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FOCIS NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2016



MEET REHA BROWN from TANIF!

Hello, and thank you for sharing this information, tell us a little about yourself.

My name is Rhea Brown, I am the Site Manager for California Tribal TANF Partnership (CTTP) here in Oroville California. I have been with this company for 7 years and have enjoyed working with the tribal community and am happy to serve our tribal people.

What is TANF and what do they do?

California Tribal TANF Partnership is a federal and state funded agency that aims to assist Native American Families in need. We offer a variety of services and temporary assistance to families in Northern and Central California.

How does a new client qualify for your services?

To be eligible for CTTP programs and services, applicants must go through an in-take process. Applying for services does not guarantee approval. Applicants must reside within the county service area where CTTP has a site office. All households must have at least one eligible Indian child. Indian, meaning a member or descendant of a federally recognized tribe; individuals and/or descendants must be listed on the California Judgment Rolls.

What types of services do you provide to your clients ?

Cash Assistance

Monthly cash assistance is provided to meet a family's basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter, utilities, household goods and personal care.

MEET REHA BROWN from TANIF cont.

Supportive Services include,

Incentive for completion of vocational, certificate and licensure programs.

Bus passes or reimbursed gas mileage for work and school.

Assistance with obtaining a driver's license.

Assistance with grooming and hygiene.

Assistance with clothing for job search.

Assistance with special tools and equipment needed for work.

Clothing allowance for newly employed.

Vehicle repairs.

Youth services (grade incentives, assistance with extra-curricular activities, seasonal clothing allowance).

Subsidized youth employment program.

Career Development

Career counseling.

Interview and resume development.

Job readiness workshops.

Access to the :Career Pillar: online job mentoring program.

Education

GED preparation and testing.

Vocational resource referrals.

Higher education referrals.

Teen pregnancy Prevention

Life skills and goal-setting training.

Cultural activity.

Awareness of STDs, Hepatitis C, and HIV.

MEET REHA BROWN from TANIF cont.

Any other information that you would like people to know about?

Vision Statement:

To enhance and guide native participants through a path of education, well-ness harmonious families and cultural awareness. We strive to help them become independent and to provide a better future for themselves and their families with respect, honor and integrity.

Mission Statement:

To strengthen our native participants to lead fulfilled lives by confirming the wisdom, and spirituality rooted within their culture and traditions. We strive to offer quality services to native people with respect and accountability by practicing and encouraging tolerance, recognition and support of cultural, individual and community needs.

The Four Purposes of Tribal TANF

To provide assistance to Native American families in need so that their children may be cared for in their own homes.

End dependency of government benefits through promoting education, career development and employment preparation.

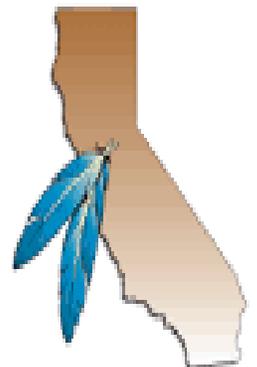
Reduce and prevent out-of-wedlock pregnancy.

Encourage healthy formation of and support for two-parent families.

Thanks so much for sharing this information with us and thanks for what you do and the service that you provide to our community !

CALIFORNIA
Tribal TANF
PARTNERSHIP

Providing educational training, career and employment
opportunities toward self-sufficiency
for Native American people in California



Torres Shelter Houses 3 Men in First Transitional Home

By *Ashiah Scharaga, Enterprise-Record*

When Daniel Cavanaugh and Robert Mulholland met at the Torres Shelter, they became fast friends, sipping coffee and sharing before starting the day.

A few months ago, the two men moved into the Torres Shelter's first transitional home, Friends House, with another man from the shelter, Andrew Philippe. They are a happy, thankful bunch.

Mulholland, 61, is a quiet grandfather with a penchant for television and the Cincinnati Bengals. Cavanaugh, 47, is a compassionate musician and cook. Philippe, 29, a Sci-Fi reader who has a knack for technology.

