



*Lives Transformed*



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## SPOTLIGHT: Jonsha Harris, Head Teacher at Felton's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Center



For Jonsha Harris, who teaches Felton's youngest clients at Felton's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Center, a love of education has always been a core focus of her life. Jonsha and her eight siblings grew up in East Palo Alto, California. From kindergarten to sixth grade, she attended a magnet school; after that, she attended public school for two years before attending Mid-Peninsula High School, a private school. At Mid-Peninsula, Jonsha had classes with fifteen people or less per class, which gave her a lot of one on one time with her teachers.

"Education has always been our number one value in my house," she recalls. "We attended summer school every summer; we went to tutoring after school, and my mother and father were also hands on at all times. My grandmother instilled [that] hard work pays off into my mother which she [then] instilled into me. My mother use to commute two hours to work, drop us off at school, take us to practice, and then drive another two hours to get home. She would get home, sleep for a couple hours, and have to do the same thing the next day. Not once have I ever heard her complain about commuting or wanting to give up."

Jonsha originally imagined becoming a doctor; she wanted a job where she wouldn't sit behind a computer typing every day. Her work at a trampoline park fulfilled her desire to be active during the day, but it was the PATH Program (Promoting Achievement Through Higher Education) that put her on the road to Felton. In the PATH program, she worked with children under five years old in a classroom setting. Three years ago, Jonsha joined the Felton team and, in her work, she continues her dedication to Early Care and Education. She finds seeing children challenging themselves and achieving a level of self-confidence most rewarding.

When she is not in the classroom, Jonsha enjoys spending time with her three- year- old brother, taking him on trips to museums and parks or special treks to theme parks across the country. She is passionate about seeing those around her succeed in life, and as a motto, she believes, "what you put into your life is what you'll get out of it."

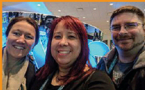
Felton's Early Care and Education Programs are rooted in the vision of working with families to provide a community in which all children entrusted in our care are safe and valued. They receive the learning opportunities to allow them to reach their full potential as life long learners. When Governor Gavin Newsom visited Felton's Family Developmental Center at Bryant Street, he encouraged the children to "keep doing the extraordinary work you're doing and to listen to your teachers, parents, and caregivers. Always be curious and always ask questions and never ever feel like your question is not a good question." See highlights from his visit by [clicking here](#).

## Felton at NatCon 2019

Felton's President and CEO Al Gilbert, Early Psychosis Division Director Adriana Furuzawa, Adult Division Director Kate Shadoan, Early Psychosis/BEAM Associate Director Bruce Adams, and Early Psychosis Monterey Program Manager Anna Ballas received an enthusiastic reception at the National Council for Behavioral Health's (National Council) Annual Conference (NatCon 2019) held in Nashville, Tennessee, March 25-27, 2019. Adriana and Bruce presented a poster entitled "Can You Hear Me Now?", which Anna co-authored; and Adriana and Patti Fetzter from Ohio presented a poster entitled "Coordinated Specialty Care for Early Psychosis Implementation in Four U.S. States."



Adriana Furuzawa and Patti Fetzter



Anna Ballas, Adriana Furuzawa and Bruce Adams

"NatCon 2019 was a great forum for Felton to continue to inform the field of early psychosis mental health practice, while also highlighting the work of peer organizations that are also pioneering early psychosis treatment. Adriana, Bruce, and Anna were sought out by mental health professionals seeking more information to inform their local care initiatives. The field continues to evolve with our contribution," Al Gilbert commented.

Felton Institute has received many honors from the National Council, including the 2014 Inspiring Hope: Science to Service Award and the 2015 Peer Specialist of the Year Award, received by a staff member of the Early Psychosis program in Alameda County.

And speaking of honors, Adriana Furuzawa was just appointed to the state's Early Psychosis Intervention Plus Advisory Committee in Sacramento.

Felton's Early Psychosis Programs are now named (re)MIND™ and Felton BEAM UP™. The conference marked the national debut of the new program names.

## Felton at IPS Leadership Conference



On March 11, 2019, Felton's Early Psychosis Division Director, Adriana Furuzawa, spoke on a panel entitled "Working It" at the regional IPS Leadership Conference in downtown Oakland, California. IPS stands for Individual Placement and Support and supports people with mental illness in their efforts to achieve steady, meaningful employment in mainstream competitive jobs, either part-time or full-time. Several team members from Felton's Early Psychosis Programs (re) MIND™ and BEAM UP™ attended the conference, and Felton's Supported Employment and Education Manager Amanda Downing presented during breakout sessions in the morning and afternoon.



