



# STRIVING FOR ZERO EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Striving  
for  
Zero

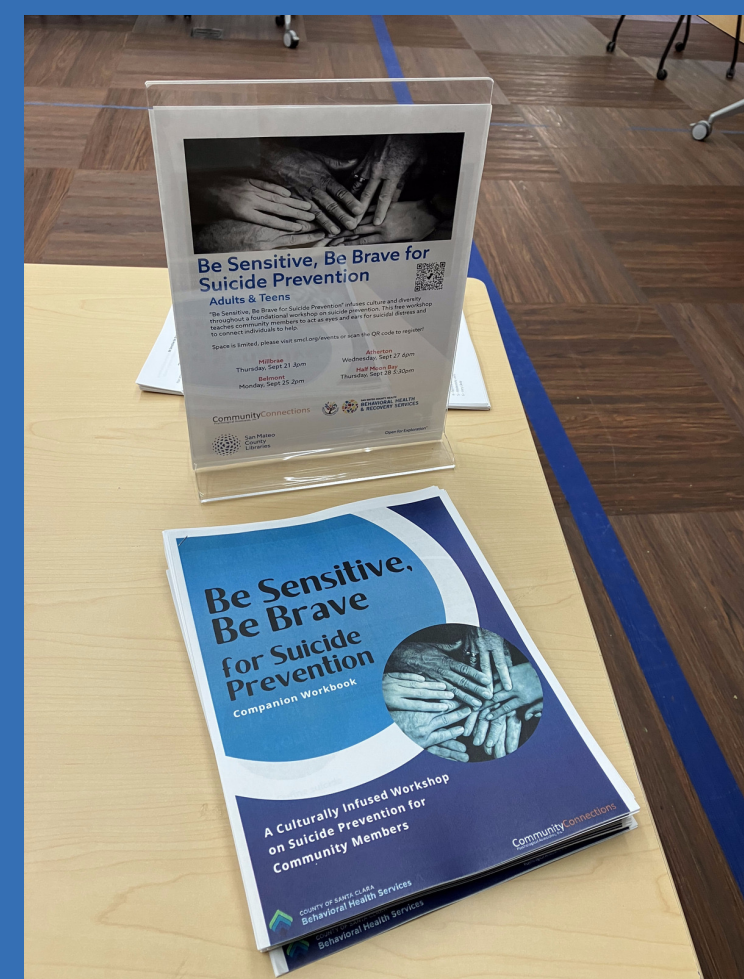
## INFUSING CULTURE INTO SUICIDE PREVENTION EFFORTS

### Centering Equity in Strategy and Implementation

#### San Mateo County

San Mateo County strives to infuse culture and center equity throughout suicide prevention strategic planning and implementation process. In the second strategic plan or Roadmap 2021-2026, San Mateo County was **the first California county to include an equity focus for all 13 goals**. One example of implementation includes the **first comprehensively culturally infused mental health and suicide prevention trainings adapted for Asian Pacific Islander (API) communities**:

- In San Mateo County, APIs make up one third of residents. Pacific Islander youth have high suicide ideation and, during shelter in place, suicide deaths increased among Asian immigrants, particularly from China, Hong Kong and Philippines. Despite the need, there was no psychoeducation specific for these communities through 2021.
- Between 2022-2024, San Mateo County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Office of Diversity and Equity has collaborated with the following partners to adapt Be Sensitive Be Brave for Mental Health and Be Sensitive Be Brave for Suicide Prevention trainings for the Chinese, Filipino/a/x and Tongan communities: **Dr. Joyce Chu** (Community Connections for Psychological Associates), **Chinese Health Initiative**, **Pacific Islander Initiative** and **Filipino Mental Health Initiative**.



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