



KAREN GIORDANO-BRENGHAUSE

Hello. I am a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist practicing for 26 years in Sacramento. 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 daughter on the East Coast, raise my “wolf”, and decorate.

EDUCATION I earned an MS degree from California State University, Stanislaus, (major: Counseling Psychology) and a BA degree from University of California, Davis, (major: Psychology; minor: Education). 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 early 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/co-occurring conditions; assessed clients in locked settings; wrote contracts; facilitated County-wide trainings; and became an expert in Social Security benefits acquisition.
- Manager at Sacramento County Primary Health Division: Supervised a multidisciplinary medical team, managed the Refugee Health Clinic, and wrote grants. For the last four years of my employment, I wrote grants and managed data to fulfill my dream of becoming a Private CCRC and Child Custody Evaluator. I retired in 2023 from grant writing to work full-time in forensic psychology.

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, LMFT/RN, Wendy Campbell, LMFT, Ken Johnstone, LCSW/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