Aurora Mental Health Center
Live Life to the Fullest

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Announcement: Aurora Strong Resilience Center transition

The Aurora Strong Resilience Center opened in July 2013 to provide support for community members impacted by the July 20, 2012, Aurora theater shooting. The Resilience Center was established initially through a partnership between Aurora Mental Health Center (AuMHC), the city of Aurora, Anschutz Wellness Center and Colorado Organization for Victims Assistance. During its six years of operation at 1298 Peoria St., many community organizations have collaborated with the Resilience Center, while the principal partners, AuMHC and the city, have provided ongoing program, staff and facility budgeting and support.

From its beginning, the Resilience Center has served as a community catalyst. While recovering from the theater shooting is a long-term process and developing community resilience remains an ongoing commitment, many of the gaps in services that the Resilience Center first addressed are now being provided by various organizations throughout the Aurora community:

- The 7/20 Memorial Foundation, composed of family of victims, survivors, and others directly impacted by the tragedy, helps connect survivors with one another and with resources in the community including volunteer opportunities, supportive services, peer support and social connection;
- The 7/20 Memorial was dedicated last year in the Aurora Water-wise Garden at the northwest corner of East Alameda Parkway and South Chambers Road, and serves as a peaceful place for reflection and healing;
- Yoga, Tai Chi and other mindfulness and wellness activities are available through various city Recreation Centers;
- AuMHC has therapists available for drop-in appointments at 791 Chambers Road in its Connect to Care Clinic.; AuMHC also has a 24/7/365 walk-in crisis clinic at 2206 Victor St.;
- Mental Health First Aid classes are available for community members through AuMHC and other providers.

Because of the growth of these recovery and resilience-enhancing programs and services across the community, and the convenient access offered by multiple locations, AuMHC and the city, in consultation with survivors and community members of the Resilience Center's advisory board, have decided that the center will no longer offer programs at the 1298 Peoria St. location.

Any activities currently scheduled at the center will be transitioned between now and June 1, 2019 in consultation with Resilience Center staff. The city of Aurora is reviewing potential options for the Resilience Center space, on the lower level of the Hoffman Library, but has not finalized any plans as of this time.

The 7/20 Memorial Foundation has formally transferred maintenance of the memorial to the city and will continue to collaborate with the city and AuMHC in providing meeting space to support anniversary and memorial activities. Contact information and details about this year's event are available through the Foundation at: https://7-20memorial.org/

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