Pandemic raises abuse concerns

By Gia Pham | STAFF WRITER

COVID-19

As the spread of COVID-19 continues, the homeless community is facing new challenges and risks.

According to a 2011 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey indicated that one in four women and nearly one in seven men in the U.S. experience physical violence by an intimate partner at some point in their lives.

Perpetrators are trying to sort out the good side of the victim to say, ‘This is a terrible time, we’re all at risk, I want to be your kids.’

Esther Perales-Dieckmann, executive director of Next Door Solutions, said that domestic abuse incidents have increased about 26% according to a 2019-20 yearly comparison chart from the San Jose Police Department. Perales-Dieckmann said she had seen a higher-than-average call rate and more calls in appointments around late February when emergency services became more available.

“The week before all this happened and the shelter-in-place order went into effect, we were already seeing quite a bit of people coming through,” Perales-Dieckmann said.

Fused green sage, blush-and-violet flowers, p o b l i t h r o m e t r e e flowers, fresh palm stems are tossed together and strewn across the floor.

The aromatics set the ambiance for a healing space hosted by the Silently Loud Collective, a local sexual assault survivors’ group.

The group aims to offer spiritual space where indigenous peoples of color can share their experiences while still celebrating their culture and remaining true to their roots.

Silently Loud Collective was founded in 2019 when Mónica Montalvo, a youth program leader and community activist, shared her sexual assault story during her first benefit show at Local Color in Downtown San Jose. The show aimed to raise money for local sexual assault survivors.

“We chose Silently Loud because everyday someone has stories worth telling, but are more than likely silenced by either ourselves or others and families,” Montalvo said.

“The battle of removing violence against women is very much a battle of regaining our indigenous culture,” said Jose Mancillas, Silently Loud Collective member and artist, in front of his “Protect the Sacred” mural on Sunset Avenue in San Jose. The mural focuses on the divine femininity of indigenous cultures.

“Silently Loud Collective is an example of looking out for all of us. . . We are better together. . . We are stronger together,” Mancillas said.

WeHOPE and San Jose Police Department partnered with the City of San Jose to accomplish “This is a time for us to come together, for us to rise up, for us to stand together and for us to continue to support our community to stay strong,” Sam Liccardo in a March 15 news release.

WeHOPE volunteers provide virtual doctor appointments to the San Jose community. WeHOPE has developed a plan to address the needs of the homeless living in encampments across the city. WeHOPE volunteers provide virtual doctor appointments to the San Jose community.

“Just as capacity, I want to reduce the spread of the coronavirus among unsheltered individuals,” said Pastor Paul Bains, founder of Project WeHOPE, in a phone interview with the Spartan Daily.

Project WeHOPE has partnered with the City of San Jose to accomplish the goals of preventing COVID-19 from reaching homeless encampments in San Jose.

“Next Door Solutions is focused on empowering women and children and helping to reduce the spread of the virus,” Bains said.

Alongside city workers, Project WeHOPE volunteers provide distributions of hand-washing stations, laundry services and shower services for local sexual assault survivors.

HOMELINESS | Page 2

Sexual assault survivors group breaks the silence

By Gia Pham | STAFF WRITER

COVID-19

Jose Mancillas, Silently Loud Collective member and artist, squats in front of his “Protect the Sacred” mural on Sunset Avenue in San Jose. The mural focuses on the divine femininity of indigenous cultures.

Fused green sage, blush-and-violet flowers, pohon of dried tree roots, fresh palm stems are tossed together and strewn across the floor.

The aromatics set the ambiance for a healing space hosted by the Silently Loud Collective, a local sexual assault survivors’ group.

The group aims to offer spiritual space where indigenous peoples of color can share their experiences while still celebrating their culture and remaining true to their roots.

Silently Loud Collective was founded in 2019 when Mónica Montalvo, a youth program leader and community activist, shared her sexual assault story during her first benefit show at Local Color in Downtown San Jose. The show aimed to raise money for local sexual assault survivors.

