



A monthly newsletter that covers the events of our programs in:

Bakersfield - Chico - Chowchilla/VSP - Corcoran/CSP - Crescent City/PBSP
Fresno - Hanford - Jamestown/SCC - Madera - Merced - North Highlands
San Diego - San Luis Obispo/CMC - Stockton - Tehachapi/CCI - Wasco/WSP

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Volume 6

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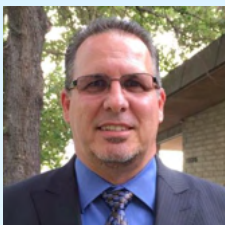
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#WestCareCA

A Welcome by our Deputy COO, Shawn Jenkins



Shawn Jenkins

"WestCare Family,
What does Independence Day mean to you?

The Fourth of July is a happy holiday for most Americans. Everyone I know enjoys the long weekend with barbecues, beach trips or time with family and friends. But sometimes, I wonder if people know what and why they are celebrating. Sometimes, I feel that most people have lost the idea of Independence Day and simply celebrate it because it's a day off from work. However, this year, I've taken some time to reflect on what independence and the day that celebrates it mean to me.

Independence Day in 1776 was a historic day for the United States. That day, we went from being controlled by Great Britain to being an independent country that could govern itself. Because of this historic event, the importance of it and the historical events that followed, this day should always be celebrated. But it is important to realize that not everyone in the United States was actually free at this time. A large majority of the population were still considered property and were enslaved. Hundreds of years after the Independence Day of 1776, slaves and other people of color continued to be mistreated, abused, discriminated against and controlled, and there are still instances of these atrocities to this day. This raised some questions for me. Has there truly been an Independence Day for all people of all races to share together? Can we celebrate as one nation on the Fourth of July to remember those who died for our country's independence and for the freedom of the slaves? Can we say that all people in the United

States of America are truly free and independent?

I've been going back and forth with the answers to these questions. I don't have all of the answers, but I do know that they have shaped my understanding of Independence Day and if there's anything I've learned in this life, it's that history is important in understanding the present.

The Fourth of July should be celebrated as the day on which the colonies became the United States because of their freedom from Great Britain. The Fourth of July should be celebrated as a commemoration of those who fought for our nation's independence. The Fourth of July is a day to remember how lucky we are to live in a country whose history would have been much different if it hadn't released itself from the hands of the British. The Fourth of July should also be celebrated as a victory for all of the accomplishments listed above - but not as a day of freedom.

Independence Day is so much more than a day off from work. Summed up - it's a day to remember those who have lived before you and what they endured, lived through and fought for so that you can be where you are today. It is a day to remember our history - the good and bad and to strive not to repeat the past we should not be proud of."

(Continued on Page 2)



(Continued from Page 1) "It is a day to be open to make changes in our communities for the better and be champions, mentors and examples of what it truly means to be independent to think and act for ourselves, rather than be made to think and act a certain way. It is a day that should be completely independent from fear and a day for each of us to accept our role to be better listeners and show empathy, understanding and acceptance.

We can do so much more on Independence Day. As parents, we can raise our children to be independent thinkers and doers. As teachers and mentors, we can teach students so that they can have the freedom to learn and come back for guidance if needed. Lastly, as managers and team leaders in this organization, we can show our team independence in making their own decisions and owning up to them."

Sincerely,

Shawn L. Jank

Veterans News

6/28: Housing Heroes Recognition Luncheon



Our San Joaquin Valley Veterans (SJVV) team in Hanford was proud to be on hand for this year's Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance's Housing Heroes Recognition Luncheon! Once a year, this luncheon acknowledges and presents awards to agencies, community partners and those who collaborate help end homelessness. While they didn't receive it, they were

nominated for this year's Unsung Hero Award! However, our team was ecstatic to see Larry and Shirley Joiner receive the Supportive Housing Provider Award. Larry, a Veteran himself, and his wife have been a blessing to many of our Veterans and one of the greatest supporters of SJVV! For over three years, they have taken in numerous Veterans and housed them in their units throughout Kings County. They open up their property and take Veterans with limited income and if they didn't have the money to pay for their rent, they could work it off. The Joiner's have welcomed in Veterans of all different types and barriers such as eviction and given them another chance! One behalf of our SJVV team in Hanford, we'd like to congratulate them and thank them for their compassion for and assistance given to the Veterans we serve!

