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Alum Rock Counseling Center

CEO Corner

by Patricia Chiapellone, ARCC Chief Executive Officer

"The best endings are the ones that lead to new beginnings "
~ Mathangi Subramanian

As the fiscal year is coming to a close at Alum Rock Counseling Center (ARCC), it is a time to reflect on what has been accomplished over the past year, as well as a time to plan and look forward to what is coming in the new fiscal year.

In April, our **Unmasking the Potential in Today's Youth Luncheon** was a huge success. It was moved this year to the Mexican Heritage Plaza, which reflects the culture of the majority of our clients and our staff. The two student speakers from the Ocala Middle School Mentoring & Support Program Rudy Martinez and William Bernabe, touched the audience when they told their stories of how ARCC made a difference in their life. Instead of the drugs, alcohol and gang life the boys were headed towards, they are now looking forward to going to college in the future and are working on a plan to get there. An end to one life and the beginning of another, it doesn't get much better than this!

Additionally, we were proud to honor Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco and Community Volunteer and Philanthropist Girish Shah as our 2016 Super Role Models, and Jolene Smith, CEO First 5 Santa Clara County as our 2016 Community Hero awardee. Each of these individuals in their own way helps to make new beginnings not just possible for Rudy and William, but for countless others in our community.

Currently the Ocala Middle School Mentoring & Support Program serves 90 at-risk children at Ocala Steam Academy. We are in the process of seeking funding to expand the program to another middle school in a high need area which will gradually serve 90 more at-risk children. It is very fulfilling to see kids like Rudy who

children's services
Veronica Gamboa
prevention & early intervention
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prevention & early intervention
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mobile crisis response &
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will graduate middle school this year; go on to high school with the tools he has learned in our program to stay on track, and out of trouble and start to fulfill his dreams. It is also exciting to see how much William will grow in another year in the program, and be a leader for the 30 new 6th graders who will enter this year. ARCC's continuum of care has expanded this year to 13 separate programs which includes three new ones. As detailed below:

- **School Linked Services** - which uses practices that are proven to make a positive impact on students and their families, behavioral support services for students, parent support services, student and family therapy, and connection to resources. It serves children and youth 6-21 years old.
- **Outpatient Services** - A clinic based program which serves youth with serious emotional disorders, including mood, severe anxiety, history of depression, and trauma-based disorders. Youth may need psychiatry or medication support. The population served is youth ages 6-17 who meet medical necessity and have long term needs.
- **Therapeutic Behavioral Services** - TBS services are available for youth who need behavioral support in addition to other mental health services they are receiving. TBS's goal is to help youth avoid being placed in a higher level of care. The population TBS serves is youth under the age of 21 who have a primary existing specialty mental health service and require additional behavioral support.

With the addition of Chris Park, Director of QA and Outcomes and Michelle Coufal, Outcomes and Evaluations Manager, our data gathering and analyzing has improved this year and will allow us to be more intentional about connecting out clients' needs to the capacity of our various programs.

As this year comes to end, we are very proud to have delivered a full complement of behavioral health services to 3,700 children and their families at our clinic, in their homes, school and community. We look forward to helping more children reach their potential in the coming year.



Thank you,

Patricia Chapeelone

2016 Annual Fundraising Luncheon Recap!

"Each one of us can make a difference. Together we make change."

~ Barbara Mikulski



Perfect weather, beautiful venue, great food, good friends, extremely generous guests and inspiring youth speakers made the 2016 Annual Fundraising Luncheon held on April 7, 2016 a complete success. We raised over \$50,000 towards helping the many youth of our community discover their true potential through counseling, mentoring, education and case management services.

We were proud to recognize three community role models and heroes for their leadership and dedication to the youth we serve. This year, we honored City Councilmember, District 5, Magdalena Carrasco and Community Volunteer and Philanthropist, Girish Shah as our 2016 Super Role Models. Their tremendous contribution and support of children and youth in our community is truly inspirational.

Additionally, this year we honored Jolene Smith, CEO First 5 Santa Clara County as our first ever Community Hero. Her support has been imperative to the success and growth of ARCC and for that she is our Community Hero.

A huge and heartfelt THANK YOU to:

Our Emcee - Guiselle Nuñez.

The Voice of San Jose - Angela Tirado for sharing your voice with us.

Our Sponsors for supporting our mission, you make a difference in the lives of the youth we serve.

