

Understanding Data & Gaps in Mental Health Among the Latino Community

Connections, a family support program of Sandhills Center in collaboration with NC Families United, is sponsoring a program called Understanding Data & Gaps in Mental Health Among the Latino Community. The objective is to learn about access to mental health care for the Latino population and how to inform and improve service delivery and support to the Latino community. Lunch and resources will be provided at no cost.

The presenters are team members of Alianza – Center for Prevention Services from Charlotte (preventionservices.org/alianza) - Ricardo Torres, Jessica Montana, Fabbiana Gutierrez and Denise Sanchez. The guest speaker will be speaking on the topic of how mental health services affect the Latino community. They will discuss the data and gaps in mental health among the Latino community compared to others, and how to improve service delivery and support to the Latino community.

Mr. Torres is from Puerto Rico, but has lived in Charlotte since 1982. He is currently serving on the board as Vice-Chair of Alianza with the Center for Prevention Services in Charlotte. He has developed two programs, one of which was awarded 4H's National Program of the Year. He has served the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department's Gang of One Program as a Gang Intervention Case Manager and currently spend full time with Cardinal Innovations Healthcare as a Member Engagement Specialist.

Ms. Montana is currently the Latino Program Manager at the Center for Prevention Services, overseeing the Latino Program Department and the Alianza Latino Drug Free Coalition. She has experience implementing policies, systems and environmental level initiatives through her work with the CDC-funded Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) grant. She received her Master of Public Health in Community Health Education from the CUNY School of Public Health in New York City and is a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES).

Ms. Gutierrez is from Ecuador, but has lived in Charlotte since 2005. She earned her BA degrees in International Studies and Dual Languages (Spanish & Chinese) from Queens University of Charlotte. As Alianza Coordinator, she supports the work of the executive team and coalition to prevent substance misuse among Latino youth and families in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg area.

Ms. Sanchez, born in Santa Barbara, CA, is of Mexican descent and has lived most of her life in Charlotte. She received her BS in Biology at UNC-Charlotte. As Alianza Youth Coordinator, she mentors, guides and teaches the youth. She has been a math and science tutor for the last four years.

Family members, providers, and professionals, such as teachers, social workers, case managers, therapists, and court counselors are encouraged to attend. Space is limited, so please call to register in advance and no later than July 23rd. Resources and lunch will be provided at no charge.

The program will take place on Thursday, July 26, from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Hampton B. Allen Library in Wadesboro. Space is limited and registration is required by July 23. To register, contact Suzanne Maness, Family Advocate, toll free at 877-211-5995 or email connectionsfsp@gmail.com.

BRLC Being Restored Under the Stars Family Affair

Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center will kick off the summer with once a month evening events. The monthly outside activities are called 'Being Restored under the Stars,' and they will consist of music, good food, different beverages and multiple games of Bingo and shopping for the entire family. The events will take place on Saturday, June 16, Saturday, July 21 and Saturday, August 18.

This time of joy and restoration is geared to the entire family. The kick off times will be at 7 p.m. and will conclude at 10 p.m.

Please bring your lawn or folding chairs and blankets. The music will consist of praise, traditional gospel, country and more. BRLC always accepts donations. Each donation is tax exempt.

If you are an individual performer, a local band or singing group and you would like to participate in one of the events, call 704-826-8737. The BRLC office is open Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. BRLC continues to thank all of you for the support you have given in order that they can help others.

BRLC is located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department. The telephone number is 704-826-8737.

Market on Market this Saturday in Cheraw!

Market on Market will be this Saturday, July 21, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in downtown Cheraw. The family friendly monthly event features art, produce, food and entertainment from the Third Saturday of each month from May through October. Local farmers on the Cheraw's Farmer Market will bring their produce to the downtown area for purchase. That Bubble Guy returns from 9 a.m. until noon. Free art activities begin at 10 a.m. until 12 noon for attendees.

A variety of food items will be available for purchase from restaurants. River's Edge will have their famous home churned ice cream and chicken salad at the restaurant. The Wine Factory will be open for brunch 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The Cheraw Merchants Association will present Ping Pong Ball Toss during the Market. The toss will be at 11 a.m. at the Theatre on the Green area. Participants can vie for gift certificates and prizes from local merchants.

Contact the Cheraw Arts Commission for additional information about the Market event. The office number is 843.537.8420 x 12.

Young at Art...Kid's Art Class in July

Join us for Young at Art...Kid's Art Class - Mexican Vihuelas and Maracas on Tuesday, July 24 at the Cheraw Arts and Learning Center. Participants ages 5 & up will create artwork inspired by Mexican instruments. The Mexican Vihuela is a guitar-like string instrument from 19th century Mexico, and Maracas are percussion instruments.

Artist Sara Ingram will provide instruction for the 10 a.m. to 12 noon class. Supplies and snacks will be included in the \$16 fee.

The art class correlates with the *Tinsel Town* Tuesday outdoor movie that will be featured that evening. (July 24) The animated movie selection features young Miquel who aspires to be a musician.

The free family night movie activities start at 7:30 p.m. outside the Theatre on the Green, and the free movie begins at dusk. First Baptist Church will provide complimentary popcorn. Families are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, blankets and snacks.

In case of inclement weather, the movie will be inside the Theatre. Contact the Cheraw Arts Commission 843.537.8420 x 12 for additional information about the movie and preregister for the art class.



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Community Medical, PA of Marshville and Dr. Gary Henry would like to announce the addition of Brandi Thomas, FNP-C, Family Nurse Practitioner to the practice.

As a Union County native, Brandi looks forward to meeting the healthcare needs of her community. Dr. Henry will continue to serve his community, providing the same quality care he has for over 26 years.

Brandi's background is in primary care, chronic disease management, diabetes management/education, hypertension, long term care and aesthetics. She is a Business Management graduate of Wingate University, and has a Masters in Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner from UNCC.

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