

# Summary

## Merced County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Cultural Competency Meeting

April 12, 2018  
10:45am  
Mental Health Facility  
301 East 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Merced

### Present:

Toni Mittnacht, Alana Reyna, James Maynard, Irvin Guzman Gutierrez, Rhonda Prater, Gloria Nunn, Donna Dennerlein, Anna Santos, Pia Moua, Benny Escobedo, Sophia Ornelas, Fernando Granados, Griselda Vazquez, Bella Vallador, Sharon Jones, Andrea Tovar

### Presentation and Discussion:

*All Members*

#### I. Check-in/Conocimiento

The group did self-introductions, stating names and agencies.

#### II. Approval of Minutes

The approval of minutes for March 15 2018, was motioned/seconded (Fernando Granados/Toni Mittnacht) and carried.

#### III. Goals and Objectives of the Committee

Sharon Jones read the Cultural Competency goals and gave detailed information pertaining to each goal. Sharon stated that the goals will be posted for all to review. Fernando Granados of Sierra Vista suggested having the five goals posted on future agendas.

#### IV. Cultural Competence Survey

Sharon Jones asked the committee to complete a Cultural Diversity Self-Assessment; each member took the time to complete the requested task. Sharon Jones asked all to keep the sheet so they may reflect on the information at a later meeting. The Scoring Key will be available during next month's meeting. Sharon Jones also distributed Language of Inclusion packets which consists of numerous definitions.

#### V. Evaluation of goals and objective

See Agenda item III.

#### VI. Review and Recommendations of county programs services

Sharon Jones informed the committee that goals and objectives will be worked on in the near future. Fernando Granados recommended that the Cultural Competency goals to be place on the monthly agendas. Another component will be to review county programs/services and make recommendations. Periodically Sharon will bring in lists of programs for the committee to review. All recommendations will be presented to the Director of BHRS during the Fall.

#### VII. Goals of Cultural Competency Plan

Sharon Jones informed the council that the Cultural Competency Plan recommendations are to be developed soon; she will keep all posted.

#### VIII. Human Resources Report

Sharon Jones reported that one of the requirements under the Cultural Competency Plan is to review the staffing demographic patterns. Human Resource reports will be requested periodically for discussion purposes in future meetings to review staffing patterns.

**IX. Training Plan**

Sharon Jones discussed cultural respect and awareness in regards to future trainings. Sharon Jones asked the committee what other trainings may be needed as it relates to culture; committee to discuss recommendations at a later meeting.

**X. Spiritual Wellness and Recovery Conference**

Sharon Jones informed the committee that the Spiritual Wellness and Recovery Conference program, for July 14, 2018, is currently being developed. She also informed the group that participants are needed for the event, such as dancers, poets, singers, etc. The theme is The Work of Grace: The Most Benevolent Outcome Possible. Sharon informed the group that Cindy Mattox of BHRS, will be sending information via email pertaining to tabling opportunities during the event. Donna Dennerlein of Turning Point asked if the event would be recorded so that clients who are unable to attend could view it at a later time. Sharon Jones to research the request. The group discussed contacting UC Merced and local high school marching bands to perform at event. The group offered several suggestions for potential speakers at the event.

**XI. May is Mental Health Awareness Month**

Sharon Jones informed the group that Sebastian Gendry has been confirmed as the keynote speaker for May is Mental Health Awareness Month/MHSA Outcomes event. The guidelines for the program storyboards will be sent out soon.

**XII. Program Reports and Updates**

Donna Dennerlein of Turning Point reported that Turning Point is currently working on methods to encourage participation at the Merced Wellness Center. Presently, they are forming small groups to encourage socialization. Donna voiced her concerns in regards to individuals who carried dual diagnosis. Benny Escobedo of Golden Valley stated that Golden Valley is going into the community raising mental health awareness by way of various presentations. Ultimately their goal is to connect individuals with social services that are needed. Golden Valley expects to have 12 Community Health Workers by the end of the year serving Merced and Stanislaus County. Attendee reported that Westside Transitional Center recently had a multicultural potluck; event was successful. Irvin Guzman Gutierrez of BHRS stated that in September the Merced Wellness Center will be hosting a Multicultural Celebration; more information to come. Bella Vallador of Healthy House stated that beginning on April 18, 2018 a Trauma Informed training will be offered for all Interpreters of Healthy House; a total of 40 hours of training. Griselda Vazquez of Livingston Community Health, informed the group that she attended the recent Non-Suicidal Self-Harm training facilitated by Sharon Jones. Griselda intends on sharing the information with the local high school students she currently works with. Griselda also reported that Livingston Community Health is currently in need of Spanish-speaking ASWs.

**XIII. Possibilities and Success Stories**

**XIV. Next Steps**

Email the committee the scoring sheets for Cultural Diversity Self-Assessment. The development of a chart that will represent who is being served currently. Collect recommendations for future culturally responsive/sensitive trainings.

**XV. Adjourned**

Meeting adjourned at 11:30am.