The Hume Center’s Mission
The Hume Center’s mission is to provide high quality, culturally sensitive, and comprehensive behavioral health care services and training. We strive to promote mental health, reduce disparities and psychological suffering, and strengthen communities and systems in collaboration with the people most involved in the lives of those we serve.
We are committed to training behavioral health professionals to the highest standards of practice while working within a culture of support and mutual respect.

The Hume Center’s Philosophy
The staff of The Hume Center believes:
• In the inherent potential for ongoing growth and maturation of all people.
• That psychological pain, dysfunction, and symptoms are teachers, signaling the arrest of our ability to be engaged in the fulfillment of life.
• That with acceptance and the proper therapeutic support, provided in an atmosphere of respect and multicultural competence, people can heal, learn new ways to deal with difficulties, and lead satisfying lives.

History of the School Based Program
This program started in 2000 with our prevention program through CalWORKs at adult schools and community colleges. After 9/11, we received a grant from Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services (ACBHCS) to implement prevention strategies to schools dealing with the aftermath of this event. Thereafter, collaborations with school districts in Contra Costa County were developed to enhance classroom supports in the Pittsburg Unified School District, which led to our present work in other schools in the district. In 2009, with funds from the Mental Health Services Act and the Tobacco Master Settlement Fund (Measure A) awarded by ACBHCS and Health Care Services Agency, we developed comprehensive school based services in the Tri-Valley area. In 2011, through additional MHSA and Measure A funds, we expanded to other schools in the Tri-Valley.
School Based Program

A student’s social, emotional and academic development is successfully accomplished when there is a partnership between the persons involved in the student’s life. Often persons in education become secondary caregivers. When the people who interact with the student (i.e. administrator, teaching staff, and caregivers) have a common understanding of the student’s needs and strengths and what is necessary for the student to achieve success, they can begin to reinforce the student in a manner that will ensure the positive and healthy development of the student’s social, emotional and academic goals. To help the people involved in the student’s life, and ultimately the student, successfully deal with challenges that may arise, The Hume Center has developed the following services:

**Mental Health Consultation to Teachers**

This process is used to understand the psychological significance of the student’s behavior in collaboration with the teacher. They come up with a response that will help manage the student in the classroom. Thus the student is able to continue his/her mental and emotional progress which allows the teacher to instruct more effectively because he/she will spend less time dealing with disruptive behavior.

**Peer Consultation Groups**

These groups are for teachers, principals, and counseling staff, with the purpose of such a group to present a student who manifests problematic behavior in order to develop a common understanding of the psychological significance of their behavior and develop a response to deal with the presenting behavior. The advantage of such consultation is that everybody who deals with the student is on the same page regarding how to respond to the student and to the people who have a stake in the well-being of the student. It also helps in team building and boosting school morale.

**Early Intervention Services**

No matter how much we try to resolve problematic behavioral situations, there will be students who need more help to deal with their experiences. Through early case findings and collaboration with primary and secondary caregivers we offer brief treatment and crisis intervention services for those students who do not meet medical necessity.

**Treatment Services**

At times, there are individual needs that may require ongoing or long term treatment. Once a student is assessed and it is determined due to medically necessity that there is an apparent mental health condition, onsite treatment session are offered, contingent upon acceptable health insurance coverage and service authorization. Otherwise, referrals to providers and/or clinics in the community are provided.