

## **Our Mission**

The San Fernando Valley Counseling Center (SFVCC) is a nonprofit mental health center that provides low-cost mental health counseling on a sliding scale basis. SFVCC believes that the benefits of counseling to a person's growth and development should be available to everyone regardless of their income or insurance status. Through the dedicated commitment of highly-trained and supervised trainees, interns, and volunteer counselors, we provide access to quality, affordable counseling for individuals, couples, children, and families struggling with a wide range of mental and behavioral health issues.

## **SFVCC Primary Program and Services Areas**

SFVCC serves anyone who can benefit from low-cost mental and behavioral health counseling. Our counseling model and sliding scale fee structure makes quality counseling services available to lowincome individuals and families who face significant barriers in accessing mental health care. Our counselors address a wide range of mental and behavioral health issues including stress disorders, depression, anxiety, grief and loss, suicidal ideation, and substance abuse. We treat individuals, couples, and families, and offer domestic violence counseling and parenting classes.

## A History of Serving the San Fernando Valley

SFVCC was founded by Claire Greene in 1971 with the mission of making mental health counseling services available to those who needed that support but simply couldn't afford it. Working from the basement of First United Methodist Church in Van Nuys, CA, she established SFVCC with a team of volunteer mental health paraprofessionals, under the direction and supervision of psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, and licensed marriage and family counselors. As a small organization with a large impact, SFVCC has continued to use this model, in addition to incorporating trainees and interns, to improve the mental health and wellbeing of thousands of low-income individuals and families.

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