“We chose Silently Loud because everyday someone has stories worth telling, but are more than likely silenced by either ourselves or others and families,” Montalvo said.

“So, it was the name where we could hope to encourage others to either talk about their stories or even just seek the help and the healing that they need,” Montalvo added that sexual assault is most likely to be committed by a family member.

From January to September 2019, the San Jose Police Department filed 12,723 domestic violence cases.

About 75% of the adults arrested or cited for the crimes were of Latino or Mexican descent, according to a Nov. 12, 2019 Sexual Assault Response and Strategy Report from SPF.

“Because of over-policing of our indigenous community, we are very proud of our indigenous identities and we make sure to keep those cultures and those traditions alive,” Mancillas explained that sage and other traditional offerings of Latino and Mexican culture as decorations for healing spaces are meant to bring a sense of purity and spirituality while also reminding cultural.

“Silently Loud Collective is an example of looking out for all of us. . . We are better together. . . We are stronger together,” Mancillas said.

“Silently Loud Collective is an example of looking out for all of us. . . We are better together. . . We are stronger together,” Mancillas said.
Continued from page 1

She said violence in communities is exacerbated when people lose jobs, get laid off, feel powerless or are unable to attain resources—all of which are happening during the shelter-in-place order.

Next Door Solutions has received many phone calls reporting instances of abuse and virtual violence. They received a couple of cases where they had to go out to the residence.

The shelter-in-place order is allowing abusers to stay in their family's home for longer periods and making it more difficult for victims to find a way out. It has also made it harder for victims to seek support from shelters or other organizations.

Survivors

Continued from page 1

The city of San Jose is working with other organizations to ensure that survivors of abuse have access to resources and support during the pandemic.

According to Erin Connor, Cisco's critical human needs portfolio lead and President of Destination: Home, the city has already partnered with the homeless prevention system to make all these possible to prevent at-risk people from becoming homeless.

Connor said.

“Other organizations like Destination: Home, an organization that helps create permanent housing and sustainable support systems, and companies like Cisco have committed to help provide services such as housing, hygiene education and resources for families. We are all working together to make all these possible to San Jose.”

David Low, the director of policy and communications of Destination: Home, said that the organization is also setting up quarantine and isolation locations for homeless people.

“Concurrently, we have worked with our public and private partners to stand up a financial assistance program to help low-income residents who’ve lost income due to COVID-19 pay for rent and thus avoid falling into homelessness,” Low said.

But Project WeHOPE is not the only organization that is serving homeless people in San Jose.

The Santa Clara County Homelessness Prevention System, a program that provides temporary financial assistance to low-income families or individuals who struggle to maintain their housing, launched a Financial Assistance Program for low-income residents affected by COVID-19.

The program provides financial assistance to help low-income residents who’ve lost income due to COVID-19 pay for rent and thus avoid falling into homelessness.

The program has already helped hundreds of people, and the city of San Jose is considering expanding it to help even more.

“Perpetrators are trying to sort of get on top of existing systems and get away with it,” Peralez-Dieckmann said.

Peralez-Dieckmann added that abusive, former partners could use the pandemic as an excuse to see their children, despite standing custody orders.

“Propagators are trying to sort of get on the good side of the victim to say, ‘This is a terrible time, we’re all at risk. I want to see my kids,’” she said. “They’re just trying to see the vulnerability happening, too.”

Peralez-Dieckmann said some clients have a hard time calling Next Door Solutions because their former partners are always about the house visiting children while in quarantine.

But Next Door Solutions decided to close its main office where people usually come for support, in hopes to still active and legal services are provided over the phone.

It is also still sending out supplies like pantry items to clients who are running low on food supplies or other necessities and is anticipating a surge in demand.

“They’re running out of things or they need help,” said Peralez-Dieckmann. “So we’re just sort of tracing ourselves for what we think will be an increase in the number of calls over the next few weeks.”

Social distancing protocols have complicated the emotional report Next Door Solutions staff members have built up with clients, which often serve as a lifeline for people in domestic violence situations.