"I see this house as a great opportunity to be of service and to get the service I need," said Cavanaugh, who has struggled with mental illness and substance abuse. "I've spent most of my time here in Chico trying to help people who've suffered the same things as I do."

He now has a job with In-Home Supportive Services care and volunteers at the Iversen Wellness and Recovery Center, where he facilitates a music & dual recovery group.

Executive Director Brad Montgomery explained "The house's existence has been kept quiet for a year while the Torres Shelter made sure it was a viable, successful program." The two-story modest home a couple miles from Chico State University's campus was offered as a rental for the Torres Shelter by its owners, who've supported the shelter for years.

The three men pay \$350 each for rent every month and Torres Shelter monitor James Hickman lives on site as a resource and supervisor. House rules are not as stringent as shelter rules, but there are no overnight guests, curfew is at 10:30 p.m. and renters are required to continue working on their case plans. The house is Dry, like the shelter, which means it does not allow drugs or alcohol.

Every renter can stay two years maximum at Friends House. At that time, they need to have permanent housing elsewhere.

The housing process is competitive. Hopefuls fill out an application and create a budget, and are then chosen after review by staff and Montgomery.

Montgomery said the shelter is creating an intermediate stage for the statistically largest homeless population: single men. The only other transitional housing opportunity for single men in Chico is offered through Stairways Programming, and it is not exclusively for single men or single men with children, like Friends House.

Torres Shelter Houses 3 Men cont.

“We need more options like this in the community,” he said. “(It’s) going to be a place that’s safe and gives people an opportunity for them to help themselves. They work if you care enough about people and have some accountability for it.”

Though Hickman is the house supervisor, he is just as much a part of the motley family; in on all the house jokes from failing pilot lights to those about the television show “Dexter.”

Hickman was homeless in the 1980s and has worked for the Torres Shelter for 10 years. He proudly reports that he has been sober for 27 years.

He said the men are laying the groundwork for Friends House and teaching him how to make a good home along the way.

“I think this is a really good stepping stone,” Hickman stated. “My hope is that we get results here and people want to come.”

The current tenants at Friends House appear to be nothing but grateful.

Mulholland said it’s a “sober and clean living environment” and the men get along really well. He thanks God for the Torres Shelter, which saved his life by getting him to the hospital when he had a stroke in the men’s wing earlier this year. He’s now on Social Security disability and often spends time with his two daughters and six grandkids.

Philippe has sought services at the Torres Shelter a few times, after living with others didn’t last long and he found himself living in a park. Now, he’s been working at Target for two years, is alcohol-free and reports that now he is getting a handle on budgeting.

“(It used to be) I get paid, money (goes) everywhere, a week later, alms for the poor,” he said. “It feels good having a rent to pay. This is something I feel good doing.”

The roommates bond while watching shows like “Breaking Bad” and dining together. They had a Thanksgiving feast with a 26-pound turkey shortly after they settled in. They still have frozen stew left in the freezer, cook Cavanaugh said with a smile.

“It’s been good,” he said. “Stable,” Philippe added.

Cavanaugh and Mulholland can now sip coffee and chat comfortably in their home. They can even offer a cup or two as hosts to a guest who happens to stop by, which gives them a sense of pride.

Chico State Fraternity Advocates for Human Trafficking Victims

By **Dani Anguiano**, *Chico Enterprise-Record* www.chicoer.com

A Chico State University fraternity has become the first Greek organization on the West Coast to be a certified human trafficking Safe Haven.

But that doesn't mean victims of human trafficking will be staying at the Alpha Sigma Phi house or receiving treatment there. Instead as a recognized safe haven the fraternity is trained to educate the community, provide information about human trafficking and recognize potential victims.

"It essentially just means that our chapter is educated and trained on the issue of human trafficking and know how to identify it when we see it, and it means we can point victims in the right direction for how to receive help," the fraternity's former president Sam Franzoia said. Franzoia's term as president ended last week, but he led a training based on material from the Global Peace Foundation on Saturday for 35 members of Alpha Sigma Phi.