7/4: Renaissance at Parc Grove Celebrates Independence Day



The Veterans and families we serve at the Renaissance at Parc Grove housing complex in Fresno had a wonderful Independence Day holiday! Some of the residents got out their aprons and provided ribs, tri-tip, potato salad, garlic bread and hot dogs as well as chocolate brownies for dessert! It was also one of the littlest resident's birthday, which was celebrated with ice cream, cake and singing! This

was a very special moment for their parents, who noted that they have "No other family" than the one that they've become a part of at Renaissance. It's statements like that that truly make this a supportive housing community!

Housing News

7/11: Grand Opening of The Welcome Center



July marked the grand opening for The Welcome Center, a low barrier triage shelter in Fresno operated by Turning Point of Central California in partnership with Fresno County Department of Social Services and the Fresno Madera

Continuum of Care (FMCoC), which we are proud to be a integral part of. This 30 bed program provides basic needs of food, shelter and clothing to participants as well as their pets and partners, while offering intensive services to ensure that they have the resources necessary to obtain permanent supportive housing. We are excited about the opportunities that this new program will create for our brothers and sisters who are experiencing homelessness!



7/22 - 24: 2019 NAEH Conference in D.C.



We were proud to be at this year's National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) Conference in Washington, D.C. with representation on behalf of WestCare California, San

Joaquin Valley Veterans, The Living Room, Housing Services, the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care and Built for Zero - Fresno/Madera! After three amazing days of insight and new strategies, we were excited to come home and get back to assisting our brothers, sisters and Veterans that are experiencing homelessness with getting off the streets! We were also honored to visit Congressman, TJ Cox, on Capitol Hill to discuss the various services that we provide and are looking forward to our follow up meeting with his office in August!



Treatment & Rehabilitation News

7/19: MLK Helps At The NAPV Championship

Volunteers from our MLK Residential program were proud to once again be a part of the 25th Annual North American Pole Vault Championship event in the center of Old Town Clovis! They helped set up and tear down the event and enjoyed the festivities. Thank you for your hard work and support of our community!



7/29: Praise Dance at MLK Residential

A few of the women at our MLK Residential facility performed a special praise dance for their fellow women in



the program. The dance, which incorporated sign language, was set to "Write Your Story" by Francesca Battistelli. The idea began with one of our women who felt inspired to do something positive and give praise to her higher power, but was then joined by five of her sisters in recovery who agreed to learn the routine! We'd like to thank all who participated as well as our staff who supported them, provided a speaker and helped promote this uplifting event!

Education & Prevention News

7/25: Fresno Grizzlies Pride Night



Our staff at The Living Room had a wonderful time at Fresno Grizzlies Pride Night at Chukchansi Park while also supporting a great cause, the events beneficiary, the Fresno Rainbow Pride Parade and Festival!



Thank you to everyone that stopped by our booth to learn about our services as well as how they can get involved with the 2019 Fresno AIDS Walk & 5k Run on 10/19 at Woodward Park!

Criminal Justice News

7/30 - 8/1: DRP Victim Impact Training

Our wonderful Program Directors and Supervising Counselors from our in-custody programs attended a 3 day Victim Impact training in Sacramento presented by the Division of Rehabilitative Programs. This allowed our team to reunite with their cohort while gaining new skills and perspective to more affectively understand and address the needs of their programs' participants.



