

Press Kit



www.jazzyjamforempowerment.org



INTRODUCTION

Jazzy Jam for Empowerment (JJE), founded by Jacqueline Snell, is a nonprofit organization located in Pasadena, CA. Our primary focus is to promote, support, strengthen, engage, and raise awareness about important social issues, mental health, and wellness initiatives.

At JJE, we take a proactive approach by implementing innovative and interactive educational programs and training opportunities. These initiatives aim to encourage the adoption of a holistic lifestyle that encompasses various aspects of well-being.

We actively collaborate with local organizations and work closely with select school districts to create awareness about social-emotional support, mental health services, and wellness resources. Through our community events, we address immediate needs and contribute to the tangible well-being of the community.

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*We Foster and host creative,
hands-on educational experiences
and training opportunities that
highlight and promote living a
healthy lifestyle*

COMPANY BACKGROUND

Our objective is to establish partnerships with school districts and local behavioral health organizations that cater to students. We aim to propose a range of social-emotional and mental health services, including academic counseling, brief interventions for addressing behavioral issues, workshops, events, assessments, and referrals to other relevant services.

By offering mental health support within a school-based setting, we aim to address barriers to learning and provide assistance so that all students can achieve success in school and in life. Furthermore, this approach helps combat the negative stigma associated with seeking mental health treatment.

A Sociology of Education study conducted in 2018 by Zhang et al. highlighted that Black and Brown students were more likely to face disciplinary actions while receiving services under the Individuals with Disabilities Act of 504 education policies. The study found that from 2013 to 2014, 20% of Black IDEA students experienced suspension compared to only 7% of White IDEA students, contributing to the school-to-prison pipeline. The demand for our services is significant and indispensable.





FACTS

Objective:

•To endorse, assist, strengthen, involve, and generate consciousness about pertinent social concerns, mental health, and wellness endeavors.

Approach:

- Implementation of innovative and interactive educational programs and training prospects.
- Emphasize and advocate for the adoption of a wholesome way of life.
- Collaborate with local organizations and create awareness within the school district about social-emotional support, mental health services, and wellness.
- Host community events to address immediate needs and contribute to the tangible well-being of the community.
- Establish partnerships with school districts and local behavioral health organizations to propose a range of social-emotional and mental health services.

Impact:

- Address barriers to learning and provide assistance for all students to achieve success in school and in life.
- Combat the negative stigma associated with seeking mental health treatment.

Statistics:

- A 2018 Sociology of Education study by Zhang et al. revealed that Black and Brown students were more likely to face disciplinary actions while receiving services under the Individuals with Disabilities Act of 504 education policies.
- From 2013 to 2014, 20% of Black IDEA students experienced suspension compared to only 7% of White IDEA students, contributing to the school-to-prison pipeline.

FACTS

Programs and Services

- 5 Love Languages Cooking Class
- Enhances children and parent relationships.
- Incorporates The 5 Love Languages®: Quality Time, Words of Affirmation, Gifts, Acts of Service, and Physical Touch.
- Engages children in identifying their love language during culinary cooking experiences.
- Provides a safe space and platform for students to interact, understand themselves, and their peers, and acquire healthy life skills.

Jazzy Jam Glam

- Prom dress giveaway to assist young women in preparing for prom and formalwear events.
- Offers free dresses, shoes, and accessories to high school juniors and seniors.
- Over 2,000 youth served since 2017.
- Film Screening: "All The Difference"
- Partnered with PBS and Pasadena Unified School District to present the film.
- Focuses on encouraging young men of color to graduate from college.
- Follows the journeys of two teens from the South Side of Chicago over five years.
- Highlights the importance of support from family, teachers, and mentors in defying the odds.

Partnerships

- Collaborated with 12 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) to provide awareness, recruitment, and scholarship opportunities for students.
- Partnered with PBS and Pasadena Unified School District for film screenings and events.

