



Jennifer Anderson

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Jennifer Anderson is currently the Assistant Project Director of the California Family Justice Initiative. She has had the opportunity to work with survivors of domestic violence from children to adults in diverse settings. Jennifer joined the Family Justice Center Alliance team in January 2005, providing administrative support for the President's Family Justice Center Initiative (PFJCI), working with the fifteen PFJCI sites from strategic planning, opening and beyond.

Prior to joining the Alliance team, Jennifer's work has been in direct services. She was a victim advocate on the Domestic Violence Response Team at the El Cajon Police Department where she responded to domestic violence victims at the scene. Jennifer was the founding Program Manager for the Domestic Violence Independence Program of the Crime Victims Fund. In this role, she provided support in establishing the program in addition to providing clients with case management focusing on financial literacy and independent living.

Jennifer received her BA from Pitzer College in Human Biology in 2001, where she was very involved in student research and community service. She began working with family violence issues while obtaining her undergraduate degree. Jennifer witnessed the effects of family violence as a mentor to young girls living in group homes that could not return to their families due to abuse. She also gained experience in college working with victims of domestic violence in the shelter setting while at the same time completing a senior thesis on the effects of vicarious trauma on domestic violence advocates that had a history of abuse themselves.

Jennifer has international experience with family violence. While studying in Costa Rica, she worked at a grassroots organization against domestic violence where she co-facilitated domestic violence groups and lead classes on women's health issues in Spanish. Jennifer also participated in a six week graduate social work program in Thailand following the 2005 tsunami, interning at an in-patient hospital for drug addicted male youth.

Jennifer lives with her husband and two small daughters in San Diego.