

Free Sunday Speaker Series

“Welcoming Our Neurodiverse Neighbors”

Hear from local experts:

March 9th: Neurodiverse Students and Their Unique Needs, Alexis Sheridan-Rucker, Principal of The Springstone Middle & Community High School. Learn about the needs of neurodiverse youth, including those on the autism spectrum, and the educational strategies that support their growth .

March 16th: Las Trampas and the History of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Services, Daniel Hogue, MS. Learn about what is an intellectual and/or developmental disability, who Las Trampas is , what role they have played in serving people with IDD in the Lamorinda area over the past 67 years. Sharing the changes in their services, today’s service model, and the challenges people with IDD and Las Trampas as a service provider are facing going forward.

March 23rd: Supporting our Students with ADHD and Other Special Needs, Stephanie Caporusso, Director of Special Services, Orinda School District. Meeting the needs of students and families in the Lamorinda area.

March 30th: Understanding: A Radically Accepting Path to Emotional Safety in Parent/Caregiver-Youth Relationships, Shamita Dhar, LCSW and Benito Marguia, ASW of Coyote Coast Youth and Family Counseling, LCSW, Inc. Are pleased to discuss a practical and powerful framework for engaging and supporting young people in our lives.

11:30 am to 12:30 pm

Hosted by:

St. Anselm’s Episcopal Church

682 Michael Lane

Lafayette

Neurodiverse Students and Their Unique Needs

Presenter:

Alexis Sheridan-Rucker, Principal

The Springstone Middle & Community High School

Sunday, March 9, 2025

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Hosted by:

St. Anselm's Episcopal Church

682 Michael Lane

Lafayette



Mrs. Sheridan-Rucker was born and raised in Southern California and earned her Bachelor's Degree with a double major in Psychology and Criminology, Law and Society from UC Irvine. Upon graduation, she began working for the Boys and Girls clubs and learned that she wanted to further her work with children. After relocating to the Bay Area, she earned her Education Specialist credential and Master's in Special Education & Education Administration from San Francisco State University. Mrs. Sheridan-Rucker has worked in different educational settings around the bay, including public and nonpublic schools since 2007.

Under the tutelage of the founding directors, Mrs. Sheridan-Rucker grew into her position of Principal, where she has flourished and revitalized the program. Having worked for six years as an Education Specialist for Springstone, she has a strong framework for understanding the needs of the students and faculty. Working in partnership with Mrs. Wong and the Board of Directors, Mrs. Sheridan-Rucker has established herself as an executive with excellent leadership skills and a strong commitment to the unique and vital role that Springstone plays in our community.

www.stanselms.us

Las Trampas and the History of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Services

Presenter: Dan Hogue, M.S.

Sunday, March 16, 2025

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Hosted by:

St. Anselm's Episcopal Church
682 Michael Lane
Lafayette

Learn about what is an intellectual and/or developmental disability, who Las Trampas is, what role they have played in serving people with IDD in the Lamorinda area over the past 67 years. Sharing the changes in their services, today's service model, and the challenges people with IDD and Las Trampas as a service provider are facing going forward.

Dan Hogue, M.S. has served as the Executive Director of Las Trampas since 2011 and has over three decades of experience in the field of Intellectual and Developmental Disability support services. Dan started his career as a Direct Support Professional and gradually grew into leadership roles. His experience include starting and developing programs throughout the Central Valley including Independent Living, Supported Living, and general and behavior day programs. Dan holds a BA in Psychology and a MS in Rehabilitation Counseling.



Dan is known by all for his passion for person-centered programming, his commitment to true inclusion, his abiding empathy, and his knowledge of and respect for Las Trampas' participants. In addition to his leadership at Las Trampas, Dan is also an active member of the broader IDD community, from professional development facilitation to critical advocacy efforts on behalf of individuals with IDD and their families.

www.stanselms.us

Understanding: A Radically Accepting Path to Emotional Safety in Parent/Caregiver-Youth Relationships

Sunday, March 30, 2025

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



Hosted by:

St. Anselm's Episcopal Church

682 Michael Lane

Lafayette



Shamita Dhar, LCSW and Benito Murguia, ASW of Coyote Coast Youth and Family Counseling, LCSW, Inc. are pleased to discuss a practical and powerful framework for engaging and supporting young people in our lives.

Coyote Coast, founded in 2005, and located in Orinda, Ca, is dedicated to repairing bonds within families and supporting individuals, parents, and families as they face, understand, and overcome trauma and mental health challenges.

www.stanselms.us