A Testimony by Fernando (SUDT Program Participant at Sierra Conservation Center)

We'd like to share a piece about not letting your past define your future by Fernando, a participant in our Substance Use Disorder Treatment (SUDT) program and an inmate at the Sierra Conservation Center (SCC).

"Hello ladies and gentleman,

Thank you for this opportunity to share my story. My name is Fernando. I'm 28 years old and have been incarcerated for the last seven years. Sadly, as most of us have experienced growing up, this type of environment is not new to me. Being raised in a broken home, I found comfort and love in the wrong places. I quickly gravitated towards a Sureno gang out of the County of Merced and soon found myself on this destructive path.



I now find myself truly growing up and making valuable changes for my future. I've since denounced my gang affiliation that once manipulated everything about me, but most importantly, I've taken back control of my life. That's why I've decided to become a member of the SUDT program and am hopeful to obtain a new perspective and useful tools to improve my life. I'll soon, in the near future, be fortunate to rejoin my community and with that, I have a responsibility to make sure this transformation is a success so I can become a productive citizen and an engaged father to my gorgeous daughters in every aspect of their lives because they are my everything.

As I've said previously, growing up in that broken home, I was deprived of the essential role models I needed to ensure a healthy childhood. I think about the relationship I had with my own father. He left me when I was five years old and I never truly got to know him. It is sad because I feel that every boy deserves to have a father in their life. So, it is no secret that I didn't cry when I found out that he died. It's not that I wasn't sad; I just didn't have it in me to cry for a stranger. My mom wasn't much different than my dad. She often left me alone to fend for myself when she went out and partied with her friends. Because of this, I had to grow up really fast, which didn't allow me to get the necessary tools to be successful in

the real world. It's fair to say that the abandonment I experienced from both of my parents affected my parenting skills because I'm here before you instead of attending parent/teacher conferences.

It's hard to say, but I've continued the cycle. It's a sad feeling when your own children see you in the same light. Although my princesses do know me, in a sense, I'm a stranger to them. It's for these reasons as well as wanting to become a better man that I've taken steps to change and make a commitment that will bring a new meaning to my life.

I have a way to go, but anything worth having is worth working for. Education is at the top of the list. I will be working towards my GED. I would also like to obtain some job skills and trades so I'll have several options for employment. I never held a job out there for any significant amount of time. Selling drugs and stealing were more lucrative, which in turn would cause me to be in and out of jail.

My story is not unique outside of it being about me, but many of you hearing this have experienced similar situations. It's what we do in the end that counts. Before I end, I would like to leave you with this quote that gives me encouragement and hope:

'Though no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending.' – **Carl Bard**

I would also like to thank WestCare for giving me this opportunity to share my story and for the staff who took their time to deal with and heal my broken pieces. Also with the help of my friends who supported and helped me through this: Jonathan, Luis, Freddy and my girlfriend, Karen. WestCare is giving us the opportunity to start something new only if you want that change."

Thank you,

FERNANDO

Health & Wellness Corner

"The Happiest Vaccine on Earth" by Mark Leanhart, Program Director, Fresno Admissions/ Adult Outpatient



"As August is back to school month, it is also National Immunization Awareness Month. While some states have religious and other Exemptions, all 50 states have

mandatory requirements for children entering public schools. There have been controversies over vaccinations due to parents' fears that vaccinations could be linked to cognitive or developmental disorders like autism, though this belief has been debunked."

(Continued from Page 4) “Additionally, the impetus to vaccinate is not the same as earlier times when illnesses resulted in deaths in huge numbers in populations worldwide. Another area for concern is that with worldwide travel so accessible, illnesses can travel just as quickly. One such related outbreak in 2015 involved measles at Disneyland and another California theme park that quickly spread to over 59 cases in three states in people ranging from seven months to 70 years old. A lack of vaccinations was attributed to 39 of those.

