

Kajsiab House Background

KH started in 2000 as part of the program to care for disabled and elderly who are needing family members to stay home to care for them. KH received \$145,000 (TANF) from Dane County to start the program to allow able family members to participate in education, job training, job skills and maintain on employment as ADFC was replaced by W-2.

KH provides wrap around services and case management to the Hmong families in Dane County. Services include:

1. A place where they are welcome, feel safe, free to express themselves and to receive treatment/services
2. Transportation
3. Counseling support
4. Women's group support
5. Crisis stabilization services
6. Family support
7. After school program to help maintain students in school
8. Meal
9. Psychiatrist evaluation and medication
 - a. Citizenship waiver (due to mental health/PTSD/traumas)
10. Comprehensive medication review
11. SSI advocacy
12. INS (citizenship) assistance and advocacy
13. Referral for services
14. Connect to PCP, clinics and hospitals
15. Culture brokering (Bilingual staff) for:
 - a. Primary providers
 - b. Social Services
 - c. Police
 - d. Court
16. Housing assistance and advocacy
17. Chronic health education
18. Nutritional education
19. Internship placement for Hmong young professionals
20. Community meetings
21. Clans meetings

All of these services will be lost when KH is closed. Over 230 members and their families (of over 400-500 Dane county members) will be without services. We will see more people in emergency room, more people in hospital rooms and psychiatrist hospitalization. More dysfunctional families, more children in trouble, etc.

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Kajsiab House is a program of Journey Mental Health since 2000. It was a project initiated out of the State Refugee Office to address welfare recipients' need to have work experience (for spouses who took of sick spouse at home). About six months into the program, KH grew into an elderly program to meet the veterans/elders' need (mental health and crisis management) per community request/effort. Over the years, KH is home-away-from-home serving hundreds of Hmong and Laotian elders and some family members. The current caseload is about 150 clients.

Staff

KH provides wrap-around services for the elders and their family members. Its staff includes drivers, cook, case managers, master level therapist, psychologist and psychiatrist.

Services

KH's services include transportation (bilingual staff pick up and drop off the clients daily), group counseling, individual counseling, case management, ESL classes, health class, women's support group, medication management, medication prescription, student intern opportunities, youth qeej class (not sure if it is still on), domestic abuse counseling (Freedom Inc. subcontract), some research opportunities, and a home cook meal on a daily basis.

Reality

- Journey lost the MTM contract in January 2018
- Journey told KH staff on August 7 that it will close Kajsiab House as of September 28, 2018
- September 28, 2018, the elders will not have treatment services. Client stress is escalating due to this news. Some talked about suicide if there is no more KH for them.