

Merced County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Cultural Competency Meeting

May 17, 2018
10:45am

Mental Health Facility
301 East 13th Street, Merced

Summary

Present:

Anna Santos, Griselda Vazquez, Andrea Cruthird-Mays, Jessica Runyan, Rhonda Prater, Pia Moua, Alma Chaves, Cristian Santos, Sydney Loewen, Lorena Ewing, Jose L. Chavez Diaz, Fernando Granados, Janet Zamudio, Rebeca Wood, Scott Goda, Maria Bautista, James Henderson, Gloria Nunn, Andrea Lane

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 April 12, 2018, was motioned/seconded (Fernando Granados/Lorena Ewing) and carried.

III. Discussion on Self-Assessment (Critical Self Reflection)

Sharon Jones informed the group that a large part of cultural competency is critical self-reflection, how one engages with others and how one is accepting of others. Sharon Jones also discussed cultural humility and life-long learning. Sharon Jones asked the group if anyone was willing to share their results from last month's Self-Assessment. Attendee stated that she really enjoyed the assessment and it allowed her to reflect.

IV. Goals of Culture Competence

Sharon Jones informed the group that Fernando Granados suggested that the Cultural Competence goals be posted on the Cultural Competency agenda. Sharon stated that the goals were identified in a previous MHSA Update; she briefly reviewed them with the group. Sharon announced that no new Cultural Competence guidelines have been released from the State but MHSA is still expected to complete the Cultural Competence updates.

V. Discussion Cultural Competence Improvements Needed

Sharon Jones asked the group to share cultural competence improvements that are needed in regards to supporting families, providing services, receiving services, etc. Attendee suggested a facility that was specifically for youth and teens in Los Banos. Andrea Cruthird-May of MCOE stated that MCOE is currently engaging parents and looking at the education system in regards to implicit and explicit biases that are allowing Black children to experience higher expulsion rates. Andrea encouraged all to visit California Dashboard website to see reports for Merced County schools. Attendee shared her family's experience with expulsion and the lack of counseling assistance within the school. Jose Chavez-Diaz of Golden Valley informed the group of Golden Valley's Community Health Worker team that offers presentations in schools for parents in regards to bullying, how to discipline your child, substance abuse, etc. Sharon Jones stressed the importance of building capacity due to lack of clinicians within the community and education of the families to recognize warning signs. Sharon Jones discussed Dr. Newman's How to Raise an Emotionally Healthy Children with the group. Andrea Cruthird-May shared educational inequities pertaining to affluent Black students and how parents can create change to educational systems. Fernando Granados discussed a prior agenda item of having Contract Providers give presentations on their programs and penetration rates. Sharon Jones stated that penetration rates should be on the agenda for the next Cultural Competency meeting, along with a hand-out. Griselda Vazquez of Livingston Community Health voiced the concerns of Delhi residents in regards to why Merced County resources/services are not reaching Delhi. The group discussed the various cultures

within the various schools within Merced County such as self-harmers, homelessness, etc. Anna Santos of TIP would like to see more cultural awareness provided to agencies when working with the local Punjabi community. Griselda Vazquez suggested an ACEs training. Sharon Jones stated that culture must be present within trainings. Anna Santos shared with the group information pertaining to HSA's Hmong Culture training.

VI. Handout CLAS Standard Compliance Tools

Sharon Jones distributed the CLAS Standard Compliance Tools to all members to read. She asked all to think about the work they are currently doing and to see if the standards are being met.

VII. Recovery Language Sheet

Sharon Jones distributed a handout on Recovery Language, she asked all to review in preparation for June's meeting.

VIII. Discussion on Training

Sharon Jones informed all of the various trainings that are scheduled to occur. She informed all that the Interpreter's Training is currently being offered. On May 30th and June 6th, the LGBTQQIA2-S training is scheduled. Sharon also stated that the Suicide Prevention Initiative was kicked-off at the May is Mental Health Awareness Month/MHSA Outcomes event.

IX. Discussion on Culturally Competent Resource

Sharon Jones stated that she would like for this group to put together a culturally specific resource guide for the community. She asked the members to think of all the culturally specific services offered within the community for the next meeting.

X. Development of Cultural Competent Update

Sharon Jones informed the group that the Cultural Competency Update is required yearly. In October of this year a presentation will be offered to BHRS Leadership which will include penetration rates for different ethnic groups, representatives of this committee, cultural competent programs in the area, etc.

XI. Program Reports and Updates

Attendee informed the group that on May 25, 2018 from 9am to 2pm the Merced Wellness Center will be hosting a May is Mental Health Awareness picnic at Yosemite Lake. Golden Valley reported that they will be hosting an Blood Pressure awareness event on Sunday May 27th from 11am to 5pm at a local church.

XII. Possibilities and Success Stories

XIII. Next Steps

Email Self-Assessment to all members.

XIV. Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 11:50am