. Others are still skeptical of outreach services; however they are getting used to seeing us in the community and are becoming more receptive to care. We are confident that over the next few months relationships will continue to grow within the population.



Some success stories from our Street Medicine nurse:

- Male 30-40 Year old, patient complained of open wound located Right calf, the wound was 2x2 in and ½ in deep. I offered to clean and dress the wound, and the patient accepted. The patient stated that he hurt himself while riding his bike. Made an appointment with GVHC to get antibiotics. About two weeks later we ran into him and I asked about his wound. He showed it to me. It was dry, clean and intact. The antibiotics and better wound care worked!
- Female 50-60 year old patient complained of facial swelling, tiredness, and swollen extremities. We offered to take patient to ER, patient was hesitant because she didn't want to leave her belongings. Her friends at the shelter offered to take care of them. We drove the patient to the ER and checked her in. The following week we were at the shelter and I asked for her. They told me that she was still in the hospital because she had three blood clots in her legs. The hospital's plan is to discharge her into a rehabilitation facility to complete coagulant therapy.

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Highlights of August CCESJC Meeting Josie's Place Drop-in-Center

Transitional Aged Young Adults (TAYA) ages 16-25 consists of diverse individuals from many different backgrounds such as the culture they come. The neighborhood they come and the interest that they follow. Josie's Place provides a safe environment and peer support services. They also help connect TAYA individuals to 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 ages 18-25. Criteria that qualify for the Drop-in-Center's space are TAYA individuals at the age of 16-25. They provide life skills, addiction support, substance use, music, parent support and many more.

Josie's Place Address: 1208 9th St. Modesto, CA. 95354
(209)558-4464

CCESJC Background & Direction

Shared the updated Cultural and Ethnic Diverse Services webpage.

<http://www.stancounty.com/bhrs/cultural-ethnic.shtm>

Shared orientation / resources with members—these are only available via the intranet and extranet.

<http://bhrs-web/Committees.html>

GOLDEN VALLEY HEALTH CENTERS

STREET MEDICINE

HOMELESS HEALTH CARE

MOBILE ACUTE CARE AND OUTREACH TO PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN MERCED AND STANISLAUS COUNTIES (LOS BANOS, MODESTO, PATTERSON, TURLOCK)

SERVICES INCLUDE WOUND CARE, BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS, GLUCOSE CHECKS, RAPID APPOINTMENT ACCESS, TRANSPORTATION FOR PATIENT, PETS AND POSSESSIONS. PARTICIPANTS ALSO RECEIVE A NEW PAIR OF SOCKS, HYGIENE SUPPLIES, FOOD AND WATER

1,178 TOTAL PEOPLE REACHED (MAY-AUG 2018)

310 NURSE VISITS
HEAT SAFETY, FOOT CARE, DIABETES MANAGEMENT AND DENTAL ARE HIGH AREAS OF NEED

NURSE (LVN), COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER (CHW), MOBILE VAN, TRAILER AND SUPPLIES ANNUAL BUDGET

\$157,776
FUNDING PROVIDED THROUGH A GRANT WITH SUTTER GOULD FOUNDATION (JANUARY-DECEMBER 2018)

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