



# Multicultural & Diversity Center

## NEWSLETTER

### ABOUT US

## What is the Multicultural & Diversity Center?

The Multicultural & Diversity Center (MDC) is a dynamic and inclusive place that supports all students in their academic and personal journeys at the college.

We do this by creating community, home away from home, and a safe place for cultural expression, cross-cultural learning, access to college and other resources, and social justice work opportunities. The MDC is committed to retention and student success by offering activities related to leadership development, student connectedness and student equity. We are a student-centered program that fosters respect for all people.

### LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

## Greetings from Multicultural & Diversity Center!

BY ALIA DUNPHY

It is with pleasure we send you our new Newsletter to keep you informed about the events, projects, and happenings at the MDC. We are hoping to have students contribute to this newsletter with stories, poetry, or through the continuation of the newsletter.

The MDC continues to be a home away from home to many students. During this year we

hosted many successful workshops and events. We are working to offer more activities that promote student growth in their academic and professional paths.

During the upcoming year, we look forward to continuing the work that promotes the mission of the MDC.

Thank you, MDC

## Upcoming Events

**SEPT 16** **National Hispanic Heritage Month**  
Presentation and Refreshments with salsa dancing to follow.  
11am in LRC 102

**SEPT 27** **California Native-American Day**  
Presentation and Refreshments  
11:30am-2pm in LRC 102

**OCT 14** **Indigenous Peoples' Day**  
11am-12:30pm in LRC 102

**OCT 31** **Dia de Los Muertos**  
History Overview and Artistic Activity  
11am in LRC 102

**OCT 31** **Zombie Run**  
4pm-6pm, location TBA

**NOV 14** **LGBTQ+ Celebration**  
11am-12:30pm in LRC 102

**DEC 10** **Multicultural Celebration and Dance**  
4pm-6pm in LRC 102

Check out [www.redwoods.edu/events](http://www.redwoods.edu/events) for more information.

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STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

# Dorene L. Markussen

**Hometown:** Humboldt County

**Can you describe yourself? Who are you? What is something you want people to know about you? What are your interests?**

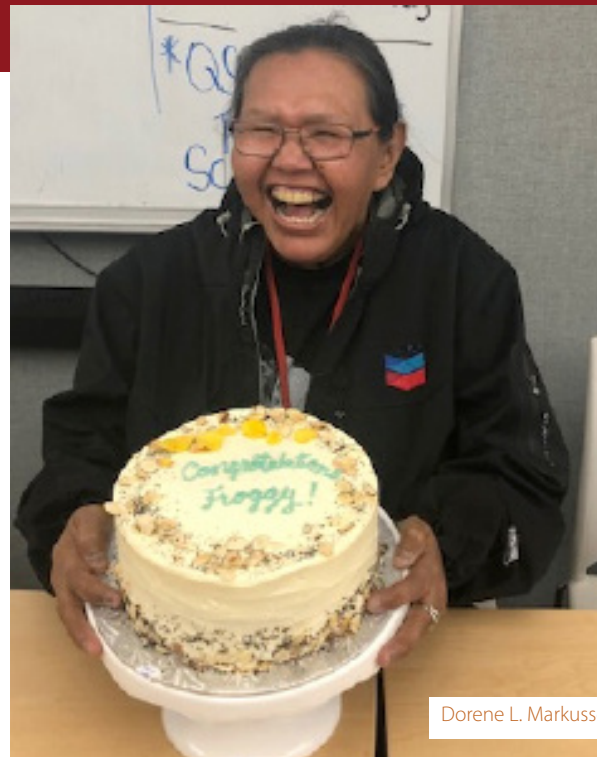
I am very fun, loving, compassionate, goal oriented, driven, self-motivated, focused, and inspirational. I am a Native American woman from the Karuk, Hoopa, and Yurok tribe. I have a big heart and very empathetic toward others. I am very strongly willed and determined for a higher education. I am very open minded, honest, and respectful when it comes to other people. I am in recovery and have been clean for 9 years. I take a lot of pride in that accomplishment because it took a lot of work. I have learned a lot from participating at Potawat Health Village in groups like life skills, have done the Red Road program four times, and still continue aftercare. My interests include joining beading groups, cultural events, keeping strong family relationships, setting realistic goals and accomplishing them. I have a good sense of humor and love listening to music.

