

MEMBERSHIP MONDAY: Gándara Center

Highlighting Gándara Center's Impact on the Community

At Providers' Council, we are proud to highlight the incredible work of our members who are making a difference in the human services sector. This week, for Membership Monday, we are featuring Gándara Center, a vital organization dedicated to providing culturally competent behavioral health, prevention, and education services to diverse communities across Massachusetts.

Who is MassCOSH and What Do They Do?

Founded in 1977, Gándara Center was established to advocate for equal access to services for Hispanic communities. Over time, their mission expanded, and today, they support nearly 15,000 children, adults, and families at 100 locations across Massachusetts.

Gándara Center specializes in bilingual and bicultural services that address critical needs in behavioral health, substance use recovery, housing support, and community-based care. Their programs serve historically underserved populations, including Hispanic, African American, and other culturally diverse groups, helping individuals facing mental health challenges, substance use disorders, homelessness, incarceration, and developmental disabilities.

Transforming lives through these services:

- Behavioral Health – Individual & group therapy, diagnostic assessments, bilingual & bicultural clinical services
- Youth & Family Services – Foster care, residential programs for youth, family support services
- Substance Use & Recovery – Peer recovery centers, recovery coaching, long-term residential treatment
- Community & Prevention – Public health education, advocacy, and outreach
- Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities – Residential support & independent living programs

Through their holistic and culturally competent approach, Gándara Center empowers individuals and families to overcome challenges, access essential services, and build stronger, healthier futures.



When Did MassCOSH Join The Providers' Council and Why?

Gándara Center has been a proud, long-time Providers' Council member, joining a network dedicated to strengthening human services across Massachusetts. Their mission—to promote the well-being of diverse populations through culturally competent behavioral health, prevention, and education services—closely aligns with the Council's commitment to advocacy, training, and expanding access to care. As a member, Gándara Center enhances its advocacy efforts, strengthens collaboration with like-minded organizations, and gains access to vital resources that help further its mission of ensuring all individuals receive the support they need to lead healthy, stable lives.

Through their bilingual and bicultural approach, Gándara Center provides a wide range of critical services, not only supporting individuals in need but also working to reduce the stigma surrounding mental health care in multicultural communities. Their impact extends beyond behavioral health, offering transitional housing, residential recovery programs, and a foster care system that has supported children for over 30 years.

In recognition of their exceptional contributions, Gándara Center was nominated for the Peer Provider Award at the Providers' Council's 48th Annual Convention and Expo: Advocate | Act | Achieve. This honor highlights their commitment to empowering diverse communities and delivering person-centered care.



A Voice from the Gándara Center Team

At Gándara Center, we believe that true progress in human services happens when we come together—not just as providers, but as partners in change. The Providers' Council has given us a space to learn, grow, and advocate for the communities we serve. Through this collaboration, we continue to champion diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging in all aspects of our work.

– Uduak Enyiema, VP of Fund Development & Community Relations



Looking Ahead: Gándara Center's Continued Commitment to Support and Innovation

For over 45 years, Gándara Center has been a leader in providing critical services that empower individuals and families to thrive. Their commitment to equity, advocacy, and culturally responsive care makes them an essential part of Massachusetts' human services network. We are honored to have Gándara Center as a valued Providers' Council member and look forward to continuing to support their mission!

This year, Gándara Center is rebranding its annual 5K run/walk fundraiser, now called the Mindful Miles 5K Run/Walk. As part of this exciting change, they have introduced a new mascot, Journey—a symbol of the long-term commitment to mental health and the power of walking alongside others on this path.

More than just a mascot, Journey embodies care, love, and thoughtfulness, reminding us that every step we take helps change the way the world views mental health.

Join Gándara Center in their mission and take part in the Mindful Miles 5K as we move forward together—one step at a time!

Want to learn more about Gándara Center, and the Providers' Council? Visit our websites to explore our work, services, and upcoming initiatives!

Providers' Council:
www.providers.org/

Gándara Center:
www.gandaracenter.org
[5K run/walk Fundraiser](#)