



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.

July 2019

Volume 15, Issue 7

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The LGBTQ Collaborative Submitted by John Aguirre

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and + other identity (LGBTQ+) Collaborative for Well-Being Stanislaus is the collective efforts of agencies, organizations, and individuals dedicated to promoting well-being, support, and education to the LGBTQ+ community and Allies and advocates in Stanislaus County.

We receive yearly support as part of the Stanislaus County Behavioral Health & Recovery Services (BHRS) Mental Health Services Act Prevention & Early Intervention (PEI), transformational commitments through the Community Capacity Building Initiative. BHRS PEI support provides our community collaborative with not only financial support to seed, strengthen, and realize our community identified goals but our partnership adds a layer of legitimacy to our efforts to reduce stigma and discrimination in mental health towards the LGBTQ+ community. This partnership also provides an introduction and low barrier gateway from the LGBTQ+ community to BHRS services and other community services that may be critical to their wellbeing: peer support, behavioral health services, community inclusion, suicide prevention/ intervention, education, and resource and referral to other medical and social services and safety net systems, and advocacy and representation at community planning arenas.

The Collaborative membership has identified the following priority areas:

- 1) LGBT Elders – support in participating in the community and peer support,
- 2) LGBTQ+ Families/ TAY – connection through community events,
- 3) Suicide Prevention – education to the LGBTQ+ community on prevention
- 4) Prevention: Outreach and Engagement – engage rural outlying communities to connect and support isolated LGBTQ+ community members in those communities,
- 5) Central Valley Pride Center – use regional community center as point of connection.

2019/ 2020 MEETING SCHEDULE:

General meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of the month from 1 pm to 2 pm at the Central Valley Pride Center- 400 12th St., Suite 2, Modesto, CA.

7/11/19, 9/12/19, 10/11/19, 1/9/20, 3/12/20, 4/9/20 – All are welcome

Lunch and Learns are conducted once a quarter. 12 noon to 1:30 pm. Location varies.

8/8/2019 - Collecting SOGIE Data – Why it matters?

11/14/2019 - LGBTQ+ Latinx Community – Who are we?

2/13/2020 - LGBTQ+ Black Community – Who are we?

5/14/2020 - Promoting Resiliency for Gender Diverse & Sexual Minority Clients/ Peers

The Collaborative is open to all individuals and service providers. More information: John Aguirre/ jpamodesto@gmail.com/ Cell or text: 559-280-3864

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



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

Stanislaus County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Detention Services Submitted by Karl Meabrod, BHS II

Detention Services provides Substance Use Disorder’s treatment and Mental Health treatment to inmates at the Stanislaus County Public Safety Center, 200 E. Hackett Road, and to probationers at the Stanislaus County Day Reporting Center, 190 E. Hackett Road, Modesto, CA. Services include education groups, process groups, individual counseling and case management. The number of individuals engaged each month averages from 50 to 100, depending on referrals and requests. Services are provided in English, and interpreters are available by request. Detention Services engages adults from diverse backgrounds of not only ethnicity, religion, gender, and age, but also various levels criminal culture hierarchy, including gang affiliation, first-time offenders, career criminals, sentenced inmates, and those in the trial process. Services inside the jail are provided at inmate request in Minimum Housing Units 1 & 2, Safety Center East Wing, and in the REACT (Re-Entry and Enhanced Alternative to Custody Training) Center. Services at the Day Reporting Center are provided only through referral by Probation. One measure of successful programs in the criminal justice system is recidivism. Recidivism rates are measured by return to custody within three years. Stanislaus County recidivism averages about 67%. Stanislaus County inmates who participate in Sheriff’s programs have average recidivism rates of only 36% to 38%! Detention Services sees an even smaller rate, although exact figures are not available at this time.

National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month

July is National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month and the month offers organizations of all types and sizes a wonderful opportunity to create mental health awareness in diverse communities. The US House of Representatives proclaimed July as this special month in 2008, aiming to improve access to mental health treatment and services through increased public awareness. Since then, many organizations have hosted a variety of events and activities in communities across the country each year. The National Network to Eliminate Disparities (a SAMHSA-supported initiative) and the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) have partnered to create webinars, share resources, and highlight related opportunities celebrating the month. You can watch the webinar recordings from past years below.



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