



The Village Counseling Center, established in 2001, is one of the premier agencies in North Florida for treating children, adolescents and young adults for issues related to abuse, trauma and adoption with specialized services for both victims and family members. Based in Gainesville, Florida, VCC currently provides services in over 16 counties in North Florida including Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Gilchrist, Levy, Suwannee and Duval County. VCC offers a variety of general and specialized mental health services including individual, couples and family therapy, psychological evaluations, parent education classes, training and clinical consultation.



## Help and Hope for Children and Families

The Village Counseling Center is or has been a mental health provider or referral agency for a number of agencies including:

- Alachua County Sheriff's Office
- Camelot
- Child Advocacy Center
- Children's Home Society
- Community Foundation for North Central Florida
- Daniel Memorial
- Dept. of Children and Families
- Dept. of Juvenile Justice
- Devereux Florida
- Gainesville Police Department
- Guardian ad Litem Program
- Jewish Family Services
- Kids Central Inc.
- Meridian Behavioral Healthcare Inc.
- Office of the State Attorney
- Office of Victim Services
- Partnership for Strong Families
- Providence Human Services
- Public Defenders Office
- UF Child Protection Team (CPT)
- UF Health



At the Village Counseling Center, all clinical services are provided by experienced, licensed professionals and are adapted to meet the unique needs of each child and family. VCC adheres to a resiliency-based model — developing and addressing each client's strengths, needs and support system. VCC staff have evaluated and successfully treated more than 3,000 children and adolescents who have suffered physical, sexual and emotional abuse, and behavior problems. The Village Counseling Center advocates strongly to help clients transcend the trauma of early childhood abuse, learn appropriate behavior and pursue safe, healthy and meaningful lives.

## Village Counseling Center Programs

### VCC SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION & TREATMENT PROGRAM

As a leader in the provision of services for children and adolescents who have experienced sexual abuse and/or sexual behavior problems, VCC's pioneering services have successfully evaluated and treated thousands of children and adolescents with sexual issues including sexual acting out and offending, child-on-child sexual abuse and sexual abuse.

### VCC TRAUMA RECOVERY PROGRAM FOR YOUTH, ADULTS & FAMILIES

We offer a range of services dedicated to helping survivors of trauma including specialized assessments, treatment and support services. VCC clinicians provide Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) and Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) Psychotherapy, both of which are evidenced-based and highly effective in resolving emotional difficulties caused by traumatic life experiences.

### ADOPTION SUCCESS PROGRAM

The goal of this program is to increase the long term success and quality of care in permanent adoptive placements. We provide education and support to prospective and post-adoptive families regarding the social, emotional, and cultural challenges involved in the adoption process. The focus is to help clients learn skills necessary to cope with change, build trust and to transition into a long term, loving and successful family. Our licensed clinicians are also Adoption Competent Counselors who have completed over 40 hours of specialized training through the State of Florida and Rutgers University.

### VCC DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (DV) PROGRAM

The primary goal of this program is to help participants understand the dynamics of their relationships to help stop future aggression and violence. The VCC Batterers Intervention Program (BIP) fulfills all court ordered requirements and is a comprehensive 26-week class based on the Duluth Power and Control Model. Other services provided include a 6 hour Effects of Domestic Violence on Children Course as well as 26-week Nonviolence Curriculum for Women's Group that fulfills Court Ordered Requirements. All services provided are facilitated by specially trained and licensed counselors.

### VCC TRAINING & CONSULTATION PROGRAM

Available to professionals and paraprofessionals, direct-care workers, foster parents, community leaders and volunteers — VCC training & consulting includes topics related to child sexual abuse, child sexual behavior problems, adolescent sexually offenses, child-on-child sexual abuse, psychological trauma, domestic violence, parenting, adoption issues, attachment disorders, Foster children, self-harm, crisis intervention, critical incidents, debriefing and general mental health problems. Most VCC training programs are approved for continuing education (CE) credits.

### VCC GENERAL COUNSELING SERVICES

We provide general counseling for a variety of issues including but not limited to anxiety, depression, relationships, grief/loss, family conflict, post traumatic stress, anger management, parenting, child/teen behavioral problems, couples/marital counseling as well as a variety of other issues.