The fraternity spent four hours learning about human trafficking, including how to recognize it and talk to potential victims. The group came up with the idea of taking on an important issue at a retreat earlier this year, Franzoia said.

"We decided we wanted to do something major about changing the status quo of what it means to be a fraternity," Franzoia said. "We want to show people it's about more than just partying; its about making a difference on a greater level."

The group is recognized as a human trafficking safe haven by the Global Peace Foundation, a Maryland-based international nonprofit dedicated to; "an innovative, values-based approach to peacebuilding, guided by the vision of one family under God," according to the foundation website. The foundation has numerous programs, including the Interfaith Alliance to Abolish Human Trafficking, or the Safe Haven Campaign.

The University of Maryland chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi was the first Greek organization in the country to be a recognized safe haven, according to Franzoia.

Alpha Sigma Phi at CSU Chico plan to continue advocacy for human trafficking awareness with outreach campaigns and by collaborating with local organizations. Alpha Sigma Phi hopes to spread information about this issue by distributing fliers throughout the campus and downtown, according to Franzoia.

HAPPENINGS

ANGER MANAGEMENT GROUP

Wednesdays, 6-7:30pm. Co-ed six week group, start date contingent upon sign-ups. must be a FRTH registered patient. Full attendance required for a certificate. \$40 fee for non-native clients. (No couples & NOT for Court Mandates). Contact Tom @ 532-6811, ex 270

POSITIVE PARENTING & POSITIVE PARENTING OF TEENS

is done on an individual basis as space and time allow. \$30 fee for non-native clients. For info or sign up, Contact Mark @ 532-6811 ex 249.

FOCIS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP

Women's Support Group Tuesdays 3 p.m. to 5p.m. Self-validation & processing of abusive relationships. Intake assessments must be done before entry into the group. For info, contact Brittany@ FOCIS PROGRAM, 532-6811 ex 270.

[NEW GROUP]

BRAVE AT HEART CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

For anyone who has been touched by Cancer Meetings every 3rd Wednesday starting Feb 17th 2016 6:30 to 7:30 pm Call Ashley, 532-6811 ex.272

GUYS TAKE CHARGE GROUP

Thursday afternoons, 3:30 to 4:30 Guys from 10 to 13 are invited For info or sign-up call Ashley, 532-6811 ex 272

THURSDAY CRAFT GROUP

Explore both Modern & Traditional forms of beadwork. Thursday afternoons from 3:00pm to 5:00pm in the South Conference room, call Mark @ 532-6811 ex 249. for info or sign up.

RED ROAD TO WELLBRIETY MEETING

For those that have suffered alcoholism and drug addiction and other forms of self-defeating behaviors, you can walk the 12 steps of the Red Road to recovery.

WEEKLY MEETINGS ON WEDNESDAY @ 6.00 PM

@ FEATHER RIVER TRIBAL HEALTH

530-534-5394

LOCAL DV SERVICES

FOCIS PROGRAM SERVICES

Advocacy Services, Restraining Order assistance, court accompaniment, Community education and in-service training, Crisis intervention services, Women's Talking Circles, Resource information & referral service. Feather River Tribal Health 530-534-5394 ext. 270

Catalyst DV Services

24-hour hotline for DV intervention & referrals, Emergency Shelter, Children's Program at HAVEN, Transitional Housing & Household establishment Drop-in centers, Individual counseling, Support groups, Restraining Order assistance & Court Accompaniment, Community Outreach. 24-Hour Hotline 800-895-8476 Oroville Drop-in Center 530-532-6427

SHARP (Self Help and Referral Program)

Self Help center that provides general assistance to people who do not have attorneys. Assistance is provided in the areas of family law, guardianships, evictions, small claims, name changes, and restraining orders. 1675 Montgomery Street Oroville, 530-532-7015



This project was supported by the Grant no.2013-WF-AX-0025 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), U.S. Department of Justice, and through Grant Award Number DS13041680 from the California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA). The points of view, opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibit are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice or of Cal EMA. Cal EMA reserves a royal-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable license to reproduce, publish, and the use materials and to authorize others to do so.