



THE LOOP

A COLLECTION OF STORIES FROM AROUND CALIFORNIA

AUGUST 2022

ISSUE 111

VOLUME 9



WestCare Family,

Welcome to WestCare California's monthly newsletter, The Loop! This year has marked our return to in-person outreach since the pandemic began and with the fall comes a variety of annual events that we are proud to attend from **Recovery Happens** at the State Capitol, **Central Valley Veterans' Stand Down** and **Women Veterans Stand Up**, the **Central California Women's Conference**, **Community partners 4 Recovery's (CP4R) SoberStock XVII** to various volunteer and career fairs. With this said, the fall is an absolutely crucial time for outreach for our organization and for many who might be reading this, whether you are a new staff or met with our outreach teams at the aforementioned events, you may have just been introduced to our organization.

So, we'd like to take this time to share with you just a little bit about WestCare California! We are a behavioral health and human services organization that currently provides services in over 38 of California's 58 counties in the domains of Mental Health & Wellness, Treatment & Rehabilitation, Veterans Services, Criminal Justice, Housing Opportunities, and Education & Prevention. We have come a long way since our founding in 1974 as The Third Floor, a 48-bed residential treatment facility in Fresno, CA and in time, became a part of the WestCare Foundation family, which now operates in 17 states, three U.S. territories, and two republics.

Since our founding, we have expanded our scope to now provide a variety of services and today, we are proud to offer over 50 different programs from 26 different facilities from San Diego up to Chico. In the past year, we have added additional programming in regards to Medication-Assisted Treatment in Fresno County through **OUR WestCare MATTERS**, outpatient treatment for Kings County youth and Families by way of **SAMHSA Youth and Family TREE**, the induction of weekly life-skills classes offered at the **Holy Cross Health & Wellness Center**, educational sessions provided by **Celebrating Families!** for Fresno County families that are receiving CalWORKS and Welfare to Work services, and most recently – the expansion of our Fresno County **Adult Outpatient** programming, which is now being offered twice each week at the Holy Cross Health & Wellness Center. Please read our program spotlight for this exciting addition to their services offered for our unhoused individuals in Fresno!

Our motto through our work is Uplifting the Human Spirit, which would not be possible without the help of our amazing staff! I hope that this and our stories featured throughout this issue have helped give you a better understanding of the many life-skills services that we are so proud to offer!

Thank you and take care,



MaryAnn Knoy, Vice President,
WestCare California



Cleadus Shelton, Vice President,
WestCare California



westcare.com



Program Spotlight: Adult Outpatient at the Holy Cross Health & Wellness Center

By David Daniel, Director, Admissions & Outpatient Services

WestCare California, Inc.'s CARF Accredited **Adult Outpatient Program** provides co-occurring drug and alcohol treatment services in a safe and supportive environment for adults who require treatment for substance use disorders (SUD) while working and living in the community. Outpatient can be a standalone option for someone with a mild addiction or as a step-down level of care from residential treatment. Services include group and individual counseling, drug and alcohol education, life skills, crisis assistance, and case management. Our newly offered adult outpatient groups at the **Holy Cross Health & Wellness Center** are currently offered twice a week on Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

For more information on our program, please call 559-237-3420 or send an email to admissions.fresno@westcare.com.

A Holy Cross Outpatient Progress Story

While our partnership is still new, our clients have stated that they enjoy the convenience of being able to attend groups closer to where they live, one of which has been attending groups at the Holy Cross Health & Wellness Center consistently. She has shown growth not only personally but, in her recovery, as well. Attending our group reminds her of where she has been and how far she has come. She is aware of the environment and utilizes her coping skills to continue to stay positive, on the right track, and engaged in her recovery. She shared that she enjoys how intimate the groups are as well as the beautiful outside area of our campus.

WestCare's Adult Outpatient Program is certified by the State Department of Health Care Services: westcare.link/cadhcs. For information on our licensure/certification status, please visit the above link, click "CSV" and search for "WestCare"



Staff Kudos: Lisa Harris, Counselor 1, Fresno Adult Outpatient

I would like to thank Lisa Harris for all of her efforts in starting up these groups at Holy Cross. She goes down and personally waits outside to greet clients as they come in for services. Clients enjoy her groups and she truly has a passion for helping them in their recovery! Thank you, Lisa, for Uplifting the Human Spirit through all that you do for those that we serve!

THE LIVING ROOM PRESENTS: DRAG QUEEN bingo

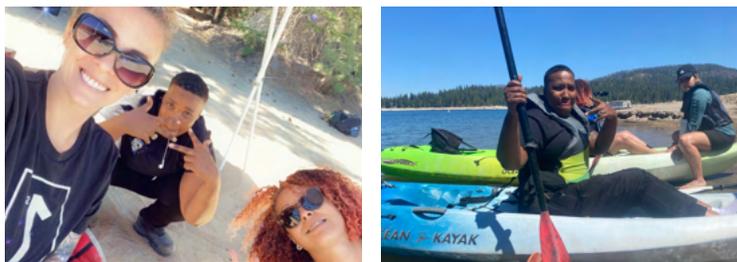
A BENEFIT IN SUPPORT OF THE 2022 FRESNO AIDS WALK

21+ ONLY - HALLOWEEN COSTUMES ENCOURAGED! CASH ONLY EVENT.