“They were very concerned because a lot of their clients are already in these situations that were very troubling and potentially dangerous,” Peralez-Dieckmann said. “For us the warm handoff [is] being able to sit with people and hear their story [and] offer our support.”

Using methods such as Zoom and phone calls,staff members are increasing the frequency to which they conduct client check-ins so clients feel connected.

Other facilities that offer help to domestic violence survivors are also noticing changes in how they engage with clients.

Jennifer Nguyen, education programmer of the San Jose State Gender Equity Center, said that she and her team are working on gathering and distributing resource-specific messaging that does not equate “shelter in place” with “home,” but rather somewhere safe and with resources easily accessible.

“Mentally they are more aware of how many resources are available to them…They are still welcome to reach out to our center for support, assistance and guidance,” Nguyen said.

Another exercise the collective encourages during meetings is setting down anything that comes to mind on a piece of paper and burning it as a form of catharsis.

Mentally said these practices allow members to safely and openly express their feelings and thoughts on topics that may be uncomfortable as a collective.

“I hear the topic of rape being spoken about more now than ever before, which I think is a good opening for individuals to feel that they can actually speak out,” Rodriguez said.

Normally, the group meets every first and third Wednesday of every month at the Mexican Heritage Plaza on Alum Rock Avenue.

However, the collective is struggling to stay active in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic since Santa Clara County placed local self-isolation and the banned gatherings of more than 10 people on March 16.

Mantalvo said she is trying her best to stay connected with her members as frequently as possible, but in-person group sessions have been postponed until further notice.

On its Instagram, the collective recently posted where to find resources for families affected by COVID-19.

Follow Gia on Instagram @phamtasticxxy

Follow Spartan Daily on Twitter @SpartanDaily

Follow us on Instagram @chabotdaily

Invest in you

Register at www.chabotcollege.edu

Earn your bachelor's degree faster and save money. Take summer classes with us, and transfer the units.

Follow Gia on Instagram @plumtasticxx
Handmade hoops honor heritage

By Gia Pham

Silvertone hoop earrings seen with a gradient violet amethyst stone add a dash of color to Bree Estrada's pitch-black hair.

“Just holding space for local coffee shops or yoga studios and markets like that, where it seems predominantly white, just being there seems like I am reclaiming my heritage,” Estrada said.

Her business began when her attending art class and showed works such as South First Fridays and San Jose Come Up. At the Garden at the Flea, a vendor and market event, Estrada sold jewelry and vines with a gradient violet amethyst soft dangle.

Late 2017, Estrada learned through word-of-mouth praise, Instagram posts, and Etsy sales that her jewelry was becoming popular.

Estrada found spirituality and meaning in the presentation of crystals as well. “The crystals are wrapped and p u n i n f luence, w h i c h a c t u a l l y p l a y ed under the summer’s day glow. A hub of Latinx artists, performers, and businesses joined Estrada in the market. “I just felt very safe there,” Estrada said.

Estrada's handmade jewelry is each accompanied by a description detailing the presentation of crystals and their significance to it. “The crystals are wrapped, it makes it feel like it is being protected and therefore, protecting me,” Busarelo said. She, like many other people, is fascinated with crystals.

She draws a lot of her inspiration from her candle scents from her childhood memories and family. Her grandmother made ‘Cafe de Olla’, a traditional Mexican coffee beverage, made in an earthen clay pot and spice with cinnamon stick to imbibe a rich flavor. The hand-grinded coffee ‘Prosperity and Protection’, is an adaptation of ‘Cafe de Olla’ and the comfort of Mezcal identity, burning a protection candle ‘Prosperity and Protection’ label on it.

So I’m Mexican and you tend to wear, like, hoop earrings and things like that. So, I wanted to add that stuff and kind of have a cultural signifi cance to it. And just, you know, reclaiming styles. “I just wanted to add that stuff and kind of have a cultural signifi cance to it . . . and just, you know, reclaiming styles,” Estrada said.

