

# MEETING NOTES



## KINGS PARTNERSHIP

### KPFP Monthly Meeting

September 15, 2022

1:00pm-3:00pm

*Koinonia Church*

12536 Hanford Armona Rd, Hanford, CA 93230

[Click here](#) to view the general meeting

#### **Welcome and Introductions** *Cameron Jones, KPFP, Community Engagement Manager*

*\*Ice Breaker Question: If you had intro music that played any time you walked into a room or a meeting, that announced your entrance what song would that be?*

- *Project Room Key Event*
  - If you are interested in volunteering on Saturday, September 24th, please reach out to Aliyah Ortiz at [aliyah@kfpf.org](mailto:aliyah@kfpf.org).
- *Financial Stability Taskforce*
  - The Financial Stability Task Force will be meeting for the 1st time on Monday, October 3rd at 1pm via Zoom. If you are interested in volunteering please reach out to Aliyah Ortiz at [aliyah@kfpf.org](mailto:aliyah@kfpf.org).
- *Paint Night Fundraiser*
  - Kings Partnership is hosting a Halloween Themed Paint Night Fundraiser at the Kings Art Center on Wednesday, October 19th from 5:00pm-7:00pm. We will be having snacks, refreshments, a Halloween Costume contest, and giveaways. Tickets will be sold on Eventbrite for \$30.00.

#### ***About our presentation:***

The substance Use Prevention Workgroup will be going over trends in Kings County, teen usage trends, risk factors, prescription drugs myths, and lived experience testimonials. The SUP Workgroup will also provide ways that you can help those you love in their recovery journey, how you can help in our community, and more.

#### **Substance Use Prevention Panel**

[Click here](#) to view the Substance Use Prevention Panel



## **About our Panelists :**

### **Jessika Schneider**

#### **Outpatient Program Manager, Champions**

*Jessika has been in the field of addiction for 10 and a half years. After receiving her Bachelors in Human Services from the University of Phoenix, she went on to work at WestCare Fresno's Residential Program where she worked with women and children. She obtained her registration as a substance use disorder intern and moved from monitor to the Family Service Specialist. After she obtained her certification she then moved on to become a counselor. While working at WestCare, she also was working on her Master's in Business Administration. In 2018, she was hired on at Turning Point Visalia Re-Entry (residential) as a Supervising Counselor, after being in this role for a short time she was then transitioned to Program Director. Few years later she transitioned to her current role as the Outpatient Services Program Manager at Champions Recovery here in Hanford.*

### **Sara Florez**

#### **West Care, Program Coordinator**

*Sara Florez is the Program Coordinator for WestCare Adolescent Services in Hanford, Ca. She graduated from COS in 2015 with an AS degree in Human Services. After pursuing her certification in Drug and Alcohol studies in 2016, Sara began her internship at WestCare Adolescent Services (previously known as YMAX). In 2017, she was offered a full time counselor position and in 2020, was promoted to her current position as the Program Coordinator. Being in recovery herself, Sara has a passion to help young people make better choices and guide them on a path to a better future.*

### **Roni Perez**

#### **Youth Engagement Coordinator, SOL Youth Program, California Health Collaborative**

*Roni Perez is an alumnus of University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology and a minor in Labor and Workplace Studies. Roni's previous experience in social services include a mentorship program for elementary youth in Culver City, relief staff at The People's Concern Sojourn Domestic Violence shelters, and studying ABA to work with youth on the autism spectrum. During her time working for the California Health Collaborative, Roni has worked in SUD prevention across Fresno County and Kings County and had a role in the Kings County Network of Care during her time in the ACEs Aware grant. She is currently the Youth Engagement Coordinator for the SOL Youth Program at CHC. Roni is passionate about mental health advocacy and trauma-informed approaches in discussing substance use disorder prevention. Roni has led two youth coalitions, one currently in Corcoran High School, and trained high school aged youth to be empathetic leaders and advocates in their community. She has also taught evidence-based, skill building curriculum to youth and families in Corcoran along with various presentations on topics such as SUD prevention and health equity. SOL Youth is a relatively new grant and Roni is looking forward to future connections, events, youth summits, and impacting policy, environmental, and systems change in Kings County.*