BIOGRAPHY

JACQUELINE SNELL PRESIDENT

Jacqueline is a compassionate and dedicated Mental Health Professional with over a decade of experience in social services, mental health counseling, and community outreach.

She has a comprehensive background in working with young individuals across all age groups, offering them transformative and positive guidance for their social, mental, and emotional well-being.

Additionally, she is an author and has extensive experience collaborating with diverse community demographics to develop valuable family programs and resolve various issues. Jacqueline has a proven track record of successfully planning, coordinating, and executing community events, consistently achieving goals, and ensuring complete satisfaction.

She holds a Bachelor's degree in Sociology and has received training and certifications in Adult Mental Health First Aid, Youth Mental Health First Aid, Domestic Violence Advocacy and Counseling, QPR Gatekeeper Training, and Special Event Management.



BIOGRAPHY

ALONDREA HAMPTON VICE PRESIDENT

Alondrea has been working as a life and professional coach for more than a decade. Currently, she serves as a Research and Resolution Lead at one of the largest healthcare providers. With over 20 years of experience, she has a strong background in consulting, compliance, auditing, and overseeing outsourcing projects.

Before and during her tenure in the healthcare industry, Alondrea spent over 20 years as a consultant specializing in home improvements and interior design. She possesses extensive knowledge in event planning for community service events, ranging from supporting startup companies to organizing large community awareness fairs and nonprofit projects in recent years.

One of Alondrea's notable achievements was successfully managing and organizing the "Get Out & Vote" walks for the Pasadena District 1 election, demonstrating her commitment to community engagement and civic participation.

BOARD MEMBERS

Myhisha Myles, Treasurer

Jackie Cox, Board Member

Raymond Kyser, Board Member

Tanecia Cungious, Board Member

SERVICE FACT SHEET

THE “WATERCOOLER ROOM”

The "Watercooler Room Pouring Enrichment into Our Children's Minds" initiative signifies a pivotal shift towards enhancing social and emotional development in our children. It moves beyond mental wellness to embrace a more holistic approach to nurturing resilience, understanding, and emotional intelligence from a young age. This initiative is not just an activity but a deeply integrated strategy aimed at fostering a nurturing environment where social and emotional well-being is prioritized, shaping the minds and hearts of our young ones to thrive in an ever-changing world.

At the core of this initiative is recognizing the critical importance of the early years in a child's life for laying the groundwork for lifelong social and emotional health. The environments we craft for them, the conversations we engage in, and the emotional intelligence we exemplify all play crucial roles in their developmental journey. The Watercooler Room transcends the idea of a mere physical space, embodying a fluid and nurturing environment that promotes openness, learning, and emotional growth.

The term "pouring enrichment" aptly captures the essence of this initiative – an active, dynamic process of imparting knowledge and essential emotional skills vital for a rounded and healthy development. This approach is rooted in positive psychology and developmental psychology principles, advocating for proactive engagement in sculpting one's social and emotional landscape.



SERVICE FACT SHEET

THE “WATERCOOLER ROOM” cont.

The initiative aims to enhance children's self-awareness, emotional regulation, empathy, and resilience by incorporating evidence-based practices such as mindfulness, cognitive-behavioral strategies, and social-emotional learning activities. The inclusion of diverse fields such as science, technology, engineering, arts, music, and physical wellness, along with peer support, mentoring, and tutoring, underscores a comprehensive approach to child development, addressing varied needs and interests.

As society grapples with the complexities of modern life, the social and emotional well-being of our youth remains a paramount concern. The Watercooler Room initiative emerges as a critical response to this need, offering a sanctuary where children can explore, learn, and grow within a supportive and understanding atmosphere. It underscores the imperative to continue enriching the minds and lives of our children with unwavering commitment, steering our collective efforts toward nurturing a future generation characterized by compassion and resilience.

