



## District Chiefs

North Region (Service Areas 1-5)  
Mary R. Barraza, LCSW  
213.276.5574

South Region (Service Areas 6-8)  
Angela Shields, Ph.D.  
213.272.8115

## Program Managers

Service Area	Name(s)
1	Sylvia Heins, LCSW 213.271.6990
2	Anabel Aispuro, LCSW 213.256.3033
3	Louis Suncin, LCSW 213.804.5038
4,5	Haydouk Zakarian, LCSW 213.925.3139
6	Angelia Ridgway, LCSW 213.841.9409
7	Lisa Leon, LCSW 213.276.5578
8	Kim Nguyen-Pierce, Ph.D. 213.760.6397

## LACDMH Values

**Integrity.** We conduct ourselves professionally according to the highest ethical standards.

**Respect.** We recognize the uniqueness of every individual and treat all people in a way that affirms their personal worth and dignity.

**Accountability.** We take responsibility for our choices and their outcomes.

**Collaboration.** We work together toward common goals by partnering with the whole community, sharing knowledge, building strong consensus and sharing decision-making.

**Dedication.** We will do whatever it takes to improve the lives of our clients and communities.

**Transparency.** We openly convey our ideas, decisions and outcomes to ensure trust in our organization.

**Quality and Excellence.** We identify the highest personal, organizational, professional and clinical standards and commit ourselves to achieving those standards by continually improving every aspect of our performance.

**If you are in crisis and need help right away, call our 24/7 toll-free Help Line:**

**800.854.7771**

[dmh.lacounty.gov](http://dmh.lacounty.gov)



## ▶▶ Countywide Specialized Foster Care (SFC) Program



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
**DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**  
hope. recovery. wellbeing.



## About

Specialized Foster Care (SFC) mental health services program was designed to assist children entering into the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Child Welfare System. SFC ensures that children receive timely and appropriate mental health services.

Our program consists of co-located LACDMH program managers, clinical supervisors, psychologists, psychiatric social workers, and case managers within DCFS offices countywide. SFC staff screen and evaluate referred DCFS children/youth in order to link them to community-based mental health and other service providers.



## How We Can Help

SFC is an integral part of an interdisciplinary team. Coordination between County departments and team members is vital to assist youth and families in finding hope, maintaining recovery and promoting wellbeing.

The LACDMH SFC team is available to:

- Screen and assess DCFS youth in order to identify their mental health needs at home, school or in the community.
- Link eligible DCFS youth with identified mental health needs to services in their community.
- Provide consultation to DCFS children's social workers on mental health issues, available programs and assist with linkages for youth and families.
- Provide in-service training on mental health topics.
- Assist with crisis intervention.

- Provide short term supportive services until youth are linked to ongoing treatment.
- Participate in Child and Family Team Meetings (CFTM) and others such as Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT), hospital discharge planning and Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) meetings as needed.
- Serve as liaisons between Community Providers and DCFS workers.
- Provide referrals and resources to family members.
- Provide access to our Officer of the Day (OD).

## Referral Process

All referrals must go through the DCFS referral portal using the Mental Health Referral Form and Coordinated Services Action Team (CSAT) process. Required documents must accompany referrals and include: completed Child and Adolescent Needs and Strength (CANS) assessment, consents, minute orders, proof of Medi-Cal insurance, caregiver information and current address/telephone number. Once we receive a completed referral packet, we will evaluate the youth and family's needs and link to appropriate mental health services.