



Gum Moon Women's Residence

Asian Women's Resource Center

www.gummoon.org

Mission Statement

Gum Moon Women's Residence and the Asian Women's Resource Center were established to address the unmet needs of women and children in geographic and social transition. In providing a safe sanctuary to live in and programs that develop life skills, Gum Moon empowers these individuals, fostering stability, self-reliance, self-determination, and full access to opportunity.

Success Story

In August 2011, a distraught and desperate Bao Ping came to Gum Moon/AWRC. She was in danger of losing custody of her infant daughter. She had met and married an American man after a brief courtship, and then they had a baby girl. About 4 months after the baby was born, Bao Ping's husband decided that they should come to the states so that his family could meet his new wife and child. Bao Ping agreed, and so they came. It was Bao Ping's first trip to the states, and it was going badly. Her husband's family didn't like her, but they loved the baby. Thus, he decided to divorce her and take full custody of their daughter. He presented her with divorce papers and a variety of other legal documents, and promptly kicked her out of his family's home.

Bao Ping needed a lawyer and a place to stay while fighting the custody battle. She was referred to Gum Moon. We connected Bao Ping with an attorney from Bay Area Legal Aid who was very eager to take her case. We also provided Bao Ping with a room and food assistance during the 3-4 weeks that she remained in San Francisco. Ultimately, Bao Ping won her case and regained custody of her daughter. A few days afterward, Bao Ping and her daughter returned to their native China. Bao Ping calls and writes periodically to update the Gum Moon staff on the progress that both she and baby have made since returning home. During her last call, she stated that she plans to visit San Francisco again in the near future.

Programs & Services

Gum Moon/AWRC offers a Parent-Child Development Program, which has been a prominent part of our family support services for 20 years. The Parent-Child Development program includes the following services and activities: Parent-Child Development classes for families with infants and children through age 4; parent education workshops; parent support groups; grandparent support groups; mental health and speech assessments; case management; playgroups; family events ("Friendship Groups"); and information/referral. Admittedly, our programs have long targeted families with children ages 0-5. Recently, however, we expanded our program to include families with youth age 6-13. For example, we have The Learning Place, which provides academic support for school-age children and youth. In addition, we have added more support groups and workshops for their parents/caregivers, and we gear these sessions toward the 6-13 age groups.

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