The Watercooler Safe Space embodies a transformational approach, not merely aiming for improvement but striving for a profound and lasting change. It embeds essential life skills and values into the essence of our students, ensuring they emerge as individuals who are not only academically accomplished but also emotionally resilient, socially adept, and imbued with kindness, care, love, and joy. Instilling principles of humanitarianism and philanthropy fosters a culture of empathy, generosity, and communal responsibility, echoing Jesse Jackson's words, "Don't look down on anyone unless you're helping him up."

This initiative is a testament to the power of holistic education. It promises our youth a future where they are well-prepared to achieve their academic goals while also navigating life's emotional and social complexities with grace, empathy, and a solid sense of well-being. Through this program, we are not just shaping scholars but molding future leaders, thinkers, and compassionate human beings poised to impact the world positively.

TESTIMONIALS

We love the WaterCooler Room and are excited about joining forces to help impress upon building the young men emotionally.”--Officer Riddle, Pasadena Police Dept.

I love the WaterCooler and what it brings to the students by helping them prevent drug use and abuse, and promoting healthy living. I see young adults in the ICU because of overdoses, alcohol abuse, and lung problems because of vaping and smoking. I see how Ms. Snell’s dedication to this room is making an impact on our youth.”– Keck Employee

I looked at the videos showing the beautiful and therapeutic WATER COOLER ROOM. If the school district would provide a Water Cooler Room in every school, there would be fewer suspensions, higher grades, more students going to college, fewer juvenile crimes, less racism, and a much safer and more productive Pasadena Community. The Water Cooler Room would be a wonderful asset for any organization with a collection of people. Among every gathering, some people need to be COOLED. Jacqueline, you are doing a GREAT HUMAN SERVICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.-- Dr. James Bolton

MIDDLE
SCHOOL
STUDENT
TESTIMONIES

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Empowering Youth: Jazzy Jam Glam Prom Dress and Suit Giveaway
March 23, 2024

*Supporting the well-being of youth while easing financial burdens for parents and caregivers.
Sponsored by Subaru, Courtyard by Marriott, Becca's Closet, Sephora, and Windsor Fashion*

PASADENA, CA (March 14, 2024) - Jazzy Jam for Empowerment (JJE), a nonprofit organization committed to uplifting youth, announces its upcoming event, Jazzy-Jam Glam Prom Dress and Suit Giveaway on March 23, 2024 from 10 AM – 4 PM at the Courtyard by Marriot in Pasadena, CA, 180 N. Fair Oaks Ave. A multi-purpose initiative designed to deliver an unforgettable experience, alleviate financial burdens for parents and caregivers, and provide non-invasive wellness checks for youth.

JJE is dedicated to uplifting youth and promoting social issues, mental health, and wellness initiatives. Their mission is to support, empower, engage, and bring awareness to relevant issues through creative educational programming and training opportunities.

Jacqueline Snell, the creator of JJE, was inspired to initiate the program after experiencing personal hardships. "Drawing from personal hardships and motivated by 'Yes to the Dress', I was determined to offer caregivers and needy families a lifeline. This initiative, expanded to include young men, has transformed prom experiences, allowing students to celebrate this milestone with dignity and joy despite their circumstances."

Snell is also the founder of the "WaterCooler Room," a social and learning program and an innovative year-round wellness center embedded within the McKinley School of Arts in the Pasadena, CA Unified School District (PUSD).

Recognizing the significance of prom in a young person's life, Jazzy Jam for Empowerment has created the ultimate one-stop experience in Courtyard by Marriot's Huntington Ballroom where students will choose an outfit, accessories and makeup, sponsored by Subaru, Becca's Closet, Windsor Fashion and Sephora, guided by their very own personal shopper.

At the end of the event, students will receive a grab bag filled with positive affirmations and self-care products to motivate them. They will also be provided with thank-you cards to express gratitude to their personal shoppers—teaching them the importance of etiquette skills.

The sponsors' support demonstrates their commitment to social responsibility and belief in the potential of every young individual. Jazzy Jam Glam aims to provide deserving youth with their dream attire, fostering confidence, empowerment, and readiness to shine on their special prom night.

