

## Small Acts, Big Impact



# We build strength and empower communities to achieve their full potential



#### **PREVENTION**

The California Department of Justice's Office of Gun Violence Prevention hosted a series of roundtable conversations throughout the state to bring together community leaders to discuss bold solutions to invest in our communities and prevent gun violence.

Jacob Merlin Foundation was proud to represent Merced in attending the Central Valley's roundtable with AG Bonta, May 30, 2024.

#### **AWARENESS**

Fentanyl overdoses deaths in Merced County slightly decreased from 35 in 2023 to 18 in 2024, the overall number of overdoses surged to 89 in 2024. With this urgent need for expanded prevention, intervention, and treatment programs, Jacob Merlin Foundation educated our community on safe ways to use Narcan while handing out 500 recue kits in 2024.



Going beyond builds

## What we do

#### Build Strength

Building strength in the Central Valley, there is an urgent need for supporting survivors of trauma. In 2024 Jacob Merlin Foundation raised awareness about trauma and its impact, providing access to resources and support services, advocating for policies that protect survivors, attending Survivors Speak at the California State Capitol April 25, 2024, fostering a community where everyone feels safe and respected.



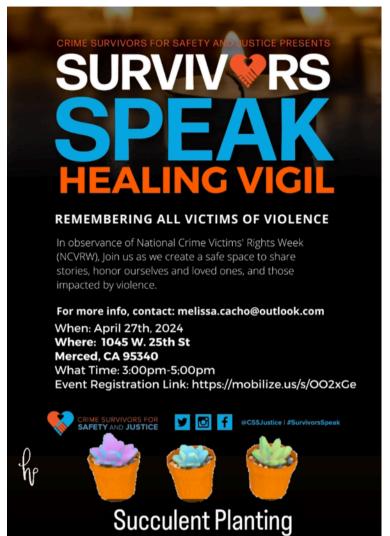
In 2024 Jacob Merlin Foundation held safe spaces where survivors created dialogue about share their experiences, while connecting with others without judgment. Hosting National Day of Healing April 27, 2024 in Merced and H.E.A.T BBQ (Heal, Evolve, Activate, Together) July 20, 2024 in Modesto.

#### **Full Potential**

By addressing these basic needs of survivors of trauma we can create a more stable community to heal, grow, and reach their full potential. In 2024 Jacob Merlin Foundation provided basic essentials to the following rural communities: Livingston, Merced, Legrand, Modesto, Mariposa and Manteca.

## Where we work

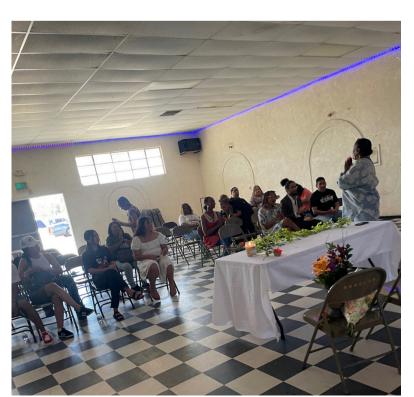


















## Volunteer's

#### **YOUTH AMBASSADORS**

JMF's Youth Empowerment Project is a youth-led initiative that works systemic factors contributing to gun violence among young people in the community. By providing opportunities for personal growth, skillbuilding, and community engagement, the project inspires to equip youth with the tools they need to make positive choices and effect change in their neighborhoods. In 2024 our youth ambassadors helped with tabling at our community events and fundraisers. Awarding other youth with Laptops earning community service hours.

## 2024 Support





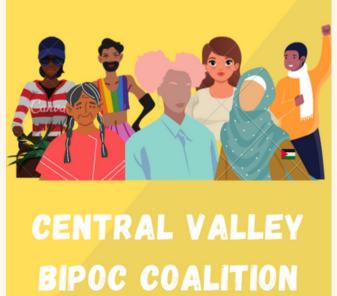














Mercy Medical Center Merced Foundation

A Dignity Health Member





Distribution of Basic Essentials



Back to school give back reached 300 students providing basic school supplies including Jansport backpack's, school essentials, 6 brand new laptops (blindly raffled), bags of food including paper products. 08/03, 08/27, 08/30



1500 Pairs of shoes reaching hundreds of families in Merced, Livingston, LeGrand and Modesto. 07/20, 08/03, 08/27, 08/30, 11/12, 11/13



29 boxes of Diapers and wipes were provided to a range of ethnicities that are underserved in rural communities here in the Central Valley. 06/26, 07/02, 07/20



75 toys have been provided to children of incarcerated parents at Solano CDRC. 11/15, 11/16

100 Toys have been provided to survivors of trauma in our underserved communities of Livingston and LeGrand for the 2024 Holiday. 11/21, 12/01



10 Turkey dinners were given to survivors of trauma in rural communities of Livingston and LeGrand. 11/01

Emergency shelter provided to one survivor.

Donations over \$500 to funeral cost of survivors.



Youth donations to local CBO's \$200



#### **Board Memebers**

Melissa Cacho, Founding
Director, CEO
melissa.cacho@outlook.com

Irene Cacho, Secretary, CHW, Coordinator.

irenecacho95@yahoo.com

Rosemary Galletti, Co-Founder, Treasurer-Admin. galletti209@gmail.com

Chelsea Cooke, Survivor, Member cooke.me.4I@gmail.com

Samantha Canal, Survivor Member samanthacanal93@yahoo.com

