



Village Community Resource Center

“Building A Network of Family Support”

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Our Mission, Belief, Values, Target Population, and Programs

VCRC - Who we are today in 2012

The Village Community Resource Center is a neighborhood-based program that offers a variety of supportive services, and activities for children, youth and families in a safe and nurturing environment. Our services focus on prevention, are culturally/family friendly and available in English/Spanish. VCRC provides access to community events, resources, and attention focused on improving neighborhood conditions for families in Brentwood and the surrounding communities by implementing educational, social services, and health components.

Many of the children and youth we service live in households that have several risk factors such as poverty, living in a single parent home or a multiple family home, living in a home headed by a elementary level educated parent, who are mono lingual (Spanish speaking), farm workers, some are not employed, receiving welfare benefits (or no benefits), and lack health insurance. When these vulnerable families cluster together in isolated neighborhoods, they predictably disconnect from the opportunities, networks, parenting, caregivers and other needed help to offer their children the best possible chance to succeed. Often, the end result is a community that is plagued with higher levels of crime.

VCRC is committed to Community Building. VCRC began in 1997 resulting from the shooting death of a child in Brentwood as a unique partnership between four institutional partners:

1. The City of Brentwood
2. The Brentwood and Liberty School Districts
3. The City of Brentwood Parks and Recreation Department
4. The Village Drive Community

The neighborhood Transformation/Family Development is a long-term strategy to advance the premise that children do better, when their families are strong, and families do better when they live in supportive communities. Today, we have a successful After School Academy Program that provides children with the personal attention and support they need to enhance their self-esteem, improve their academic skills, and recognize their potential as future community leaders.

VCRC Mission Statement

The Mission of Village Community Resource Center is to provide information, support and coordination of resources to empower and improve the quality of life of disadvantaged children and their families in a culturally sensitive environment.

VCRC Believes . . .

In building, solid and safe neighbor-to-neighbor connections.

That parents and other caregivers have a better chance for success when they have accessible and responsive services close to home.

In recognizing, respecting and appreciating everyone's strengths in a culturally competent and ethnically structured background.

In taking the initiative to find answers with the people we serve.

That listening is the key to compassionate understanding.

That every individual and family is unique, and therefore, realizing that flexibility and creativity are essential to best serving them.

In being an advocate for the families we serve while, empowering them to advocate for themselves toward the goal of becoming self-sufficient.

That children and youth have internal potential to become professionals in whatever field they would like to pursue. Therefore, we support and encourage their development in many different areas, such as emotionally, socially and scholastically.

That any serious effort to improve outcomes for children must support families.

That a family must have access to multiple forms of support in their own neighborhoods in order to do the best job of raising their children to be future community leaders.

VCRC Values Statement

The Village Community Resource Center values the voice of our children and strives to provide services to the community that is culturally competent and compassionate. VCRC values the impact of resident safety in Brentwood and surrounding areas by teaching our community to be responsible for their choices and showing them how to live with integrity and honesty to become proactive citizens and self-sufficient future community leaders.

VCRC values family success, which means having the opportunities, resources and support to offer children the fundamental building blocks for a good life without extra ordinary effort. To accomplish this goal, families need to live in environments that are safe, secure and responsive. Families need to be able to make a good living, build assets and live in good homes. The children need family, friends, colleagues and institutions that reinforce positive child-rearing values and messages. These families need responsive schools and support services that recognize and respect their cultures and values. The children need to have a voice in decisions that affect their families and communities.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world.”

-Margaret Mead

VCRC Target Population

Primarily underserved and disadvantaged Latino Families (but VCRC does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, gender, national origin, ethnicity, residential status, veteran states, sexual orientation or disability) in the City of Brentwood and surrounding Far East Contra Costa County neighborhoods,

Culture, language, geography, income and class often isolate this population. These vulnerable families tend to cluster together in isolated groups. They become disconnected from the opportunities, resources, and networks that parents and caregivers need to offer their children the best possible opportunity for success in life.

VCRC Programs and Services

Child and Youth Programs

After School Academy

Art and Craft Classes

Trips and Excursions

Life Skills Program (In Process)

Summer Swim Program and Classes

...additional programs in process

Parent & Child Programs

Parenting Classes (In process with the California First 5 Center)

Adult Programs

...programs in development process.

Special Community Events

Day of the Three Wise Men

Cinco de Mayo Community Festivities

Annual Fundraisers

After School Academy Award Ceremony

Health Services

A partnership with John Muir Mobile Health Clinic to offer free medical and Dental services in English and Spanish, such as physical exams, treatment, prescriptions, education and consultation to Contra Costa County residents and homeless who have no health care provider every Saturday of the month.

Social Services

Food Bank

Volunteering opportunities for youth and adults

Referral Services

...additional programs in process

Existing Collaborative Partnerships

Brentwood & Liberty Unified School District

First 5 of Contra Costa County

One Day At A Time

The Volunteer Center of East Bay

City of Brentwood

Department of Parks and Recreation

Los Medanos College

Local Businesses and Churches

California Association of Food Banks

Ongoing Activities

Board of Directors Meetings

Youth Meetings

Fund Raising Events

Program Development