



Ramona Sanchez, LCSW, LMFT

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Welcome to our practice! We are pleased to have the opportunity to serve you and hope this will provide information helpful in making an informed decision concerning our services. Please ask questions at any time. David VanDerBeek, LMFT and Ramona Sanchez, LCSW, LMFT of Pahrump Valley Counseling, LLC operate independently from each other.

Ramona Sanchez, LCSW, LMFT

I am a clinical therapist and have been in practice since 1984. I am licensed by the Board of Examiners for Social Work Examiners and the Board of Marriage and Family Therapist Examiners. I have two national certifications - Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW) and the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC). I opened Pahrump Valley Counseling in 2012. I am a resident of Pahrump and serve on the board of directors for two local community non-profit agencies - Nevada Outreach Training Organization (No to Abuse) and C.A.S.A. (Court-Appointed Special Advocates) that serves foster care children. I am a member of the International Association of Trauma Professionals.

I work with adults, children/adolescents providing individual, couple and family therapy tailoring treatment approaches to best meet needs of clients. I have extensive experience in working with persons experiencing distress in their lives due to a multitude of challenges, such as mood disorders, adjustment-related problems, relationship discord, grief/loss, divorce/separation, occupational/academic stress, trauma and other life changes. I will collaborate, if desired; with other health care professionals to best meet your treatment needs whenever possible.

David Van Der Beek, LMFT

As your therapist, I'm interested in whatever works to get you better. The key to success in therapy is generating movement towards success in all areas of your life. Your success is defined as however you choose to define it and I will support in whatever you choose. I do not let my clients off the hook on growth. The therapy process is driven forward towards your constant and never-ending personal growth and tapping into the power within you. I expect the same growth from myself as a person and your therapist.

I use a variety of therapeutic models and training, because I put people before approaches, always seeking whatever treatment modality will bring success to the specifics of each unique case. Your suffering is sacred ground. The complexity of any human life goes beyond all models and my primary concern is providing you with a safe space for exploring new possibilities for your life now. My preferred therapies include those I find to be most effective with most people including Emotional Freedom Technique (ie. trauma meridian tapping), youth and adult identity issues, Johnson's Emotion Focused Couples Therapy, spiritual models, Christian-based counseling and the Enneagram personality system.

My personal form of therapy that I have developed is called The Path to Peace, which I'll be happy to teach to you. I do not give you a therapy. I gift to you a life path. I am honored to do this great work and I would be honored to assist you in any way I can. I love Pahrump and I love serving the people here.

I am a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in Nevada. I have a B.A. in Philosophy, an M.S. in Marriage and Family Therapy. I have worked in residential treatment, juvenile justice, comprehensive agency treatment, and now private practice all here in southern Nevada. I am also a veteran, listed with LDS Family Services and *habló español*.

Appointments

Services are by appointment only. The length of the appointment time varies based on the services provided. Generally appointments are about 45 minutes in duration, which may be dependent on insurance coverage. Please kindly give at least a 24 hour notice when cancelling or rescheduling appointments, otherwise you may be charged as indicated below.

Phone Calls and Messages

We do not accept phone calls while with clients, unless necessary. Calls are typically answered during the daytime office hours (Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM); otherwise, if you receive a recorded voice mail, please leave a message and someone will get back with you as soon as possible otherwise you will be given instructions on the voice mail message, for example if the therapist is on vacation.

Treatment: What You Can Expect

We expect and encourage you to be an active participant in your therapy, taking responsibility for increasing wellbeing. We expect and encourage you to learn about the procedures, goals, and effects of psychotherapy. We expect to make professional contact one in which you receive the maximum benefit.

Psychotherapy can be tremendously beneficial. It will involve your taking risks which will help you grow as a person but may be difficult for you or result in your feeling uncomfortable.

In the process of psychotherapy, you may experience feelings you had not anticipated or that you don't like, such as sadness, anger, fear, guilt or anxiety. There is nothing wrong with experiencing any of those feelings, they are natural and normal and an important part of the therapy process.

Sometimes major life decisions are made when in therapy, including decisions involving separation within family, development of other types of relationships, changing employment and lifestyles. These decisions are a legitimate outcome of therapy and result from exploring your beliefs and values.

Other Clinical Services Provided

While the majority of time is spent in providing counseling, at times other services are provided. These include assessment and diagnosis, facilitation and problem-solving in emotionally-charged situations, including divorce, child custody and other human relationships; consultations to individuals seeking to have questions answered about other members of their family, friends, and so on. If these specialized services are provided, you will be informed of the fee charges.

