



# The Center for Women and Culture

**The Center for Women and Culture**  
Student Affairs • Frank W. Thomas Building, Room 110  
Women's Resource Center: 559.278.4435 • Violence Prevention Project: 559.278.5696  
Central Valley Cultural Heritage Institute: 559.278.6946  
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## **WRC and CVCHI**

Women's Resource Center, Violence Prevention Project, and the Central Valley Cultural Heritage Institute provide a supportive environment for interaction and self-discovery through a wide range of programs and activities. Programs and services are designed to enhance the learning and working experiences of students, staff, and faculty in the university community with many events and workshops opened to the general public.

Staff members seek to provide a haven against the intolerance and negative stereotyping that are abundant in society and also to offer a place for a diverse interchange of ideas and experiences, which is the basis for a positive academic setting.

These programs provide a variety of intellectual, cultural, social, artistic, recreational, and personal growth activities. The activities celebrate the multicultural composition of our community and promote healthy lifestyles and nonviolent relationships.

## **The Women's Resource Center**

The WRC provides services to the full spectrum of university women regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual identity, or disability. The Women's Resource

Center provides a place where women can share with one another, learn in a collaborative rather than competitive fashion, and seek growth-promoting experiences.

Men are encouraged to participate in the center's activities, to support organizational goals, and to promote among their peers recognition of sexism, racism, and other forms of discrimination against women.

Support and discussion groups are offered on a variety of issues including, but not limited to, current women's issues, single parents, body image, lesbian support, and support for women of color. Peer counseling and referral services are available to women who are coping with personal transitions, crises, or any other life experiences for which they need non-judgmental guidance and support.

## **Involvement Opportunities**

A number of student groups and clubs operate from the Women's Resource Center, including Entre Mujeres, P.O.W.E.R., United Student Pride, and the Women's Alliance. Internships, student/staff positions, and volunteer opportunities are available for interested students.

**The Violence Prevention Project (VPP)** is a project of the Women's Resource Center where the primary

focus is to provide education, prevention and intervention regarding sexual assault, intimate partner violence (domestic violence), and stalking to all students, staff, and faculty. The VPP has established a Campus and Community Response Team (CCRT) to improve the quality and coordination of services to victims of violence. Crisis counselors are available 24 hours a day via 559.278.5696.

## **The Central Valley Cultural Heritage Institute (CVCHI)**

The CVCHI is dedicated to the celebration and study of the cultural heritage, diversity, and contributions of the people of California's Central Valley. The center is also committed to creating a more culturally competent community and supporting a safe environment that welcomes difficult dialogue on controversial issues.

The institute fosters a supportive environment for multicultural interaction, increases students' engagement and sense of belonging, and brings together academic course content and co-curricular activities that contribute to the retention of students. Involvement of first generation students is especially encouraged.

Many multicultural and diversity activities are coordinated out of the institute. Individuals interested in working on issues related to race, class, gender, age, sexual identity, and/or religion are welcome to attend one of the campus National Coalition Building Center (NCBI) "Welcoming Diversity" workshops that are offered twice a semester. We are also seeking volunteers who are interested in working on various events throughout the year.

Additional activities and services co-sponsored by the Center include the following: Stop the Hate Week, Diversity Awareness Week, Building Bridges/Tackling Fears Panel Series, and other annual cultural celebrations.