



KAREN GIORDANO-BRENGHAUSE

~ LMFT in Private Practice for over 20 years ~

Hello. I counsel young children, adolescents, adults, couples, co-parents, and families. My work includes grief and loss, trauma, adjustment to family structure changes – divorce, separation, and new partner, and helping individuals learn to manage intense feelings, communicate, and resolve conflicts more effectively. I enjoy facilitating changes in individuals, co-parents, and families so that people grow and experience relationships differently. When I am not working, I visit my children on the East Coast, raise my “wolf”, and decorate.

EDUCATION I earned a BA degree from the University of California, Davis (major: Psychology; minor: Education) and an MS degree from the California State University, Stanislaus (major: Counseling Psychology). I wrote my thesis on attachment: “The Effects of Parental Cognitions, Child Temperament, and Life Stress on Security of Attachment.” Because I came from a family of counselors, psychologists, and criminal justice professionals, I often tell people that my training started during my adolescence.

WORK HISTORY

- Group home counselor: Facilitated sessions for boys and their families targeted for reunification and wrote quarterly reports for CPS and Probation.
- School-based counselor at an elementary school and a partial hospitalization day program.
- Emergency Department Counselor: Crisis intervention and 5150 assessments.
- Head Start and Visions Unlimited: Manager, trainer, and child and family therapist.
- Critical Incident Crisis Responder for organizations and banks involved with traumatic events.
- Manager at Sacramento County Behavioral Health Division: Monitored agencies serving homeless clients with severe mental illness; assessed clients in locked settings; wrote contracts; facilitated County-wide trainings; and became an expert in SSI benefits acquisition.
- Manager at Sacramento County Primary Health Division: Supervised a multidisciplinary medical team, managed the Refugee Health Clinic, and wrote grants. Two years ago, I reduced my work to only writing grants to fulfill my dream of becoming a Private CCRC.

WHY PRIVATE CCRC? I first learned about Private CCRC in 2007 through direct experience. Since then, I have pursued forensic education and training. As a Private CCRC, I will be able to blend my interest in forensic psychology with my love for writing and advocating for children.

CCRC PRACTICUM TRAINERS Linda Tell, RN, LMFT, and Wendy Campbell, LMFT.

SUBJECT FLUENCY

- Private CCRC/Mediation
- Child Abuse and Neglect
- Severe Mental Illness
- Refugee Resettlement
- Private 3111 Evaluations
- Trauma-Focused Therapy
- Co-Occurring Disorders
- SSDI and SSI Benefits
- Co-Parenting Counseling
- Attachment in the Lifespan
- Family Systems Therapy
- Parent-Child Contact Issues