

Sazi was able to grow in their career through the fellowship. After the second phase of the fellowship she was hired by Health Care Authority as a Behavioral Health Transition Age Youth People Housing Policy Lead. Some of Sazi's accomplishments within the fellowship included assisting the Thurston County B-That Coalition by providing Technical Assistance and the coordination of several community events within Thurston County. One of these community events included coordinating a large community mental health awareness event in Tenino. Sazi gathered the support of stakeholders throughout Thurston County including the Washington Traffic Safety Commission, several advocacy groups, and health providers. Sazi also participated in several workgroups at the state level including work within the Traffic Safety Commission, Liquor and Cannabis Board, and in conjunction with the Department of Health. Their favorite part of the fellowship was networking with leaders in the field of behavioral health and participating in meetings where impactful decisions were being made.

Sazi saw themselves grow in many ways. Professionally, she was able to freely network with and learn from state agency leaders. The rich learning experiences increased Sazi's confidence in their ability to assist with significant social change and engage in leadership activities. Personally, Sazi enjoyed how the fellowship helped them construct a clearer vision of the necessity and value of their own beliefs and experiences. As a result, Sazi experienced boosts in self-actualization, noting that anything she dreams of doing is within reach.