

Summary

Merced County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Cultural Competency Meeting

May 16, 2019

10:00am

Behavioral Health Facility
301 East 13th Street, Merced

Present:

Pia Moua, Karen Gonzalez, Ker Thao, Nancy Reding, Maria Orozco, Caitlin Haygood, Marilyn Mochel, Fernando Granados, Dwayne Kawakami, Heydi Herrera, James Henderson, 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 April 18, 2019, was motioned/seconded (Nancy Reding/Marilyn Mochel) and carried.

III. Cultural Competence Charter

The committee reviewed the revised Cultural Competence Charter. The group suggested additional changes under Purpose, Objectives and Guiding Principles. Changes were noted.

IV. Scenarios Linguistic Competency

Sharon Jones shared a scenario pertaining to a consumer requesting a change in provider due to difficulties understanding provider's accent. The group held a discussion surrounding the scenario and shared their thoughts in regards to being culturally responsive. The group also discussed the clinical and cultural implications of the scenario. Marilyn Mochel, of NAMI Merced and BHC, stated that providers in the health sector are asking patients to restate their instructions/plans. Marilyn Mochel stated that when it is clear that the patient's stated needs are not being met, the burden of problem solving is pulled away from the patient and is placed on the provider.

V. Programs in the Community that are Culturally Specific and Responsive

Sharon Jones stated that Merced County has various programs within the community that are culturally specific and responsive yet many community members are unaware of the services. Nancy Reding, community member, announced that The California Endowment funding will be coming to an end after ten years.

VI. Cultural Competence Goal

Sharon Jones stated she would like to see a link between Cultural Competence goals and future Cultural Competence Newsletter.

VII. Development of Cultural Competence Newsletter

Sharon Jones informed the committee that she would like to see the development of a quarterly Cultural Competence Newsletter for fiscal year 2019/2020. Sharon Jones also stated that she would like to highlight culturally specific and responsive programs in the newsletter. The newsletter would also serve as a directory of cultural community programs. "Pathways to Healing" is a possible name for the newsletter.

VIII. Program Reports and Updates

Marilyn Mochel reported that NAMI Merced has been diversifying its volunteer facilitators which will allow for specific programs to reach African American such as Sharing Hope-Conversations with African Americans and the Spanish program Compartiendo Esperanza. Marilyn Mochel shared that Mental Health 101 will be offered in NAMI California's attempt to become more culturally responsive to different populations. NAMI Merced currently has teams trained to reach out to African Americans, Latinos, LGBTQ and Veterans. Marilyn Mochel also informed the council that speakers will be identified who can speak on topics for roughly thirty minutes with a local internet radio station. Sharon Jones announced that the Older Adults System of Care will be offering a screening of a movie with the focus on older adults. Nancy Reding shared information pertaining to local food project located at the United Methodist Church for youth 0-18 and parents beginning June 17, 2019 through August 2, 2019. Christopher Jensen announced that the All in for Health Coalition has moved from monthly meetings to quarterly meetings and invited all to attend.

IX. Possibilities and Success Stories

No possibilities and success stories.

X. Next Steps

Andrea Tovar to send out Cultural Competence Charter prior to next meeting. Review Cultural Competence goals.

XI. Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 10:57AM