**Muriel Gobe**

**Program Manager, California Health Collaborative Kings County Tobacco Control Program**

*Muriel is a Program Manager with the California Health Collaborative Kings County Tobacco Control Program. Driven by her passion, she takes pride in providing the best service possible to our local communities. As a community advocate her goals include elevating community voices and leading with a trauma informed lens. In addition to her primary job functions, Muriel has been recognized for her extraordinary commitment to youth work in Kings County, having helped establish Tobacco-Free parks in the city of Hanford.*

**Michael Dey**

**Lived Experience**

*Michael Dey is a Kings County resident who was born and raised in Lemoore. He recently graduated with honors from Fresno State with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. While at Fresno State, he also studied CBO leadership in the Humanics Program. He currently serves as the Chair for the Lemoore Planning Commission and the Kings County Behavioral Health Advisory Board. Michael also serves on the Kings County Homelessness Collaborative. Michael volunteers at Living Word Community Programs as a Substance Abuse Counselor and Lemoore Christian Aid. He serves as the grant writer and Foundation Chair for the Lemoore Rotary Club and serves as an usher at South Valley Community Church. His focus is aimed at being a resource in the community. In his spare time, he likes to read and watch documentaries.*

[Click here](#) to view the following questions that the Substance Use Prevention Panelists answered.

- 1. Why do teenagers drink alcohol or use drugs?*
- 2. How common is substance use among teens?*
- 3. What Makes You More At-Risk For Substance Abuse*
- 4. Are all drugs addictive? What makes them addictive?*
- 5. If a pregnant woman takes drugs/smokes/drinks alcohol, what happens to her Baby?*
- 6. What advice would you give a teenage student if they are worried about their friend being addicted to drugs?*
- 7. Are prescription drugs safe?*
- 8. What can a teenage student say to a friend that is offering him/her drugs?*
- 9. How can a parent identify if their teen is using drugs?*
- 10. What can parents do to prevent substance use in their household?*
- 11. If a mother abused a substance while pregnant, is her child more likely to struggle with substance use later in life?*
- 12. Can you get addicted to a substance if you do it just once?*
- 13. How do you know if someone is addicted to a substance?*



14. *Can addiction lead to mental health disorders?*
15. *What motivated you to ask for help or make a change (can you describe your “moment of clarity”?) How did you ask for help? Did you seek it or was it offered to you?*
16. *What are some of the things you typically say to a newcomer to offer them hope?*
17. *When you were starting your recovery journey, what are some things you would have wanted substance use and/or mental health professionals to know?*

## **Organization Spotlight: Substance Use Prevention Workgroup**

### ***About the Substance Use Prevention Workgroup:***

The Substance Use Prevention Workgroup is committed to reducing the powerful effects of substance use disorders on individuals and their families in Kings County through a focus on early educational events, partnership opportunities, and policy advancement.

- The Substance Use Prevention Workgroup has been participating in Back to School Night at school districts around Kings County to promote their organizations and the Substance Use Prevention Workgroup to parents, teachers, staff, and students!
- The Substance Use Prevention Workgroup is in the process of creating a committee for Red Ribbon Week where they can participate at elementary/middle school to teach students about the available resources to them.

## **Roundtable**

- Join Kings County Office of Education on Oct. 5 - 6 from 8:30 am - 3:00 pm, for the Foster and Homeless Education Summit, Transforming Lives One Student at a Time. This year's event will include two amazing keynote speakers, Manny Scott and Dee Hankins. Attendees will also be given the opportunity to participate in COPE, The Cost Of Poverty Experience; an interactive simulation that highlights the lived realities and human impact of poverty.
- SOL is in the process of establishing a youth committee for a youth summit. There will be activities, food, keynote speakers, and ways for others to get involved!
- The Source & Unidos De Salud Project are working on a Day of the Dead Celebration. It's going to be a youth oriented-planned event for the children at the ages of 13-18. The event will be on October 28th.
- Comedy Night Fundraiser - celebrate Champions 21st birthday with some good clean fun. Join them in their first ever Comedy Night with special guest Gilbert Esquivel at Koinonia (6PM-9PM) on Friday, September 30th.

## **Workgroup Highlights**

- **Substance Use Prevention** (First Wednesday, 9:00am-10:00am, via Zoom)
- **HEAL (Healthy Eating/Active Living)** (Second Wednesday, 1:00-2:00pm, via Zoom)
- **Kings County Mental Health Taskforce** (Fourth Thursday, 9:00-10:30am, via Zoom)



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*Want to join one of our workgroups? Email Aliyah at [aliyah@kpfp.org](mailto:aliyah@kpfp.org) and she will get you connected!  
Make sure your team is at the table!*