I have included a link to the cons to vaccination in the last reference below, but want to focus on the following pros of vaccination listed in the article:

- Vaccines can save children's' lives and the ingredients in vaccines are safe in the amounts used.
- Major medical orgs state vaccines are safe and adverse reactions are extremely rare.
- Vaccines protect the herd, protect future generations and save children and their parents' time and money.
- Vaccines eradicated smallpox and have nearly eradicated other diseases such as polio.
- Vaccine-preventable diseases have not yet disappeared so vaccination is still necessary.
- Vaccines provide an economic benefit for society.

So, this August while preparing your children for school and yourself for another year of health and well-being of body and mind, do some research and have an open conversation with your doctor to gain greater awareness regarding immunization.” - **Mark Leanhart, Program Director, Fresno Admissions/ Adult Outpatient**

References:

- 1) <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/laws/state-reqs.html>
- 2) <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2015/01/22/379072061/disneyland-measles-outbreak-hits-59-cases-and-counting>
- 3) <https://vaccines.procon.org/>

Kudos!

Caroline Casarez, Lead Counselor, Fresno Outpatient

We'd like to congratulate Caroline for receiving the May 2019 CORE (Characteristics Of Remarkable Employees) Award for Leadership for being a shining star within her program and out!



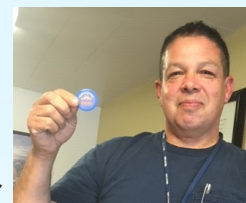
Gabriela McNiell, Director of Marketing



Our Housing Services Community Coordinator, Chelsey, recently presented our Director of Marketing, Gabriela, with a staff recognition token for acting quick to resolve a late night lodging mix-up while in D.C. for a conference! Thank you, Gabriela, for your quick thinking and concern for the safety of your fellow staff!

Steve Rodriguez, Men's SOD, MLK Residential

“Steve received a token for assisting his peers in diffusing an altercation with a client. He was able to stay calm in responding in the safest way possible. He is proactive, a team player and communicates well with his peers in the units. You can always count on Steve to go the extra mile when helping his peers!” – **Jenny Magdaleno, Program Director, MLK Residential**



William “Joe” Sullivan, Warden, CCI



Our SUDT staff at the California Correctional Institution recently presented a token to CCI Warden, William “Joe” Sullivan, for his regular support of the program and those that they serve!

Veronica Pina, PLO Case Manager, Housing

While working with the Fresno PD, Jenifer, Case Manager with our HDAP program, was told about all of the great work that our Project LiftOFF Case Manager, Veronica has done in assisting all of her clients' housing needs. Upon getting back to the office, she presented Veronica with a token for her stellar work!



Send Your Content to the Loop!



Michael Mygind,
Marketing Specialist
and Gabriela
Espinosa-McNiell,
Director of Marketing

The Loop newsletter wouldn't be possible without the regular submissions that we receive from staff! Whether it's a success story or an event, we'd love to see it! Please send any high-quality pictures (Non-identifying if of clients) and a brief summary to:

gabriela.mcniell@westcare.com
michael.mygind@westcare.com

Program Directory

Administration

Fresno Office

1900 N. Gateway Blvd, Suite 100
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 251-4800

Services: Management, Administrative Support, Human Resources, Accounting/Billing, Contract Compliance, IT Support, Marketing/Media, Procurement, Creative Services



Treatment and Rehabilitation

Liberty Plaza (Sober Living)

4605 E. Liberty Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 237-3420 Ext. 20367

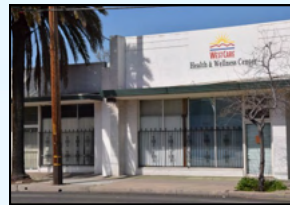
Services: Sober Living for Women



Belmont Health & Wellness

611 E. Belmont Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 237-3420

Services: Admissions, Adult Outpatient Program, Behavior Education And Treatment (BEAT)



MLK Residential

2772 S. MLK Blvd
Fresno, CA 93706
(559) 265-4800

Services: Residential Drug Medi-Cal for Men and Women, Residential Treatment Program for Women and Children (M'ella), Residential Treatment Program for Men and Children: Papa Natal



Mental Health and Wellness



Crisis Psychiatric Response

Services (CPRS)

209 E. 7th St.
Madera, CA 93638
(559) 673-3508

Services: Service coordination to adults receiving services from designated hospital emergency departments within Madera County who are deemed appropriate for an assessment for involuntary psychiatric treatment pursuant to California Welfare and Institutions Code 5150.