**What is your goal at CR? Why are you here? What do you want to accomplish during your time here? What are your educational or career goals?**

My goal at CR is to achieve a higher education and obtain a degree (Associate of Arts, Liberal Arts: Fine Arts). I want to gain as many skills as I can during my time here by taking a diverse range of classes. I will be the first in my family to graduate with a college degree, so this will be not only an accomplishment for myself, but for my family.

**What activities or events have you participated at the MDC?**

I have participated in presentations and other events. I look forward to attending more events in the future.



Dorene L. Markussen

“ *I will be the first in my family to graduate with a college degree, so this will be not only an accomplishment for myself, but for my family.* ”

**How have you benefited from the MDC?**

I liked the presentation and the video on different subjects and we have computers. I like meeting new people and socialize, there's a lot of support through the MDC.

**Can you describe a favorite memory at the MCC?**

My favorite memory would be when I was surprised by friends and staff from the MDC with a cake for my 9 year anniversary of being clean and sober. That was a very good feeling. I had a great time with friends and laughed a lot.

# Elizabeth McClellan

**Hometown:** Humboldt County

**Can you describe yourself? Who are you? What is something you want people to know about you? What are your interests?**

I had bit of a challenging childhood, but I didn't let that define my future. I was raised by a mother who was addicted to heroin and my father committed suicide when I was nine years old. All of these experiences had an impact in my life and the way I viewed the world. I started college a couple years ago in 2000, but multiple situations came up so I had to put school on hold. I lost my son six hours after his birth in the middle of the semester (16 years ago). This was a challenging experience for me, but it has been those experiences that have made me the resilient person I am today. I have been able to see the positive side of things, accept the things I can't change, and grow from those experiences. One of my interest to see people smile, so I try to be kind to everyone because you never know what people might be going through. A simple gesture of kindness can make someone's day.

**What is your goal at CR? Why are you here? What do you want to accomplish during your time here? What are your educational or career goals?**

I have previously experience homelessness, but wanted to pursue education opportunities. I wanted to finish the degree I started, but didn't get the opportunity to finish. I feel extremely honored to be back at this campus. In spring of 2018 I will be graduating with the following degrees:

- Associate of Arts, Liberal Arts: Business
- Associate of Science, Business, General
- Associate of Arts, Liberal Arts: Behavioral and Social Science
- Associate of Arts, Liberal Arts: Humanities, Language & Communication

My goal is to continue my education and go on for a bachelor's degree in social work at HSU. I want to prove myself and others who doubted in my ability that I can accomplish my goals. Through my personal experience I want to be there for people and show love to people who might not love themselves.



**What activities or events have you participated at the MDC?**

I have participated in workshops, food events, and Welcome Week. I enjoy visiting to study, socialize, and get information about other resources.