Register for this event [here](#).

For more information about Jazzy Jam for Empowerment, Jazzy-Jam Glam, or to donate or explore partnership opportunities, please visit [here](#).

Donations can be made via Zelle at info@jazzyjamforempowerment.com



PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jacqueline Snell Prioritizes Student Wellness and Provides Support for Grieving Students with “A Day of Solace” December 20th

Pasadena, CA, December 8, 2023 — Jacqueline Snell, McKinley Middle School Wellness Coordinator and Community advocate, and advocate for student well-being, has taken on yet another proactive approach to prioritize student wellness during the holiday season by providing support for grieving students with “A Day of Solace” on December 20, 2023 from 11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. at 325 S. Oak Knoll Ave. Pasadena, Ca. 91101.

An event to address student’s emotional needs and equip them to navigate through the holiday season, Snell has gathered a dedicated team of trained local therapists who will donate their time to counsel grieving students. These therapists bring expertise in grief counseling and will provide a safe space for students to express their emotions, share their experiences, and receive guidance on coping strategies.

“The goal is to help students process their grief and develop resilience, ensuring that they can get through a challenging time with support and understanding,” states Snell. “Counseling sessions are crucial in providing emotional support and validate student’s experiences which will help them navigate complex emotions, create new traditions, and build resilience for their ongoing healing and well-being.”

By facilitating these connections, Snell is creating a support network that extends beyond the counseling sessions, enabling students to find strength and solace in their shared experiences.

The brainchild behind “The WaterCooler Room,”—an innovative year-round wellness center embedded within the McKinley School of Arts in the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD), Snell hopes to bring a smile to students knowing that they are not alone. “We know we cannot replace their loved ones, but we can be there for them to talk and never feel embarrassed about their feelings. I pray they all know we care for them every day and that they understand the WaterCooler is a safe space to restore.”

According to [reports](#), suicide is the second leading cause of death among U.S. adolescents and young adults. Snell understands the ‘why’ in providing targeted support to help these students navigate their emotions and find relief during this sensitive period. By collaborating with mental health professionals and PUSD counselors and caseworkers, she is creating a supportive community where students feel heard, understood, and cared for.

Snell is also the CEO and Board Chair at [Jazzy Jam for Empowerment](#), a non-profit that sponsors, supports, empowers, engages, and brings awareness to relevant social issues, mental health and wellness initiatives within the Pasadena school district. A self-proclaimed first responder to students, she consistently stresses, “If you’re depressed, have anxiety, you’re bereaved, or you cannot focus, we are here for you.”

Dr. Julianne Reynoso, PUSD’s Assistant Superintendent, Student Wellness and Support Services, expresses her approval of wellness rooms. “A campus wellness room staffed with a qualified, caring wellness teacher creates an immediate response to students’ social-emotional needs.” She continues, “These rooms invite students to relax for a short time and reflect on how to improve school interactions.”

Jacqueline Snell’s commitment to student wellness and her approach to providing support for grieving students during the holiday season exemplify her dedication to creating a compassionate and nurturing educational environment.



IN THE NEWS

[Arroyo News Features The WaterCooler Room](#)

LOS ANGELES WIRE

Business

Empowering Black Youth: Jacqueline Snell's Advocacy Journey

LA Wire Staff March 13, 2024



[Click here for article](#)

The Wall Street Times



Youth Advocate Jacqueline Snell: Creating and Navigating Safe Spaces

March 13, 2024

[Click here for article](#)

NEWSBREAK

A Day of Solace: Empowering Grieving Students During Holidays

Phyllis Caddell 2023-12-21



COMMUNITY ADVOCATE JACQUELINE SNELL PROVIDES SUPPORT FOR GRIEVING STUDENTS DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON WITH "A DAY OF SOLACE"

USA WIRE

Jacqueline Snell Guides Student Grief at A Day of Solace



[Click here for article](#)