

Southeast Asian Teen Village

Program Description	The program uses a psycho-spiritual approach combining trauma-informed counseling and basic cognitive behavioral therapy with community-based mentoring, group mentoring by a Hmong staff person, some peer mentoring, recreational and cultural activities, a homework club, and individual psychotherapeutic interventions when needed.
Target Population	Southeast Asian (mostly Hmong) refugee teenage girls.
Goal	The program is dedicated to assisting SE Asian teens in attaining bicultural capacity in life by helping them blend traditional values, beliefs, and customs with expectations of American culture. The program encourages adolescents to find healthy ways to cope with past traumas and bicultural issues.
Essential Components	Group intervention combines psychotherapy with spirituality. The group meetings start and end with a ceremony, and the groups involve ancestor work. This is done because many of the parents are unavailable, and ancestor work allows the girls to access the wisdom that can come from their elders. The effect of ceremonies and ancestor work is to ground the children in their culture and give them a connection to something that's bigger than them. Optional components include mentoring and the home work club. Case management as related to school and transportation services and individual psychotherapy is provided on as-needed basis.
Trainings & Program Material	This is a small program with low staff turnover, and training is done informally. Staff provides training to others in the community on the culture and other considerations in working with South East Asian refugees.
Outcomes/Evaluation	Some pre-post measures have been administered. Outcomes include decreased school truancy, and 88 percent report improvement on the CDI.

Replication	None
Anecdotal Observations	Program has great local track record, and the use of the spiritual and ancestral component is innovative. The program has not yet been manualized and has relied on particular staff for continuity.
Program Developer	
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