We are not physicians and do not prescribe medicine. Once in a great while, a client's distress remains or becomes so high that hospitalization or the use of medication must be considered. If this should occur with you, we will discuss with you the option of a psychiatric consultation. We often work with psychiatrists and collaborate on medication, hospitalization and second options for clients.

Your Rights

You may question, get information about, and/or refuse therapeutic or diagnostic procedures at any time. We promise you confidentiality and it is assured by Nevada law. There are, however, important exceptions to confidentiality that are legally mandated. In general terms, these exceptions include:

- The law requires that relevant people be notified if there is a belief that you have the intention to harm yourself and/or another person.
- We are obliged by law to report suspected physical and/or sexual abuse involving children or others that are considered vulnerable, such as the elderly.
- In legal cases, the therapist and/or records may be subpoenaed by the court.

Please request and complete the “Release of Information” form, if you wish to secure and/or release information.

Charges for Services

We offer a sliding-fee scale for those without access to insurance and/or in need. If you wish to be considered for a sliding fee scale, please inquire prior to the start of service. Otherwise, charges for services are as follows:

- Initial interview and evaluation for one or more persons, 50-60 minutes, \$250.
- On-going therapy sessions for one or more persons, 45-50 minutes, \$150.
- Reports requested by a third party, \$250.
- Court appearances for up to a half day, \$700.
- Additional court appearances, per half day, \$600.
- Cancellation charge—cancellation of scheduled appointments must be made to the office 24 hours in advance. Failure to do so may result in a \$75 fee charge, unless waived by therapist.
- Record review, \$150 per hour.
- Collateral consultations in person, or telephone, \$150 per hour.

The fee covers time on your behalf, including documentation and preparation. We encourage you to discuss fees at any time. Payment is required at time of session. When a report is to be made to a third party, payment in full is necessary before the report is released. The same applies to court appearances—payment must be made in advance. Please read and sign the attached “Financial Responsibility statement.”

Using Your Health Insurance

If you have a health insurance plan, your visits may be reimbursed by your insurance company. It is your responsibility if you are a client of Ramona Sanchez to notify the billing manager (Pam) at (775) 537-2388 of any changes in insurance plans or eligibility; otherwise, David VanDerBeek’s clients should notify David. Your insurance company probably requires diagnostic and treatment information before they will pay claims for services. If your insurance carrier fails to reimburse you in a manner which you expected, you are still responsible for payment for these services.

Release of Liability

I agree to be responsible for my own physical safety and the safety of my children. I hold Pahrump Valley Counseling and the individual therapists harmless from any personal injury and/or liability while on the office premises.

I have read, understand, and agree to the above practices and procedures.

Signature

Financial Responsibility Statement

Assignment of Benefits

I hereby guarantee payment of all charges incurred for myself, spouse, and/or minor children. I hereby assign and direct to pay any and all benefits for psychotherapy services under this claim directly to Ramona Sanchez, LCSW, LMFT/Pahrump Valley Counseling (Ramona Sanchez' clients) or David VanDerBeek, LMFT (David VanDerBeek clients). I hereby authorize the release of any medical information requested by the insurance companies with the above assignment.

I understand that Ramona Sanchez and/or her billing manager, will bill my insurance as a courtesy to me, if so requested; or, David VanDerBeek (if a client of David's). If payment is not received within 60 days from the date of billing, I will be financially responsible for full payment of all services rendered. Returned checks will be subject to a \$30 fee. I also agree to pay any and all attorney and court costs related to the recovery of unpaid balances. Please see additional policies:

All clients must provide payment/insurance information before seeing a provider. This includes providing a copy of any insurance cards/providing information during referral process and picture identification, such as a driver's license.

Full payment is due at the time of service for cash clients. Co-pays are due at time of check in for insured clients.

All accounts 120 days past due will be automatically assigned to a collection agency unless prior arrangements have been made.

Any client balance older than 60 days (after insurance has paid) must be paid before we will make your next appointment, unless prior arrangements have been made with our billing department.

Peculiarities:

We cannot be held responsible for knowing all the peculiarities and requirements of all insurance companies we deal with in our office. Please take the time to become familiar with your policy. We cannot be responsible for any underpayment of estimated benefits if there is a peculiarity about your insurance company you did not inform us of and the unpaid amount will be applied to your portion of the amount due.

Change of Benefits:

If at any point in treatment, you change jobs, become ineligible, lose mental health benefits, or your employer changes insurance carriers, you must notify us immediately. If the new carrier has mental health benefits, you must bring your card so that we may file the claim with the new carrier. Thank you for understanding and cooperating with this policy. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

I have read the financial policy described above. I understand and agree to all provisions of the financial policy.

Patient/Responsible party:

Signature

Date