

# Santa Ynez Valley People Helping People

## Programs & Services

### Children and Youth Services

- Workforce Preparation and Career Counseling Services
- High School Mentoring Program
- Middle School After School Program
- Early Childhood Mental Health-Special needs Counseling Program
- Pregnant and Parenting Teens Program
- Coalition to Promote a Drug Free Youth

### Family Support and Strengthening Services

- Advocates for Domestic and Child Abuse Prevention Program (ADCAP)
- Early Education
- School Based Family Resource Centers
- Padres Adelante (Parent Advocacy Group)
- Holiday Gift Giving Program
- Solvang Parent Education Class
- Medical Social Legal School Systems Advocacy
- Translation/Transportation Services
- Case Management

### Basic Needs

- Food Distribution Programs
- Rental and Mortgage Assistance
- Utility Assistance
- Clothing/ Household Items Assistance
- Mobile Home Repairs
- Temporary Shelter

### Contact Information

545 North Alisal Rd.  
Solvang, CA 93464  
Phone: 805.686.7353  
Fax: 805.686.7376

Web: <http://www.syvphp.org/index.html>

### Director of Health and Social Services

Arcelia Sencion

## Our Mission

People Helping People is dedicated to improving the lives of men, women and children in the Santa Ynez Valley, Los Alamos and Gaviota Coast by addressing emergency and basic needs and furnishing comprehensive integrated family and individual support services.

## Our Vision

People Helping People has a vision that all men, women, and children in our community have the opportunity to attain self-sufficiency with dignity and are able to fulfill their potential.

The family described is a single-Latina parent, two sons ages 5 and 2 years old. The family was referred to PHP by the 5-year old teacher due to concerns about his behavior in the classroom. Teacher requested a parent-teacher conference to discuss older son's increasingly inappropriate behavior and mother's disclosure of domestic violence in the home.

Mother reported her husband has been verbally and emotionally abusive many years. He screams and there are constant put downs. He would remind her that she does not work nor have the ability to do anything on her own. The father drinks alcohol and mother described him "as having a problem." Father is often intoxicated in front of children. Father works full-time while mother stays at home.

The Family Service Coordinator (FSC) met with mother to discuss referral and to determine needs and goals. Mother disclosed she was ready to leave relationship but unsure how to move forward and was afraid her husband would kidnap her children in retaliation. In addition, mother reported neither of her children had medical insurance and she was also uninsured. The FSC assisted in the application process to enroll children in Medi-Cal. Mother needed immediate dental care due to injuries as a result of violence. She had several teeth missing and a noticeable jaw injury that negatively impacted her self-esteem. The FSC worked with PHP's Community Health Access Resource Team providers to negotiate a reduced rate for her dental treatment and local dentists provided restorative dental care.

After careful consideration and planning, mother terminated her relationship with her husband. He moved out of the apartment and agreed to pay part of the rent. Client had never worked and began to submit job applications at local restaurants and hotels. She eventually secured a job however due to the high cost of housing and living, mother was unable to meet the basic needs of the family. She was enrolled in PHP's Food Program and received groceries on a biweekly basis.

Mother was concerned about her children's increasingly violent behavior at home and school and children were referred to the PHP's Early Childhood Mental Health Counselor to provide school-based counseling intervention services. Soon after, the school teacher reported a significant decrease in violent outburst and inappropriate behavior of the children. Mother has learned various positive parenting techniques in order to engage and form positive relationship with her children. PHP staff provided case management services and guidance to navigate through governmental systems that were unfamiliar to the client. With the high level of stress and anxiety diminished in the household and improved physical health for the mother, she began to focus on parenting. Mother feels good about the decision she made to leave the relationship and to live in a peaceful home.