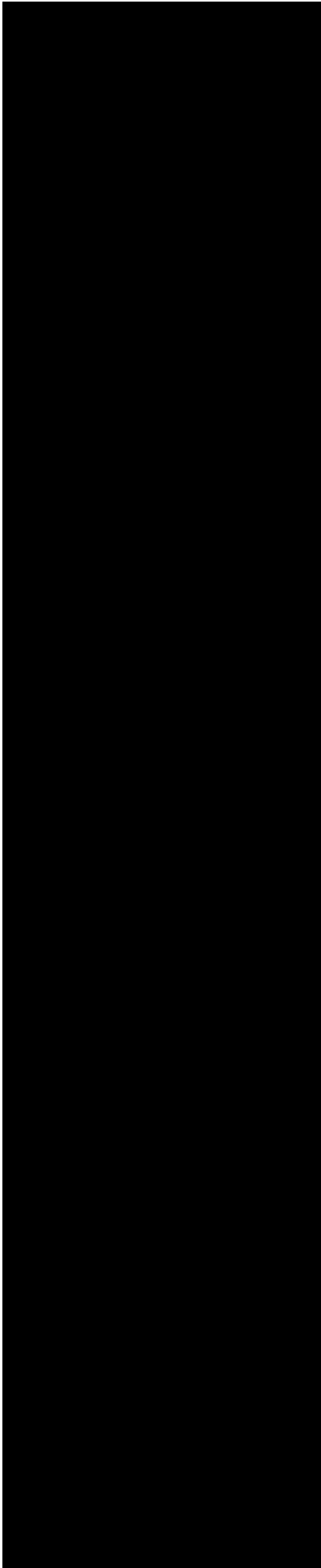
Our Event Committee: Anna Cruz, Meri Maben, Nivisha Mehta, Rupali Jain, Melinda Chacon, Alma Mora, Patricia Chiapellone, and Celia Moreton, who met for many hours to plan a meaningful and successful event. Thank you.

Our Board Members for your outstanding service and dedication to the mission of ARCC.

Our guests who came to our Annual Fundraising Luncheon, we thank you!

And specially, we thank:

Our Youth Speakers, who courageously shared their stories of success and triumph.





For more event pictures visit the ARCC [Facebook](#) page.

Together For Our Families

At ARCC we recognize that partnerships are important and crucial to our success and that of our families, in fact our mission states: "As partnerships are essential to our success, we will continue to build lasting connections with local schools, mental and physical healthcare systems and other providers. On May 19, the Contra Costa Parents of Multiples held their Annual Bingo Night where they collected household items for one of our families consisting of dad and three children who is currently undergoing hardship after the death of mom through violent circumstances.

The children are receiving counseling and coping services through our First 5 and Prevention and Early Intervention services. However, this family was in immediate need of household supplies. Because of partnerships and the support of our community

Again, THANK YOU to the Contra Costa Parents of Multiples for their support!



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: School Linked Services Program

We are thrilled to add several programs to our continuum of care this year. In particular, we are excited about the School-Linked Services (SLS) Program which provides school-based services (and community-based in the summer) to heal and strengthen students and families by addressing the needs and risks faced by youth from ages 6-21 years old.

This particular SLS program provides students with the services and support they need at elementary and middle schools in the Alum Rock Union School District and the Mt. Pleasant Elementary School District. We also provide parenting support, along with case management and resource assistance if needed to connect to other community programs.

This program, in partnership with the schools, will ensure that children are ready to enter school, attend school consistently, and get them actively involved in learning and in their community.

The SLS program aims to increase family engagement with their schools and communities, to make it easier to be involved in their child's education.

Funding for this exciting new program is provided by Santa Clara County. Having on-site, school-based counseling services is crucial in the community, as many students and families would not be able to receive services if only provided in the clinic. Ultimately, the goal of this program is to see students succeed

academically, be physically, socially, and emotionally healthy, live and learn in safe, supportive and stable environments.

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AREAS OF IMPACT

Alum Rock Counseling Center will work to ensure that:

1. Our youth and families have resources for overcoming behavioral health concerns including substance use and mental health challenges.
2. All of our kids are kindergarten ready.
3. Our youth graduate from middle school, high school and beyond.
4. Our youth and families are free from dependency on the justice and/or social services systems.
5. Our homes, schools and neighborhoods are safe - free of violence and dangerous behaviors.

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