**How have you benefited from the MDC?**

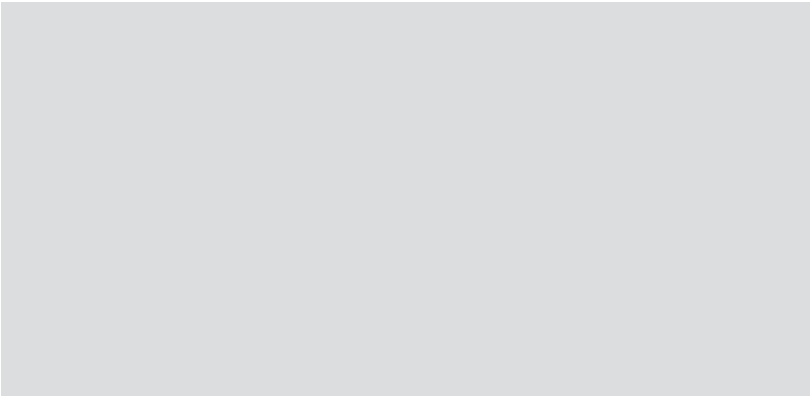
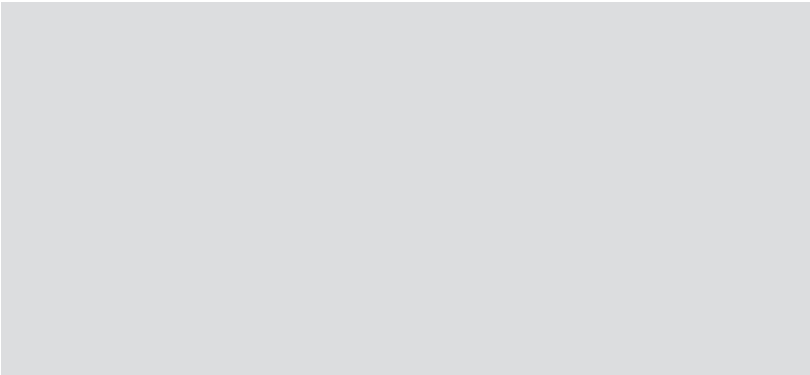
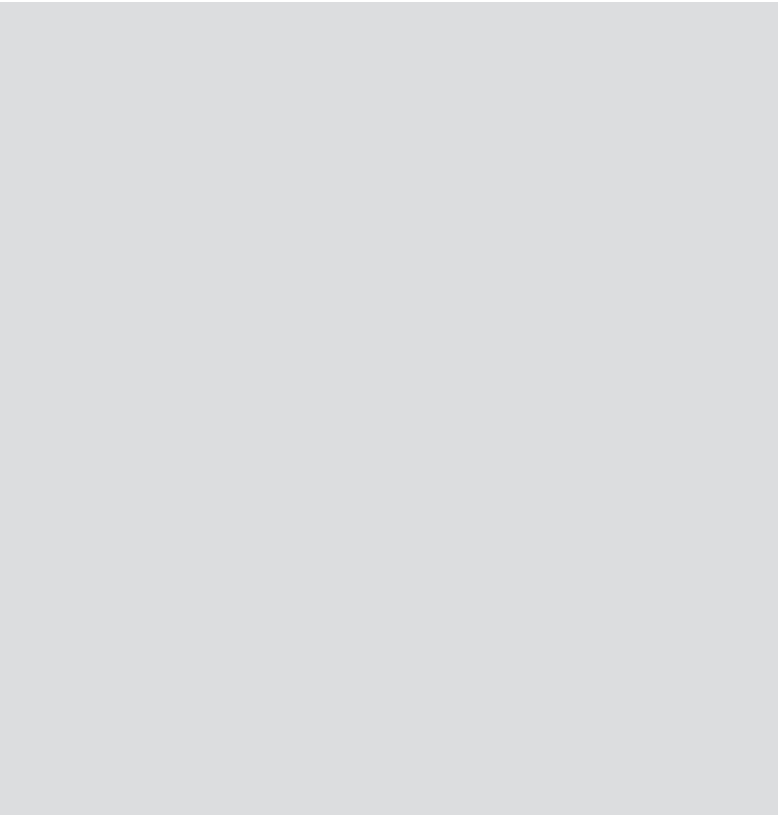
This place has given me the confidence to feel comfortable in my own skin. Accepting differences and also appreciating our similarities. This place is where I am most comfortable.

