



**COMMUNITY BRIDGES**  
PUENTES DE LA COMUNIDAD

# MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER

October 10, 2019

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**October 25, 2019**

### Mountain Affair

A benefit for Mountain  
Community Resources!  
Ristorante Casa Nostra, Ben  
Lomond

[Click here](#) for more  
information and to buy  
tickets.

**November 3, 2019**

### Community Paint Day

Come join us in painting  
Nueva Vista Family  
Resources!  
711 East Cliff Dr., Santa Cruz  
Contact [info@cbridges.org](mailto:info@cbridges.org)  
for more details.



## LIFT LINE IS ON THE MOVE!

Lift Line has purchased a new property in Watsonville to serve as the hub for its fleet. Lift Line vans and buses will be moving into the new facility this month! Additionally, Lift Line has been awarded funds to purchase an additional electric vehicle. The addition of this new EV later this year will make the fleet 15% electric! Go green power!

## COVERED CALIFORNIA ENROLLMENT BEGINS OCTOBER 15

As of January 2020, people without health insurance may face a financial penalty from the state of California so make sure you have coverage! We know there are many reasons that people go without health insurance, but it is vital that you are protected in case of a costly medical emergency and to allow you to get important preventive care to stay healthy. Covered CA enrollment starts next week on October 15. If you, or anyone you know, needs more information or help enrolling, stop by one of our Family Resource Centers in [Felton](#), [Santa Cruz](#), [Live Oak](#) or [Watsonville](#).

## ELDERDAY RECEIVES "BE THE DIFFERENCE" AWARD

Congratulations to Elderday Adult Day Health Services, a Community Bridges program, on receiving a "Be the Difference Award" from the Volunteer Center of Santa Cruz! Elderday was recognized for the dedication of its amazing volunteers that support the well-being of senior participants by engaging in craft projects, serving meals, and participating in games and exercises. However, their most vital role is reducing senior isolation through authentic and compassionate interactions. Do you know a senior that needs to be connected? Call (831) 458-3481, email [info@cbridges.org](mailto:info@cbridges.org) or stop by 100 Pioneer St. Suite in Santa Cruz.

## Client Spotlight

*"The [WIC] program helps me get healthy stuff. Instead of the kids eating a lot of Capri-Sun and Cheetos, I learned to cut the vegetables and put them on the table so they can eat from there."* - Maria Ramirez, WIC participant



## Ray's Corner



### Public Charge Rule

We are less than a week away from October 15, the designated deadline that the federal government has placed on the changes to "public charge". Public Charge is a step in the citizenship determination process which will now negatively count the use of necessary lifesaving services such as Medi-Cal (Medicaid), the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamps), Section 8 housing assistance and federally subsidized housing as evidence that a green card or visa applicant is inadmissible.

This change has affected thousands of vulnerable people in our communities who were using these resources to survive. Additionally, it has sent a far-reaching and chilling effect of fear, preventing people in our communities from seeking any services and dis-enrolling their American-born children, whom have every right to these benefits. The real travesty is that there will be collateral damage from this rule for years to come, forcing more children into poverty, uninhabitable housing, increasing food insecurity and increasing the emergency room visits.

We are seeing much confusion in our program participants around which programs are considered in the public charge rule change. Many mistakenly think accessing Community Bridges programs and services will negatively affect them. That is why we are extremely concerned that weaponizing the potential for citizenship to dis-enroll participants from social services, disregards the negative societal impacts and consequences of doing so. Therefore, we urge those who are concerned with their own immigration case as being negatively impacted due to public charge to go to

Community Action Board to speak with an immigrant attorney and to weigh their options. Programs supporting families should not be brushed aside for an unknown future.



**Community Bridges Family of Programs**

Child & Adult Care Food Program | Child Development Division | WIC | La Manzana Community Resources | Live Oak Community Resources | Mountain Community Resources | Nueva Vista Community Resources | Elderday | Lift Line | Meals on Wheels

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Community Bridges is an exempt organization as described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; EIN #94-2460211. Donations are tax deductible in excess of the value of any goods or services provided in exchange for your contribution.