Support & Overnight Stay (SOS)

2772 S. MLK Blvd
Fresno, CA 93706
(559) 512-6802

Services: Provides a safe, supportive environment to spend the night for individuals who arrive at an ER with a mental health condition needing services that don't require a legal hold, Case Management and transportation to ensure client engagement with outpatient mental health services, Linkages to wrap-around services.

Education and Prevention

The Living Room

901 E. Belmont
Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 486-1469

Services: Case Management, Hot Meals Program, Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA), Free HIV and HCV Testing, Linkage to Medical Care, Social and Group Support Meetings



McKinney Plaza (Sober Living)

1388 & 1398 E. Bulldog Ln
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 237-3420 Ext. 20367

Services: Sober Living for Men



Day Reporting Center

609 E. Belmont Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 237-3420

Services: Drop-in services for Parolees including vocational assistance and linkage to treatment.



WestCare Adolescent Services

410 E. 7th St, Suite 7
Hanford, CA 93230
(559) 584-8100

Services: Adolescent Outpatient Drug-Free Program



Bakersfield Residential

2901 S. H Street
Bakersfield, CA 93304
(661) 398-4303

Services: Men's Long-term Residential, Adult Outpatient Program



SOS Specialty MH Clinic

3636 N. First St., Suite 123
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 512-6802

Services: Provides a supportive drop-in environment for individuals referred by Emergency Room Departments with access to support groups, clinicians and case management services.

Veterans Services

San Joaquin Valley Veterans (SJVV)

Services: Drop-In and Ancillary Services, Supportive Services For Veteran Families (Services provided to Veterans through SSVF include: Short-term case management, legal assistance, housing counseling services and placement assistance, financial planning services, financial assistance for move in, eviction prevention, utilities, transportation, childcare and emergency supplies.)



Hanford

410 E. 7th St
Suites 5 and 9
Hanford, CA 93230
(559) 584-8100



Fresno

1505 N. Chestnut
Fresno, CA 93703
(559) 255-8838



Merced

399 George Drive
Building F
Merced, CA 95341
(209) 722-3501 Ext. 145



Stockton

2291 W. March Lane
Suite C-100
Stockton, CA 95207
(209) 662-6073

Veterans Plaza

119 N. Calaveras
Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 241-8751

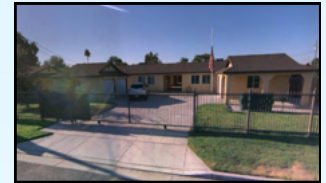
Services: Transitional housing for male Veterans for up to two years, case management, Veterans Safeway to Work Program (VSWP)



HomeFront

3636 E. Eugenia Ave.
Fresno, CA 93725
(559) 266-1169

Services: Transitional housing for female Veterans with/without children for up to two years, case management



Criminal Justice

Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming (STOP)

Services: Case management, treatment placement in residential, outpatient and sober living, domestic violence education, vocational training, pre-employment, job placement services and transportation from prison to treatment.

Area 1



Chico

2585 Ceanothus Ave.
Suite 170
Chico, CA 95973
(530) 830-1180



North Highlands

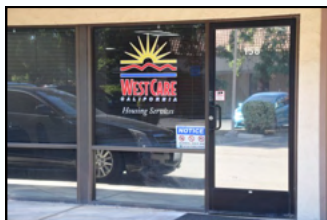
4612 Roseville Rd.
Suite 112
N. Highlands, CA 95660
(916) 564-4400

Housing Opportunities

Housing Services

1900 N. Gateway Blvd, Suite 158
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 241-8753 Ext. 21230

Services: Assistance with supportive housing to families who are currently or chronically homeless, Project LiftOff, HDAP (Housing and Disability Advocacy Program), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR).



