

ADVISORY BOARD

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YouthWell

MISSION

YouthWell focuses on education, awareness, support, prevention, and early intervention, connecting youth and families to mental health and wellness resources.

Established 2016

FISCAL SPONSOR

Community Partners
Tax ID #95-4302067

February 2021

Dear YouthWell Partners,

We are coming up on YouthWell's 5 year anniversary. Many of you were at our initial meeting at the Santa Barbara Foundation in May of 2016. What has evolved is a partnership focused on prevention and early intervention (PEI) that has given us the ability to better coordinate, share best practices, leverage resources for our community, and successfully work together on local and state grants.

I am proud of the work we have done together and wanted to update everyone on changes, as well as our goals for 2021. Last spring we brought on two very part-time and committed individuals to our team, Elise Fields and Allyson Walker. We appreciate that the Mental Wellness Center stepped up as our fiscal sponsor in the beginning. Working together with the MWC, we recognized the need to move to a new fiscal sponsor to support our growth which as of December 1st is Community Partners. Based in Los Angeles, their mission is supporting projects such as YouthWell.

Our current projects are designed with input from our partners and include the Online Resource Directory & Calendar, Community Workshops for SB County, and the Partner Collaborative. In 2021, we plan to launch a Social Media Awareness Campaign focused on eliminating the stigma around mental health. In addition, we are committed to hosting a Behavioral Health Linkages Collaborative in order to work with navigators, school counselors and others that are tasked with connecting youth to services so that we can improve warm-handoffs, continue to build the online directory as a community tool, and learn from each other.

YouthWell continues to prioritize PEI. After many conversations with our partners, parents, and youth in our community, we realize we still have a lot to do together when it comes to improving systems, removing barriers, accountability to true collaboration, and connecting those in need to resources through warm handoffs. We want to work as a collaborative to be more strategic in designing programs and processes and figure out ways to partner prior to seeking funding. This [article from Mental Health America](#) addresses why PEI should be a community priority.

We did not ask for a partner membership fee in 2020 because of the pandemic however for 2021, we are asking our Partners to consider contributing to the Collaborative and the directory. Our hope is that all Partners will **complete the "Partner Commitment"** so we can continue to work together to ensure all youth have access to mental health services in Santa Barbara County. We welcome your questions and feedback. Thank you to each of you and our Advisory Board for your continued commitment.

Sincerely,



Rachael Steidl

YouthWell Executive Director

• **2021 YouthWell Partner Commitment** •

Complete **ONLINE Commitment** OR sign and email back this form to **partners@YouthWell.org**

_____ [organization], is committed to being an active PARTNER of the YouthWell Collaborative. We are committed to the vision, goals, and objectives that allow us to increase youth mental health prevention and early intervention (PEI) efforts in Santa Barbara County. We see the need for more transparency and increased communication so that we can leverage resources in order to ensure all youth have access to services.

A leader in our organization (ie: CEO/Superintendent) will attend quarterly meetings, and respond in a timely way to email communication. In order to increase communication and awareness, we will do our best to keep YouthWell updated of our organization's related activities. We will commit to disseminating relevant information (ie: monthly workshops) to staff, board members, families, and community members connected to our organization. We will ensure **our listing in the Youth & Family Mental Health and Wellness Resource Directory and the Calendar is kept updated.**

Partner Benefits: Inclusion in the online Youth & Family Mental Health and Wellness Resource Directory, inclusion if appropriate on printed Resource Flyer, opportunity for your organization's programs/events to be spotlighted on YouthWell social media and in newsletters, participation in monthly community workshops, quarterly meetings, and connection to other members. YouthWell will work with organizations on supporting their grant applications when it is appropriate.

YouthWell has a small budget to support all programs with very little overhead that is raised through grants, private donations, and business sponsorships. The goal is to have YouthWell Partners contribute financially (15% of the overall budget) \$30,000 in 2021 to specifically support the work of the Collaborative and maintaining the Online Resource Directory.

To show our commitment, our organization or school agrees to pay a YouthWell Partner Collaborative membership contribution for 2021 by March 15th (suggested amounts are below):

- \$2,500** Youth Mental Health Leader (non-profit, business, government agency)
- \$1,000** 10+ employees (non-profit, business, government agency)
- \$500** 4-9 employees (non-profit, business, government agency)
- \$150** 1-3 employees (non-profit, business, government agency) or Independent Schools
- \$_____ specify the amount you are able to contribute for 2021
- Make check payable to: **Community Partners for YouthWell**
Mail check to: **Community Partners, P. O. Box 741265, Los Angeles, CA 90074-1265**
- In addition, we will look for opportunities to include YouthWell as a partner in grants where the YouthWell initiatives will benefit the goals of our grant.
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- No thank you. Our organization is not going to be engaged as a partner with YouthWell in 2021. We will not be attending the meetings or utilizing the partner benefits listed above.
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PRINT NAME

SIGNATURE

DATE