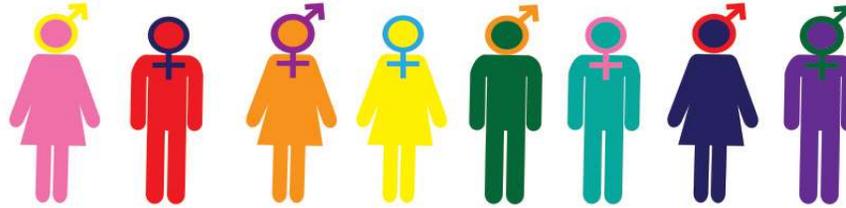




Central California

# LGBTQIA+/2S Collaborative



Stanislaus • Merced • Tuolumne



WELLNESS • RECOVERY • RESILIENCE



Behavioral Health & Recovery Services

Presents to the  
Behavioral Health Equity Committee (BHEC)

## Voices from the LGBTQ+ Community



CentralCaliforniaLGBTQCollaborative



# Location...

## The **ADVOCACY CENTER**

1202 H Street, Suite D  
Modesto, CA 95354

Office: 209-408-8848

Email: [411@lgbtqcollaborative.org](mailto:411@lgbtqcollaborative.org)



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# About...

The Central California LGBTQIA+/2S Collaborative is a (501(c)(3) nonprofit organization serving Stanislaus, Merced and Tuolumne Counties. Our office and advocacy center is located in downtown Modesto where we offer peer support, resources for unhoused persons, systems navigation, systems and personal advocacy, community events, health education and resources, a clothes closet and food pantry. We partner with the Merced Pride Center to provide similar services through them to the Merced LGBTQ community. We also partner with agencies, organizations, and groups of like purposes in order to educate, advocate and provide training for the community.



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# About...

- ❑ **Education:** Reach out to and engage community members and providers in isolated communities throughout the county to promote inclusion, equity and support...
- ❑ **Advocacy:** Promote leadership in the LGBTQ+ community through trained and supported community members that will provide a voice for LGBTQ+ issues and LGBTQ+ representation during public community-based planning processes...
- ❑ **Training:** Coordinate and facilitate connecting and infusing cultural humility practices for education, social service, physical health, and behavioral health providers...
- ❑ The LGBTQ+ Collaborative is part of the Stanislaus County Behavioral Health & Recovery Services (BHRS) Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Prevention & Early Intervention (PEI), transformational commitments through the Community Capacity Building Initiative (CCBI).

# Partners & Allies...

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services of Stanislaus County (BHRS)/ Health Plan of San Joaquin/ El Concilio/ BHRS Prevention and Early Intervention Services/ Equality CA OUT Against Big Tobacco Central Valley Coalition/ BHRS Senior Access Team/ BHRS Children's System of Care/ Modesto Peace Life Center/ Public Health Institute-Together Towards Health/ Sierra Health Foundation - San Joaquin Valley Health Fund/ BHRS Wellness Recovery Center/ Stanislaus County Health Services Agency Public Health Services/ California State University Stanislaus Warriors Cultural Center/ PHAST Youth Tobacco Prevention/ Haven Women's Center of Stanislaus/ Josie's Place/ Stanislaus County Aging & Veterans Services/ California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc./ NAACP Stanislaus/ Boys and Girls Club of Stanislaus County/ Turning Point Community Programs – Empowerment Center/ College Ave. Church/ Sierra Vista Child & Family Services/ Legacy Health Endowment/ California LGBTQ Health & Human Services Network/ Uplift Family Services/ CalVoices/ California Association of Mental Health Peer Run Organizations/ Peer Recovery Art Project/ Love Modesto/ Planned Parenthood Mar Monte/ The PLACE/ MJC CASRA program/ National Alliance on Mental Illness Stanislaus/ Project Sentinel and Stanislaus Mediation/ First Congregational Church—Ripon/ Modesto Jr. College's LGBTQ+ Advocates/ Center for Human Services/ High School Genders & Sexualities Alliance's / Modesto Jr. College Health Services/ Various individuals from the LGBTQ+ community...