Bree Estrada continues to create original crystal jewelry such as the rose quartz pendant necklace (left) and the octagonal hoop earrings (right) pictured above.
New talent commits to SJSU
Sophia Jones brings confidence to women’s basketball team

Follow Austin on Twitter @AustinTurner_

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2020
sjsunews.com/spartan_daily
PHOTO COURTESY OF UNDER ARMOUR

Guard Sophia Jones averaged 25 points per game in her senior year at Cypress Bay High School, helping lead her team to the Florida high school playoffs.

When the lights shined brightest
San Jose State women’s basketball commit Sophia Jones put on a show in the Florida high school playoffs as a senior guard for Cypress Bay High School. In four games, she scored 54% of her team's points.

![Photo of Sophia Jones]

**Sophia Jones**
*SJSU commit*

She faked left and went right. Her defender switched and she faked the screen and cut right. Her dad played some college hoops at York University in Toronto.

Sophia Jones has two siblings involved in college basketball. Her brother formerly played at Jacksonville University and her sister is currently at Loyola Marymount University.

Sophia Jones averaged 25 points per game in her senior year at Cypress Bay High School, helping lead her team to the Florida high school playoffs.

She was watching Florida’s divison 7A District 13 girls’ basketball championship game on FaceTime on his iPhone.

Sophia Jones is the daughter of Mark Jones, who was watching the game in his Indianapolis hotel room.

When you take the court like “See how she does that?”
She was looking at those things.

Sophia Jones, held the ball with under 20 seconds left on the clock and had a chance to win the game for Cypress Bay High School.

She was going to make a “big shot.”

Sophia Jones grew up with her dad playing college ball, her sister playing college ball, and her brother playing college ball.

Sophia Jones never got the chance to meet
Sophia Jones was in the midst of a shooting slump. Her dad was in Houston to call a game between the Warriors and Houston Rockets.

Sophia Jones is the daughter of Mark Jones, who was watching the game in his Indianapolis hotel room.

When you take the court, you need to do like “One Mississippi, two Mississippi, three Mississippi.”

Sophia Jones averaged 25 points per game in her senior year at Cypress Bay High School, helping lead her team to the Florida high school playoffs.

Sophia Jones averaged 25 points per game in her senior year at Cypress Bay High School, helping lead her team to the Florida high school playoffs.
Universal memes keep society sane

A lot of us are seriously missing normal social interaction right now. We’re all locked away in our houses, going crazy talking about the coronavirus with the same few people over and over again. It seems like all the things that bring people together are out of commission.

You can’t go see your favorite band in concert, sports aren’t coming back anytime soon and you can’t even go out to eat.

Comedy is the one thing still around to scratch that social itch for humans.

Whether you’re Black, white, gay, straight, rich or poor, young or old, you’re in the same situation as everybody else. If you scroll through meme pages on social media, most entries are something that’s too relatable to everyone.

For example, /r/Coronavirusmemes on Reddit, which had over 80,000 members as of Tuesday, is full of jokes on social media, most entries are something that’s too relatable to everyone.

The current top all-time post is a tweet from @dandelinell reading “when I am watching Covid-19 movie in ten years, I hope I’ll see Matt Damon panic buying toilet papers.”

Another top post reads “Buying a planner for 2020 has been the most financially wasteful thing I’ve done this year.”

These dumb jokes are funny because we all get it. Many of us have been victims of mass toilet paper shortages. If you’re like me, you bought a planner that hasn’t been updated in about three weeks.

In a time where there’s such panic and pessimism in the world, it’s still important to take a step back and laugh with others about the ridiculous situation we’re all in right now.

It’s just a natural human response, according to psychologist April Foreman, an executive board member of the American Association of Suicidology.

“Using humor is just how people cope in grim circumstances, and it’s a very healthy response,” Foreman said to cnet.com. “Human beings are actually very resilient. People who have sick loved ones, who have lost their jobs, who have lost income, could really use a laugh right now. But if you’re just itching to show someone that stupid toilet paper joke, send it my way. I, like most people, could really use a laugh right now.”