Area 3



Bakersfield

2901 S. H St.
Bakersfield, CA 93304
(661) 326-0485



Fresno

5014 E. University Blvd.
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 214-0264



Stockton

2291 W. March Lane
Suite C-100
Stockton, CA 95207
(209) 662-6073

Criminal Justice *(Continued from Page 7)*

Custody to Community Transitional Reentry Program (CCTRP)

Services: Provides treatment services to female inmates (112 in San Diego, 50 in Stockton) who have a minimum of 45 day and a maximum of 2 years left on their sentence. We provide an array of gender responsive trauma informed services including substance abuse, mental health, domestic violence, education, vocational and employment readiness.



San Diego

3050 Armstrong St.
San Diego, CA 92111
(619) 359-8266



Stockton

1609 N. Wilson Way
Stockton, CA 95205
(209) 642-8488

Single-Level Cognitive Behavioral Treatment

(CBT) Substance Use Disorder Treatment

(SUDT) Program - Men's Services:

Provides Cognitive Behavioral Treatment (CBT) to offenders utilizing a therapeutic community approach and evidence-based curricula and interventions. The program seeks to teach and support participants in generating alternative solutions and adopting pro-social, law-abiding lifestyles. Curriculum includes Substance Use Disorder Treatment, Criminal Thinking, Anger Management and Family Relationships.

Men's In-Prison Rehabilitative Cognitive Behavioral Treatment (CBT) Program:

Provides Cognitive Behavioral Treatment (CBT) to offenders utilizing a therapeutic community approach and evidence-based curricula and interventions. The program seeks to teach and support participants in generating alternative solutions and adopting pro-social, law-abiding lifestyles. Curriculum includes Substance Use Disorder Treatment, Criminal Thinking, Anger Management and Family Relationships.



Pelican Bay State Prison (PBSP)

5905 Lake Earl Drive
Crescent City, CA 95531
(707) 465-1000 Ext. 7530

Multi-Level Program - Men's Services: Serves Long Term Male Offenders through their Long Term Offender Program (LTOP) who will not be released in the near future. Provides Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and multi-level evidence-based Substance Use Disorder Treatment (SUDT) with curriculum on substance abuse, criminal thinking, anger management and family relationships programming for male inmates who are high-risk offenders as well as reentry services.



CA Men's Colony (East and West)

CA Highway 1 North
San Luis Obispo, CA 93409
(805) 547-7900 Ext. 7878



Wasco State Prison (WSP)

701 Scofield Avenue,
Wasco, CA 93280
(661) 758-8400 Ext 6181

Single-Level Substance Use Disorder Treatment (SUDT) Program - Men's

Services: Provides evidence-based SUDT programming to male inmates who are high-risk offenders.

Multi-Level Substance Use Disorder Treatment (SUDT) Program - Men's Services: Provides multi-level evidence-based SUDT substance abuse, criminal thinking, anger management and family relationships programming for male inmates who are high-risk offenders.



Valley State Prison (VSP)

21633 Ave. 24
Chowchilla, CA 93610
(559) 665-6100



Sierra Conservation Center (SCC)

5100 O'Byrnes Ferry Rd.
Jamestown, CA 95327
(209) 984-5291 Ext 5637



CA Correctional Institution (CCI)

24900 Highway 202
Tehachapi, CA 93561
(661) 822-4402 Ext 4503



California State Prison - Corcoran (CSP - COR)

4001 King Avenue
Corcoran, CA 93212
(559) 992-8800 Ext. 5106

Would you like your program featured in the WestCare Loop?

Please send all content to gabriela.mcniel@westcare.com and michael.mygind@westcare.com