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# What are we up to...

## Peer Support & Advocacy

- Expanding Peer Organizational Capacity
- Senior Support Group/ Community Inclusion
- Transgender “Trans Forward” social, discussion group/ Community Inclusion
- The Gap – Christian parent support group
- Positive Support-Living Successfully with HIV
- Gay Men’s Group/ Womxn’s Group
- Casita de Oro – EQCA Latinx Transmasculine support group/ Trans Men Group
- LGBTQ Unhoused - Equal Access/ Youth Navigation Center
- Synod

## Equity & Wellness Workshops

- LGBTQ+ 101
  - Transgender 101
  - Cultural Competency for Law Enforcement
- ✓ Emergency Rental Assistance Program
  - ✓ Out Against Big Tobacco Central Valley Coalition
  - ✓ COVID-19 Health & Wellness Project
  - ✓ J.E.D.I. Queer Health Initiative
  - ✓ ICanGoToCollege.com



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# By the numbers...

- ❖ We were founded in 2015, became a nonprofit in October 2019, opened the doors to our Advocacy Center, October 11, 2021, in honor of National Coming Out Day
- ❖ During the month of April 2022, we had 396 persons come through our doors
- ❖ Of those 396, about 33% were unduplicated
- ❖ Out in the community, during April 2022, we engaged approximately 2500 persons with approximately 40% identifying as LGBTQIA+/2S
- ❖ We currently have 10 staff equal to 8 FTE positions, 90% identify as LGBTQ, 50% are Latinx, 40% are bilingual in Spanish/ English, 60% identify as transgender
- ❖ The Queer Health Initiative is comprised of 12 Health Interns who receive stipends, travel and cell reimbursement to conduct Opioid prevention education and distribute Narcan and Fentanyl kits



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# What do we need...

## System that is inclusive of LGBTQ+ peer/ consumers

- ✓ Representation on planning bodies/ committees
- ✓ Representation in BHRS and Provider management and all staff levels
- ✓ BHRS and Provider staff trained in LGBTQ+ cultural humility
- ✓ BHRS and Providers trained on importance and requirement to collect Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity & Expression (SOGIE) data
- ✓ BHRS and Provider forms be written in inclusive non-stigma language
- ✓ BHRS and Providers trained and supported on how to competently and compassionately collect SOGIE data
- ✓ Representation on reports such as MHSA plan and Cultural Competency Plan
- ✓ Focused funding specifically for LGBTQ+ wellness



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# What do we need...



## Services that are LGBTQ+ welcoming & affirming

- ✓ Highlight to client staff that identify as LGBTQ+
- ✓ BHRS and Provider staff familiarized and utilize pronouns that respect gender identities
- ✓ BHRS and Providers celebrate the LGBTQ+ community in their outreach and engagement activities
- ✓ BHRS and Providers show representation of inclusiveness in their offices, centers, meeting rooms
- ✓ Services that are provided through trauma informed lens of LGBTQ+ experiences as sexual minorities
- ✓ Peer Support to LGBTQ+ peer/ consumers from other LGBTQ+ peer/ consumers available as requested



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# Contact...

**John Aguirre**

He/ Him/ His

**Executive Director**

**Peer/ Consumer Advocate**

Office: 209-408-8848

Cell/ Text: 559-280-3864

[jaguirre@lgbtqcollaborative.org](mailto:jaguirre@lgbtqcollaborative.org)

**James Brown**

He/Him/His

**Advocacy Center Director**

Office: 209-408-8848

Cell/ Text: 209-618-9490

[jbrown@lgbtqcollaborative.org](mailto:jbrown@lgbtqcollaborative.org)



<https://www.lgbtqcollaborative.org/>



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