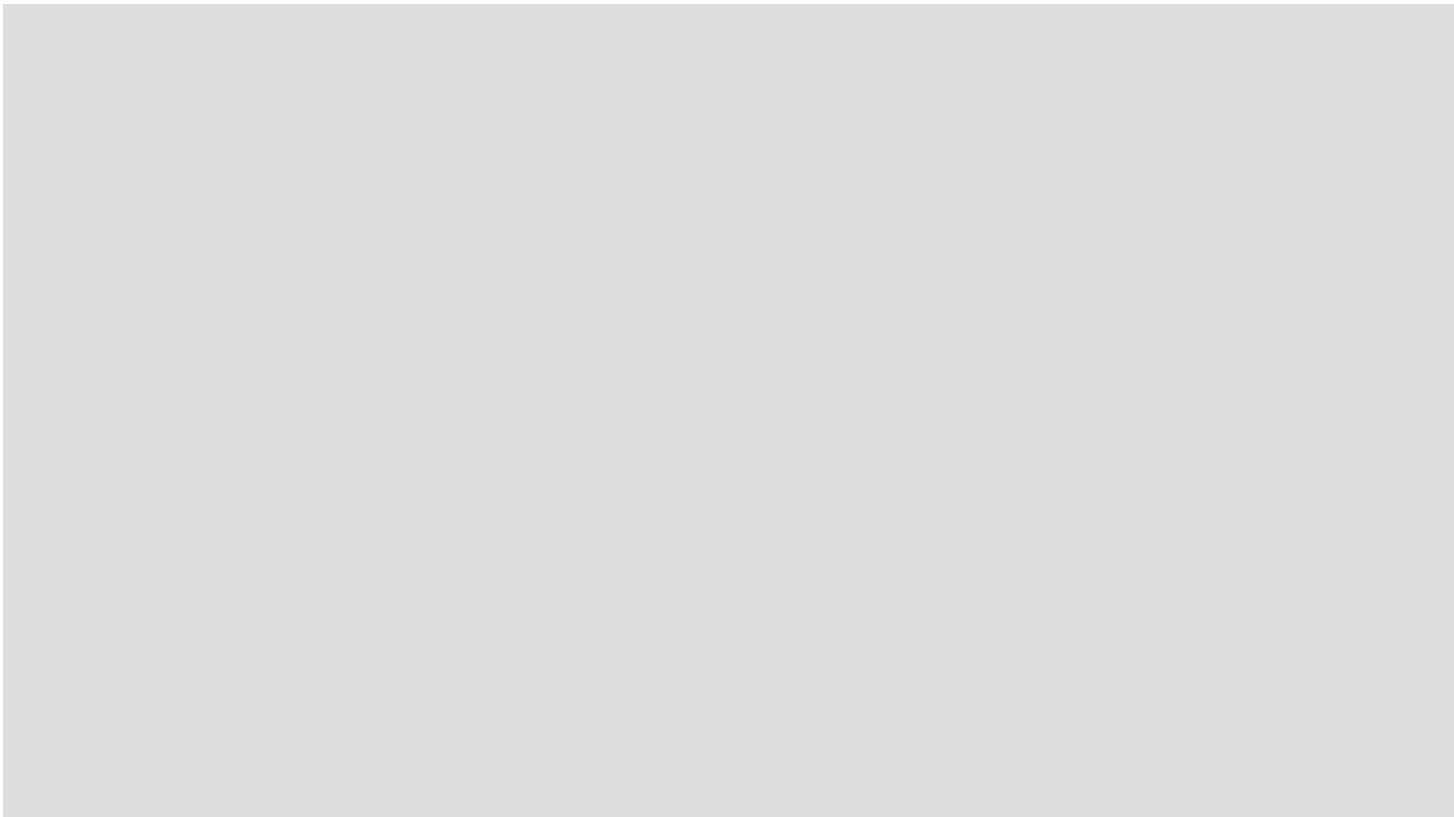
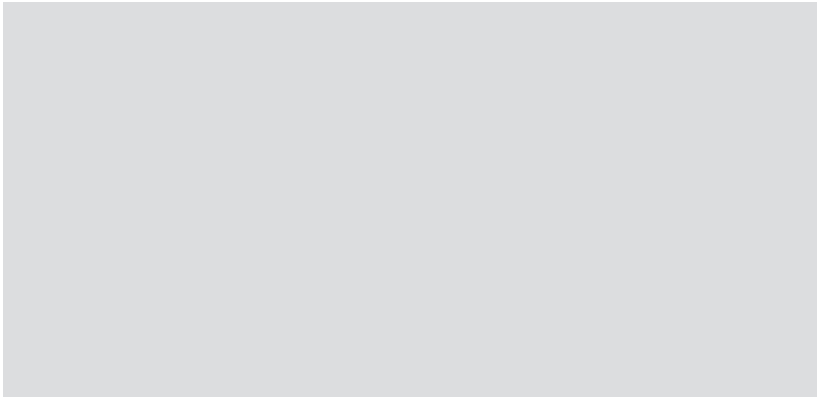
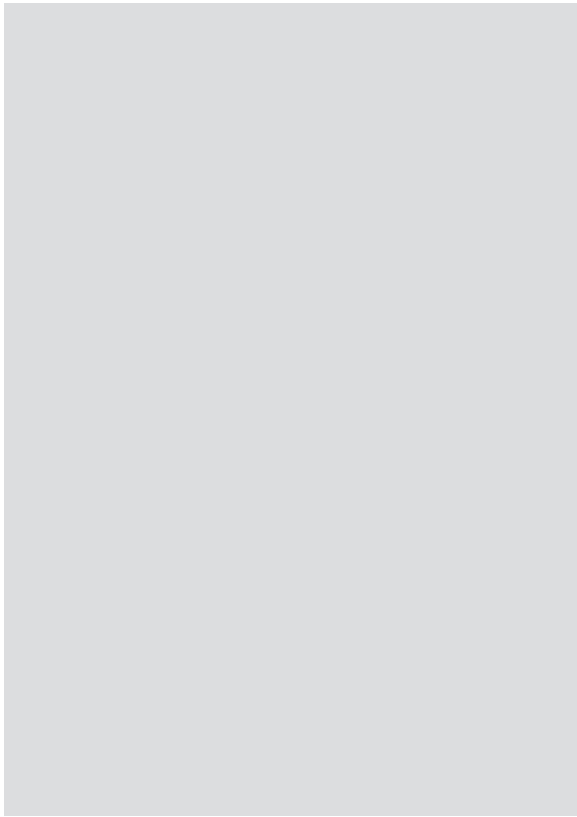
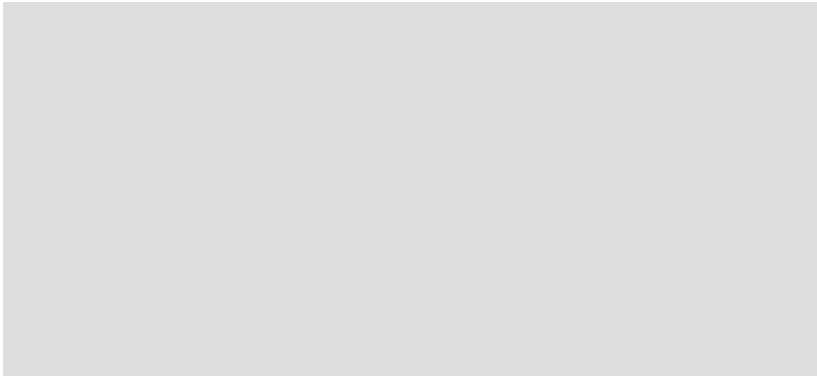
**Can you describe a favorite memory at the MDC?**

A favorite memory would be feeling welcomed. I was feeling like I was falling apart, but getting the support here has made a huge difference in my life.

# Photos from Spring 2019

Write Image Caption here











## Multicultural & Diversity Center

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## Contact Us

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Hours  
Monday/Wednesday 9am-6pm  
Tuesday/Thursday 9am-5pm  
Friday 9am-4pm