Socios for Success: Professional Development Trainings

Socios for Success, Redwood City 2020's family engagement initiative, recently hosted four professional development workshops designed for practitioners working with youth and/or their parents and caregivers to maximize their family engagement practices.

To accommodate a broad audience and different partner's schedules, each of the two sessions were hosted twice. The first session focused on building attendees' effective communication strategies for working with parents and caregivers and the second session explored ways of building authentic partnerships by sharing power.

In total there were 42 attendees, with a wide range of community organizations represented. Participants were engaged and several showed great enthusiasm by staying after the sessions to brainstorm how they could implement their newly acquired skills in their work. Indeed, attendees left the sessions with concrete and practical strategies to increase high quality family engagement and to partner up with families to unite for students' success.

Recognizing the OYE Latinx Youth Conference and St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room as Welcoming Stars

At the Monday, June 24th City Council meeting, the OYE Latinx Youth Conference and St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room were presented the Welcoming Star award by Redwood City Together and the City of Redwood City. The Welcoming Star Award recognizes programs in the Redwood City and North Fair Oaks community that create a welcoming environment including treating everyone who lives, works, studies and visits Redwood City and North Fair Oaks with inclusion, understanding, and respect.

To watch the Welcoming Stars receive their recognition at the City Council meeting, click here.
recognition, for the OYE Latinx Youth Conference, representatives, including the OYE Planning Committee, Subcommittee leads, Co-conveners and participating youth, were present to receive the award and shared information and highlights about the OYE Conference.

OYE first started in 2010 at the Fair Oaks Community Center organized by volunteers from the community and local community agencies. It has grown over the past 8 years as a youth and adult led initiative and now serves more than 350 youth/young adults and parents in Redwood City and North Fair Oaks and other San Mateo County communities.

The OYE conference makes our community more welcoming for all by creating a space where youth feel welcomed and safe to explore and express their identities; discover and deepen their areas of passion and interests; and find supports to pursue their goals for the future.

Community members can support the OYE Latinx Youth Conference by volunteering either on the day of the next conference or in pre-event planning and by becoming a sponsor. OYE is an all-volunteer effort and costs for this free conference are covered through financial sponsorship.

To learn more about the most recent OYE Latinx Youth Conference visit the OYE Facebook page or view their informational video here.

St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room

During the Welcoming Star award recognition, for St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room, Advisory Council Chair, Jim Bramlett and Manager of Operations, Max Torres, were present to receive the award and shared more information about the Dining Room.

Guided by a mission to feed and clothe everyone while treating them with dignity and respect, St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room is a welcoming center offering free hot, nutritious meals, take home groceries, clothing, and other services to everyone, especially those living nearby in North Fair Oaks, Redwood City, and other surrounding communities.

The Dining Room began in 1974 as a Sunday meal program for low income seniors, but quickly expanded to provide a hot meal six days a week, Monday through Saturday, to everyone who comes through its doors. Their all-volunteer team now serve up to 500 free meals a day, give away 3,000 clothing items each month, and have a Public Health Nurse on-site to provide health consultation, referrals and seasonal flu shots.

Community members can support St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room through volunteering their time and talent to prepare and serve meals. They can also donate food, clothing, or cash to support the operational needs of St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room throughout the year.

To learn more about St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room, visit the Padua Dining Room website or view a video on the services they provide.