**ROBERT EDELMAN, M.Ed., Ed.S.**  
CEO/President, Director of Clinical Services  
Licensed Mental Health Counselor  
Certified Juvenile Sex Offender Therapist  
Adoption Competent Counselor  
Florida Qualified Supervisor (LMHC, LMFT)  
Child Forensic Evaluator  
EMDR Therapist

**PAULA WEAVER, M.S.W.**  
Regional Director  
Licensed Clinical Social Worker  
Certified Juvenile Sex Offender Therapist  
Adoption Competent Counselor

**ALLYSON MACK, M.Ed., Ed.S.**  
Licensed Mental Health Counselor

**BETSY FISCHER, M.S.W.**  
Licensed Clinical Social Worker  
Adoption Competent Counselor

**DEANNE NESTY, B.A.**  
Clinical Care Coordinator

**BRANDI RHODEN, M.A.**  
Licensed Mental Health Counselor  
Certified Juvenile Sex Offender Therapist  
Adoption Competent Counselor

**ERIN (ROSIN) BROWN, M.Ed., Ed.S.**  
Licensed Mental Health Counselor  
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist  
Adoption Competent Counselor

**DR. MARY McCUE**  
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist  
Adoption Competent Counselor

**DR. LINDA ABELES**  
Licensed Clinical Psychologist  
Staff Psychologist  
Team Psychologist UF Child Protection Team

**CORINNE EDWARDS, M.Ed., Ed.S.**  
Licensed Mental Health Counselor  
Adoption Competent Counselor

**LISA GARRETT, M.Ed., Ed.S.**  
Licensed Mental Health Counselor  
Certified Juvenile Sex Offender Therapist  
Adoption Competent Counselor

**KELI BALL, M.A.**  
Licensed Mental Health Counselor  
Certified Adoption Counselor

**BRUCE FERRIS, M.A.**  
Licensed Mental Health Counselor  
Certified Batterer's Intervention Program (BIP) Facilitator

**CORRIE GROSS, M.A.**  
Licensed Mental Health Counselor

**LESLIE HOLLAND, B.A.**  
Office Manager

**AMY SPENCE, B.A.**  
Psychologist Assistant

**KIMBERLY THIGPEN**  
Administrative Assistant

### ASSESSMENT SERVICES

- Batterer's Intervention Assessments
- Bonding and Interactional Assessments
- Child Custody Evaluations
- Competency/Forensic Evaluations (Child and Adult)
- Domestic Violence (DV) Assessments
- I.Q. & Gifted Testing
- Pediatric Occupational Assessments
- Psychological Evaluations (with/or without Parent-Child Observation)
- Psychosexual Evaluations
- Sexual Behavior Assessments
- Trauma Focused Mental Health Assessments

### THERAPEUTIC SERVICES

- Adoption Counseling (with Certified Adoption Counselors)
- Couples Counseling
- Domestic Violence Counseling (Offenders and Survivors)
- EMDR Therapy
- Family Counseling
- Individual Counseling
- In-Home & In-School Counseling
- Juvenile Sexual Offender Treatment (by Certified Therapists)
- Marriage Counseling

- Pediatric Occupational Therapy
- Pet Therapy
- Sexual Abuse Counseling
- Sexual Behavior Therapy
- Trauma Therapy

### CURRENT GROUPS & CLASSES

- Adopted Children - Parenting Class
- Effects of Violence on Children Class
- Group Therapy for Sexually Abused Girls
- Group Therapy for Traumatized Children
- Nonviolence Curriculum for Women's Group (26 weeks, Court Approved)
- Batterer's Intervention Program/Group (BIP) for men (26 weeks, Court Approved)
- Adolescent Sexual Offender Group for Boys

### OTHER SERVICES

- Case Management & Clinical Coordination
- Clinical Consultation & Supervision
- Expert Witness Testimony
- Licensure Supervision (Qualified supervisors for LMFT, LMHC & LCSW)
- Safety Planning & Placement Recommendations
- Specialized Training & Workshops
- Keynote Presentations
- Victim Advocacy

## Treatment and Evaluation Specializations

Abuse/Neglect

Adoption Issues

Anxiety

Attachment Disorders

Child Behavioral Issues

Child Divorce Issues

Communication & Coping Skills

Couples Issues

Custody Evaluations

Depression

Domestic Violence

Family Conflict

Foster Care

Gifted Assessments

Grief/Loss

Impulse Control

Juvenile Sexual Offending

LGBTQ - Child/Teens

Marital Conflict

Oppositional & Defiant Behavior

Parent Education & Support

Parenting Interventions

Premarital Issues

Relationship Issues

PTSD

Safety Planning

Self-Esteem

Self-Harm

Sexual Abuse

Sexual Acting Out

Suicidal Ideation

Trauma

Victim's Issues & Advocacy



**3919 W. Newberry Road, Suite 5 (second floor)  
Gainesville, FL 32607  
(352) 373-8189 Phone  
(352) 373-8190 Fax  
info@villagecounselingcenter.net**

**Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**  
(By appointment only)

*The Village Counseling Center is connected to the Florida Citizens Bank on West Newberry Road (State Road 26) at NW 39th Road. Separate from the bank, the VCC main lobby and parking are located in the rear of the building.*



### Referral?

Call (352) 373-8189 or visit  
www.villagecounselingcenter.net  
to download our referral form or  
complete our on-line referral form.

You can also email or send a referral to  
referral@villagecounselingcenter.net