When a joke isn’t appropriate

There are some situations where humor is not a good option.

During a pandemic, when there are shortages, it’s important to show some social courtesy too. Don’t send your memes to people who have sick loved ones. Show some respect instead.

So while you practice social distancing, practice some social courtesy too. Don’t send your memes to people who have sick loved ones. Show some respect instead.

So while you practice social distancing, practice some social courtesy too. Don’t send your memes to people who have sick loved ones. Show some respect instead.

For the first time in our lifetime, we all have few to count.

Whether you’re Black, white, gay, straight, rich or poor, young or old, you’re in the same situation as everybody else. If you scroll through meme pages on social media, most entries are something that’s too relatable to everyone.

For example, /r/Coronavirusmemes on Reddit, which had over 80,000 members as of Tuesday, is full of jokes on social media, most entries are something that’s too relatable to everyone.

The current top all-time post is a tweet from @dandelinell reading “when I am watching Covid-19 movie in ten years, I hope I’ll see Matt Damon panic buying toilet papers.”

Another top post reads “Buying a planner for 2020 has been the most financially wasteful thing I’ve done this year.”

These dumb jokes are funny because we all get it. Many of us have been victims of mass toilet paper shortages. If you’re like me, you bought a planner that hasn’t been updated in about three weeks.

In a time where there’s such panic and pessimism in the world, it’s still important to take a step back and laugh with others about the ridiculous situation we’re all in right now.

It’s just a natural human response, according to psychologist April Foreman, an executive board member of the American Association of Suicidology.

“Using humor is just how people cope in grim circumstances, and it’s a very healthy response,” Foreman said to cnet.com. “Human beings are actually very resilient. People who have sick loved ones, who have lost their jobs, who have lost income, could really use a laugh right now. But if you’re just itching to show someone that stupid toilet paper joke, send it my way. I, like most people, could really use a laugh right now.”

When a joke isn’t appropriate

There are some situations where humor is not a good option.

During a pandemic, when there are shortages, it’s important to show some social courtesy too. Don’t send your memes to people who have sick loved ones. Show some respect instead.

So while you practice social distancing, practice some social courtesy too. Don’t send your memes to people who have sick loved ones. Show some respect instead.

For the first time in our lifetime, we all have few to count.

Whether you’re Black, white, gay, straight, rich or poor, young or old, you’re in the same situation as everybody else. If you scroll through meme pages on social media, most entries are something that’s too relatable to everyone.

For example, /r/Coronavirusmemes on Reddit, which had over 80,000 members as of Tuesday, is full of jokes on social media, most entries are something that’s too relatable to everyone.

The current top all-time post is a tweet from @dandelinell reading “when I am watching Covid-19 movie in ten years, I hope I’ll see Matt Damon panic buying toilet papers.”

Another top post reads “Buying a planner for 2020 has been the most financially wasteful thing I’ve done this year.”

These dumb jokes are funny because we all get it. Many of us have been victims of mass toilet paper shortages. If you’re like me, you bought a planner that hasn’t been updated in about three weeks.

In a time where there’s such panic and pessimism in the world, it’s still important to take a step back and laugh with others about the ridiculous situation we’re all in right now.

It’s just a natural human response, according to psychologist April Foreman, an executive board member of the American Association of Suicidology.

“Using humor is just how people cope in grim circumstances, and it’s a very healthy response,” Foreman said to cnet.com. “Human beings are actually very resilient. People who have sick loved ones, who have lost their jobs, who have lost income, could really use a laugh right now. But if you’re just itching to show someone that stupid toilet paper joke, send it my way. I, like most people, could really use a laugh right now.”

When a joke isn’t appropriate

There are some situations where humor is not a good option.

During a pandemic, when there are shortages, it’s important to show some social courtesy too. Don’t send your memes to people who have sick loved ones. Show some respect instead.

So while you practice social distancing, practice some social courtesy too. Don’t send your memes to people who have sick loved ones. Show some respect instead.

For the first time in our lifetime, we all have few to count.