Friday, October 28, 6:30 PM @ The Red Lantern: 4618 E Belmont Ave, Fresno, CA

For more information, please call (559) 486-1469





7.7: The Women of SJVV HomeFront Create New Memories on the Water

In early July, through **Our Hero's Dreams**, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) Veteran-run organization, our **San Joaquin Valley Veterans (SJVV) HomeFront** GPD transitional living program was connected with the **Central California Adaptive Sports Center (CCASC)**, whose mission is to provide Veterans with disabilities the opportunity to be active. Thanks to them, our ladies were able to take part in an amazing experience! They traveled across Shaver Lake on a boat to get to their site, where they kayaked, had lunch, and chatted. On behalf of our staff and the Veterans that we proudly serve, thank you Our Hero's Dreams and the CCASC for your generosity and support for all who have served!



7.25 - 27: 2022 National Conference on Ending Homelessness

In late July, we were honored to have strong representation at this year's **National Alliance to End Homelessness Conference** on behalf of our **Housing Services**, **San Joaquin Valley Veterans**, and **The Living Room** programs as well as the **Fresno Madera Continuum of Care** and the **Built For Zero - Fresno/Madera** initiative!

Many important conversations were had this year that included our current local efforts and areas in which we can improve, combating systemic racism in the housing sector, the importance of trauma-informed care, and more. Every year, this event serves as the perfect place for making connections and gaining inspiration from the stellar work that other communities are doing!

Until next time, we look forward to bringing back all that we've learned to better serve our unhoused brothers, sisters, families, and Veterans as we prepare them to enter into the permanent housing that they deserve!



8.5: The Cultural Diversity Committee Visits the Cambodian Night Market

In early August, members from our **Cultural Diversity Committee** along with their loved ones took part in August's **Cambodian Night Market** held at the **Fresno Cambodian Buddhist Society!** This event is a replica of the night market in Siem Reap, Cambodia. This fun family-friendly event is held on the first Friday of the month and is the only night market of its kind in the U.S. that helps promote and preserve the Cambodian tradition, culture, food, and music! **Voices of America** came out to do a story and we were featured with our own **Soma Norodom**, Case Manager for APS Home Safe, giving a tour of the temple and talking about the significance that events like the Cambodian Night Market have for the survivors of the Cambodian genocide and the generations that have since passed on. Thank you to our entire Cultural Diversity Committee for your hard work in educating our family of programs and ensuring that the ideals of diversity, equity, and inclusion remain paramount for our staff and those that we serve!



FRESNO
AIDS
WALK

Returning in person on

NOVEMBER 5, 2022 AT 8:00AM

WOODWARD PARK - PARK VIEW SHELTER

sponsored by



GILEAD





8.6: The Women of CCTRP – San Diego Help Prepare San Diego Youth for the New School Year!

On Saturday, August 6, five clients from our **Custody to Community Transitional Reentry Program (CCTRP)** in San Diego were chosen to help volunteer in a community-wide event presented by **SupplyBank.org**, a non-profit organization that provides stigma-free access to essential supplies for underserved communities. Clients worked tirelessly from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. to help assemble over 10,000 back-to-school bags for less fortunate and homeless children living throughout San Diego County. All five women stated that this was the first time that they had participated in an activity where they gave back to their community. Following their service, they all felt emotional, humbled, and grateful having each grown up in a neighborhood where poverty was the norm.



A CCTRP San Diego Progress Story Featuring Abrianna

CCTRP San Diego client, Abrianna G., is an outstanding example of what it means to believe in yourself. Abrianna has been at CCTRP for a little under five months and in that time, she has utilized her self-discipline, belief in a Higher Power, and sobriety to begin changing her life. On August 3, Abrianna, who dropped out of high school in the 9th grade, passed all five HiSET exams, completing her high school education. With completion of her education comes a six-month reduction to her sentence, bringing her home to her family before the holidays. Until then, she plans to take advantage of everything that the program has to offer including parenting classes so that she can be a better mother to her sons moving forward.



Kudos: SJVV - Fresno

"I would like to give our **San Joaquin Valley Veterans (SJVV)** teams kudos as our Fresno office has recently been identified as one of top five programs for successfully housing the most Veterans! This recognition on the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) national grantee call makes me very proud of this team as this highlights the hard work that all of our SJVV staff put into the services that we provide on a daily basis. Keep up the great work, everyone!" - **Jenny Gonzalez, Deputy Administrator, WestCare California**



Kudos: Janice Payton, Case Manager, Day Reporting Center

"The **Fresno Day Reporting Center (DRC)** would like to give a big shout out to our Case Manager, Janice Payton, for initiating our back-to-school 'Backpacks for Parents' week. As a program incentive for our DRC clients with children returning to school, Janice took the initiative to order and distribute backpacks and assorted supplies like pens, pencils, notebooks, and more. As with many of our programs, we have new parents that are learning the ropes and Janice wanted to support them. We at the DRC are so proud of Janice and her work and care for our clients!" - **Derrick Bressel, Program Director, Day Reporting Center**

Our CORE (Characteristics of Remarkable Employees) Morale Boosters



Ruben Cueva
Outreach Specialist
The Living Room



Francisco Gonzalez
Maintenance Supervisor
MLK Residential



Soma Norodom
APS Case Manager
Housing Services



Jovana Sandoval
Mental Health Therapist
MLK Residential

CP4R Presents:

Sober Stock XVII

All the details at facebook.com/CommunityPartners4Recovery

Connect with us in California

Get in touch with our Marketing Department to learn more about what is happening in WestCare California at marketing@westcare.com