Hi Friends,

Ever since 1949, **Mental Health Awareness Month** has been observed in **May** by reaching millions of people in the United States through the media, local events, and screenings. Its purpose is to educate communities about psychological disorders, while reducing the stigma that surrounds them. The month came about by presidential proclamation.

This year’s May is Mental Health Month Campaign uses the theme **B4Stage4** and focuses on how people can address their mental health early, rather than at “Stage 4” - when symptoms are more severe, and recovery a longer process:

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**Upcoming Events:**

**Ventura County**

- **Youth Council Meeting**
  - May 6
  - 3:00 – 4:30 pm
  - Human Service Agency
  - 855 Partridge Dr.
  - Ventura, CA

- **Open House**
  - Discoveries Program
  - May 14
  - 11:00 am – 2:00 pm
  - 501 Marin St. #112
  - Thousand Oaks, CA
  - Refreshments provided

- **Supported Employment Collaborative Meeting**
  - May 21
  - 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm
  - 5100 Adolfo Rd.
  - Camarillo, CA

- **Open House**
  - Discoveries Program
  - May 21
  - 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
  - 1463 E. Los Angeles Ave.
  - Simi Valley, CA
  - Refreshments provided
Celebration of Progress
May 30
11:00 am – 2:00 pm
Conejo Creek North Park (Lakeside)
1379 E. Janss Rd.
Thousand Oaks, CA
Lunch provided
RSVP to:
http://www.pathpoint.org/events/ventura-county-celebration-of-progress/

Youth Council Meeting
June 3
3:00 – 4:30 pm
Human Service Agency
855 Partridge Dr.
Ventura, CA

Los Angeles County
Vendor Fair
May 6
9:30 am-12:00 pm
Willenberg Career and Transition Center
308 Weymouth Ave.
San Pedro, CA

PathPoint Party
May 7
6:00 - 9:00pm
The Line Hotel
3515 Wilshire Blvd
Los Angeles, CA
RSVP to:
http://www.pathpoint.org/events/pathpoint-party-at-the-line-hotel/

Temple Grandin & Friends
With Special Guest James Durbin
May 20
8:00 - 9:30 pm
Club Nokia
800 W. Olympic Blvd
Los Angeles, CA

Special Olympics Summer Games
June 13 & 14
10:00 am - 3:00 pm
California State University, Long Beach
1250 Bellflower Blvd.
Long Beach, CA
Come visit PathPoint’s information booth in the Vendor Village
For over 35 years now, residential treatment, supported housing, dual-diagnosis and homeless services have been part of PathPoint’s scope of services in response to the needs of clients of the County Mental Health Department. Today, our Behavioral Health Division’s goals are to help our participants live healthy, productive, and fulfilling lives. In short: Wellness. Recovery. Hope.

Be sure to follow PathPoint on social media to hear the stories from our staff and the people we serve. They really are amazing stories!

Sincerely,

Cindy Burton
PathPoint CEO/President

Cultivation and Growth at Artisan Court

Darcy enjoys his independent life at Santa Barbara’s Artisan Court where he receives on-site services from PathPoint’s Behavioral Health Division’s Residential Support Services. Since being housed from homelessness in October of 2013, Darcy has engaged in all kinds of community activities with PathPoint including cooking classes and outings. One thing he has independently pursued with staff encouragement is the development of a garden plot “because I used to garden as a child.” This season Darcy is growing tomatoes, hot chili peppers, and other vegetables, and agreed that the PathPoint team could use his vegetables for cooking at one of Artisan Court’s community potlucks.

PathPoint Staff Spotlight: Marielle DeFazio, COO

It is with great pleasure that we announce our own Marielle DeFazio as PathPoint’s new Chief Behavioral Health Division

Flea Market
May 7
10:00 am
Bradley Studios

Community BBQ
May 29
Noon
Artisan Court

Healthy Living on a Budget
3rd Tuesday of the month
10:00 am
Bradley Studios

Shared Community Event
Tuesdays
4:00 pm
El Carrillo

Hiking Group
Wednesdays
1:30 pm
El Carrillo

Coffee with Keely
Wednesdays
10:00 am
El Carrillo

Healthy Living on a Budget
Wednesdays
3:00 pm
Artisan Studios

Tranquil Art
Fridays
12:00 pm
El Carrillo

Mindfulness Meditation
Sundays
1:30 pm
El Carrillo
Operations Officer effective April 1, 2015.

As PathPoint’s first COO, DeFazio joins the executive team and will concentrate on advising and supporting divisional operations in each of the six PathPoint divisions, including behavioral health services. DeFazio serves as state coordinator for Project SEARCH, and was previously vice president/director of operations of PathPoint’s Ventura and L.A. counties.

Marielle joined PathPoint in 2005 and brings many years of nonprofit management, fiscal, evaluation, contracts, grant writing and organizational development experience in the areas of developmental disabilities, mental health, community development and youth empowerment.

There are only a few more days to purchase your tickets to our PathPoint Party at The Line Hotel this Thursday May 7. You can register [here](#).
PathPoint in the News

A Better Way to Care: An Open Letter to Governor Brown

Chief Operations Officer Appointed

PathPoint Promotes Maria Ortiz to Vice President of Los Angeles County

Support PathPoint with Amazon Smile this Mother’s Day:

Mother’s Day is Sunday, May 10!
Shop at smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate to PathPoint. Thank you!