Message from Leadership

In the past year employees and supporters of Consejo Counseling and Referral Service made significant impact that resulted in remarkable organizational growth. The dedication of our employees and our loyal partnerships contributed to many noteworthy accomplishments in 2016. We could not have performed at an exceptional level of service without your help. Your unwavering support makes for a great pleasure to share our accomplishments from 2016.

During the past year Consejo continued the momentum in growth and good performance which resulted in the organization increasing the budget by 1.1 million. In a result, the payroll increased by $153,000 which gave salary increases to most employees across the agency.

In 2016, the City of Tacoma invested in Consejo with donations of three 12-15 passenger vans. Consejo added more services through new partnerships for Pierce County residents that included violence prevention, co-occurring services, coalition work and behavioral health services. Furthermore, the SUD funding for Pierce County residents had a significant impact towards increasing our capacity to improve the ways we serve our clients.

This past year also brought along new partnerships as Consejo began collaboration with managed care organizations in Molina Health, Community Health Plan of Washington, Coordinated Care, and Amerigroup. In addition to local support, the Department of Justice issued Consejo $327,000 in funding for three years to provide Sexual Assault services. Consejo also formed a new partnership with Swedish Cherry Hill Residency Program and continued are partnership with Bastyr University to bring wellness services to low-income individuals. Consejo also partnered with Thurston Mason Behavioral Health Organization to open a new facility in Shelton, Washington.

With the remarkable growth over the past year, Consejo launched our improved webpage, with new branding and logo. Nonetheless, our greatest success over the past year is the persistent commitment and support that our leadership team has provided in achieving Consejo’s mission to provide a continuum of behavioral health, substance use, domestic violence services and sexual assault services. Together with Consejo’s Board of Directors, a group of dedicated volunteers whose valuable leadership and guidance have contributed to many achievements in 2016 while preparing a strategic plan for 2016-2020.

The increased momentum Consejo experienced at the end of 2015 and through 2016 is continuing into 2017 as we are developing more partnerships and providing more services. This upcoming year will see continued growth as we add more facilities, reach 100 employees, and prepare for healthcare integration.

Warmly,

Mario E. Paredes, MA
Executive Director

Marcelo Guerra
Board President
2016 A Year of Achievements

- Consejo integrated Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services to improve the quality of care for individuals and to enhance coordination of care between the programs.
- Developed a Partnership with Swedish Cherry Hill to provide primary care services to our behavioral health clients.
- Consejo also developed new partnerships with managed care organizations including Molina Health Plan, Amerigroup, Coordinated Care and Community Health Plan of Washington.
- Enhanced Day Support Services available for adult and older adult population receiving mental health services to incorporate mindfulness activities including yoga and art therapy.
- Establish to provide Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services for children and youth residing in Vashon Island.
- Contracted with King County to provide Screening Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) Services to youth attending the Vashon School District.
- Contracted with United Way to provide academic engagement services to youth in the Kent School District.
- Establish Sexual assault therapy services for adults and children Growth in mental health census in all Consejo locations.

Substance Use Disorder Program

- Consejo’s Youth Programs successfully hired newly college graduate individuals - former youth that were served as clients, for positions in the very programs they attended and led them to be college bound.
- Clients from our SUD and Youth programs participated and were directly involved helping with the Consejo DV Program Fundraising Event Esperanza Hope for Change.
- Consejo’s SUD MH programs implemented onsite services at Vashon Island’s Public Schools.
- Consejo became a Grantee for the SAMHSA-Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and DBHR led State Youth Treatment – Implementation Project.
- Consejo Started the process to become an A-CRA (Clinical research association) certified provider.
- Consejo’s partnership with Cascade Leadership Challenge played a key role in a via Rotary Club, Big scale donation of running shoes and sportswear clothing from the Seattle based named brand Brooks.
Domestic Violence Program

Throughout 2016, Consejo Counseling & Referral Service continued providing vital support and services to Domestic Violence survivors. Such services were not only in the form of cultural appropriate and personal support, but also Consejo staff has experienced the rewarding aspect of the job when several of our clients obtained (through the VAWA program) a working permit that has allow them to better provide for their families.

Through our Transitional Housing Programs, Consejo has assisted clients to achieve their short and long term personal goals. Once again, it has been rewording beyond words to be able to see families not only surviving but thriving once they have completed their goals, to see them move to their own permanent housing leaving behind a difficult chapter in their lives.

In the legal side, DV survivors have continue benefiting from cultural appropriate services that allow them to navigate the already complicated legal system and find resources and support that, due to language barriers, would be impossible to obtain.

On April 2016, Consejo’s Domestic Violence program held its Annual Fundraising Event: Esperanza - Hope for Change having a great response from the community that supports our mission.

Pierce County - Tacoma Services

- Consejo developed a partnership with Optum and the city of Tacoma to bring Mental Health Services to Pierce County residents.
- Consejo renovated the Pierce County / Tacoma Services additional offices and conference rooms.
- Started Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder Services provided at the Reach Center.
- Implemented children’s and adult Mental Health programs for Pierce County Residents.
- In 2016 Consejo partnered with Lincoln High School to provide a co-occurring youth program.
- Consejo received four new vans that provides school and homebased services to Pierce County residents.

A Big Thanks to OUR SPONSORS
Total Service Hours: 68,353

Total Revenue: $6,919,036

Total Expenses: $5,321,733