"The takeaways and next steps were to continue our advocacy and improving of implementation of IPS at our individual programs, as well as championing it as leaders in the best practice of supported employment and education in counties where it is not fully developed as a county practice. The overall journey of steps is towards better employment and education outcomes for individuals in



the mental health system through the execution of evidence based support and principles," Amanda shared. The dynamic event was attended by 150 people representing 12 counties, four state agencies, 28 community based organizations and one university.

## Felton at City Hall



Photo includes Back: Shamann Walton, fifth from the right, Cathy Spensley, third from right, Edith Yamanaka, second from right

On March 1, 2019, in recognition of Women's History Month, Mayor London Breed honored three women at City Hall for their exemplary contributions to San Francisco. In Celebrating Visionary Women: Champions of Peace and Nonviolence, the Mayor presented awards to Ute Releford, Annemarie Conroy, and Marlene Tran.

Marlene Tran, a long-time resident of Visitacion Valley, has been an essential advisor to Felton's Senior Division services in Visitacion Valley. Marlene is a founding member of Visitacion Valley's Women's Roundtable, a group of community leaders Felton has

organized to find equitable solutions to neighborhood challenges. At the ceremony, Mayor Breed recognized Marlene for her passion and dedication as an educator and a community leader.



Mayor Breed and Marlene Tran

Marlene taught English at public schools and at City College of San Francisco for over 35 years. For decades, she has advocated tirelessly for immigrant rights, better transportation, safer neighborhoods and other needs of the community. She continues to advocate passionately for Visitacion Valley. Cathy Spensley, Felton's Senior Division Director and Edith Yamanoha, Felton's Aging Services Manager, were invited to attend the ceremony at City Hall. They were joined by San Francisco's District 10 Supervisor Shamann Walton.

## Felton and You



The annual Women's History Month in the United States began this year on March 1st and continues through March 31st. As the many women throughout U.S. history who have made a major impacts on the nation are celebrated, we must remember a woman who significantly impacted the lives of women, men and children, Katharine "Kitty" Conway Felton.

Kitty Felton was the first woman to graduate with the highest honors from what is today, the University of California, Berkeley, where she received the "University Medal." Later in life, Katharine Felton was awarded two honoris causa "Doctors of Law" degrees

for meritorious public service, one by UC Berkeley and the other by Mills College in Oakland, CA. All are great achievements, yet those who knew her say her proudest accomplishment was the work that she did at our agency in the early years of the 20th century.

Known then as Associated Charities, today, we honor Kitty with the name Felton Institute and continue to expand mental health and social services for low-income, at-risk children, women and men of all ages and backgrounds. Kitty's vision was clear and her determination unwavering as she led the organization with the utmost integrity.

"The aim of Associated Charities is to restore health and re-establish self-support, even if this entails months or years of patient effort. It is not sufficient to say, 'I am doing the best I can.' Your best is useless unless it adequately cares for a situation."  
~ Kitty Felton

During her 39 visionary years of running the organization, Kitty established high standards of innovation, transformation and service, which continue today. Her imprint in the social service sector extended beyond San Francisco and the Bay Area, throughout the state of California and the United States.



The successful programs she initiated in San Francisco, in large part, led to shaping the child welfare programs on the west coast of the United States.

The first juvenile court and ensuing probation officer on the west coast were established in San Francisco, California, with enthusiastic assistance from Katharine Felton, Associated Charities, and her allies that comprised the San Francisco Committee, including political dignitaries, clergy and other influential men and women. Since then, it is now commonplace to see a juvenile court system in place in virtually every county in the United States.

Kitty Felton was not only an innovator; she was also a successful collaborator. She established partnerships through lobbying into existence the State Board of Charities and Corrections, which is the forerunner of the State Department of Welfare, and she was instrumental in organizing the Community Chest, which is a forerunner to the United Way.

Felton Institute is now known, locally, nationally and internationally as an innovator of mental health and social services.

Today, we at Felton continue to value our community partnerships, our loyal supporters and our volunteers who help us help others in great need. Please consider a gift to Felton Institute and our more than 50 programs which provide life transforming mental health and social services to low-income, at-risk people in need in San Francisco, the Bay Area and throughout California.

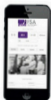
"Do just what any good neighbor would. Look around and see what you can do to help." ~ Kitty Felton

To give to the cause for which you have passion, text FELTON to 41444 on your mobile device; it's quick and easy.

For more information about Felton Institute, visit [felton.org](http://felton.org) or call 415-474-7310.

Source: *Katharine Felton and Her Social Work in San Francisco* by Jean Burton.

Your generous donations transform lives. Thank you!



© Felton Institute | (415) 474-4730 | [communications@felton.org](mailto:communications@felton.org) | [felton.org](http://felton.org)

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