

Merced County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Cultural Competency Meeting

June 21, 2018

10:45am

Mental Health Facility
301 East 13th Street, Merced

Summary

Present:

Andrea Cruthird-Mays, Christopher Jensen, Fernando Granados, Lorena Ewing, Irvin Guzman-Gutierrez, Donna Dennerlein, Janet Zamudio, Maria Bautista, Lucia Hidalgo, Anna Santos, Rebeca Wood, Andrea Lane, Rhonda Prater, Gloria Nunn, Nancy Reding, Sharon Jones, Andrea Tovar

Presentation and Discussion:

All Members

I. Check-in/Conocimiento

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

II. Approval of Minutes

The approval of minutes for May 17, 2018, was motioned/seconded (Anna Santos/Fernando Granados) and carried.

III. Cultural Competence Training

Sharon Jones informed the group that Associate Professor, Dr. Ebony Williams from Sacramento State, facilitated two LGBTQ+ trainings. Sharon Jones asked group members to discuss other cultural competent trainings that are needed. Nancy Redding, Community member, stated that LGBTQ county-wide focus needs to happen. The group discussed Dr. Ebony Williams' LGBTQ+ training; those who attended shared information. Nancy Redding asked if BHRS identifies itself as LGBTQ+ friendly. Nancy stated that if BHRS is having this training, she finds it hypocritical that it is not being implemented from the top down. Nancy stressed that it must be implemented and received openly. Nancy discussed various road blocks for LGBTQ+ consumers. Christopher Jensen of BHRS shared with the group information he gained from attending an Intersectionality training. The group discussed various sociocultural diversities, barriers and inclusion. Fernando Granados of Sierra Vista suggested a training that addresses traumas due to separation of families and immigration. Donna Dennerlein of Turning Point would like to see a training that focuses on housing/economic issues and how clinicians could response appropriately.

IV. Developing a Cultural Competence Program Directory

Sharon Jones stated that she is currently developing a Cultural Competence Program Directory. Sharon Jones ask the group if they knew of other agencies within the community that have cultural relevance, if so to please send information via email to Andrea Tovar. The group gave many suggestions such as the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Catholic Charities, Lifeline, Sacred Heart, Gateway Church, etc.

V. Developing Cultural Competence Annual Update

Sharon Jones informed the group that development of the Cultural Competence Annual Update will be occurring in the near future. More information to come during upcoming meetings.

VI. Cultural Competent Data

Sharon Jones shared a visual report of Cultural Competent Data. She went over the trends in detail with the group. The group discussed the information and shared their concerns and questions. The group suggested the creator of the report attend a future meeting to share additional information.

VII. Discussion on Cultural Competence Improvements

Sharon Jones asked the group member to submit their suggestions.

VIII. Spiritual Wellness and Recovery Conference

Sharon Jones announced that the Spiritual Wellness and Recovery Conference is scheduled for Saturday, July 14, 2018 from 9am to 3pm at the Merced Italo-Lodge.

IX. Suicide safer Community Initiative

Item Tabled

X. Program Reports and Updates

Lorena Ewing of Healthy House reported that Healthy House recently completed the training of 93 members of the Merced Police Department and the District Attorney's office on how to investigate and pursue elder abuse (50 and over). She also stated that 14 interpreters have completed the Trauma Informed Interpreting training. She announced this will be her last meeting.

XI. Possibilities and Success Stories

Nancy Redding, Community Member, informed all that a Circle-Gathering is scheduled for Monday, June 25, 2018 at the Unity Church from 5:30pm-7:30pm. Fernando Granados of Sierra Vista suggested Cultural Champions to identify programs. Anna Santos of TIP announced that the Fatherhood Summit is scheduled for Wednesday, June 27, 2018.

XII. Next Steps

Cultural Competent Data to be sent out to all.

XIII. Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 11:56am.