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New health care center helps underserved communities



The play therapy room at the JFCS West Valley Healthcare Center offers a comfortable playroom setting that encourages open communication in a space where children can feel relaxed and safe. (Photos courtesy of Jewish Family & Children's Service)

BY JENNIFER SCHWEGMAN
West Valley View Contributing Writer

The West Valley has a new integrated health care center.

Recognizing the need to bring affordable integrated health care to the Southwest Valley, Jewish Family & Children's Service has opened the JFCS West Valley Healthcare Center, 1840 N. 95th Avenue, Suite 160, Phoenix.

Thanks to funding from the Molly Blank Fund of the Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation and the Rosenbluth Family Charitable Foundation, health care center is the culmination of an aggressive five-year plan to have four locations provide services to underserved communities across the Valley.

JFCS opened the East Valley Healthcare Center in January 2020 at 880 N. Colorado Street in Gilbert.

The new 26,000-square-foot Phoenix location offers behavioral health and primary medical care services in one place, providing the most effective approach to caring for people with multiple health care needs. JFCS also serves residents in the Northwest Valley at its Glendale Healthcare Center located at 5701 W. Talavi Boulevard, Suite 180, Glendale.

"We remain steadfast in our commitment to provide health care services as well as health and family programs that are so important to our local community," said Rochelle Ryan, director of the JFCS West Valley Healthcare Center.

"As an agency that works with vulnerable populations who are most at-risk, it's important that we do everything we can to reach those who need services. Our newest location is yet another example that shows how dedicated we are to our mission."

The JFCS West Valley Healthcare Center offers primary care services, including physicals, wellness exams, immunizations and behavioral health care services that include individual and group therapy. Featuring state-of-the-art equipment and an enhanced large play therapy area, the health care center serves new and existing clients and their families.

In addition to offering comprehensive services onsite and via telehealth



Mary Jo Whitfield is vice president of integrated health at Jewish Family & Children's Service.

appointments, JFCS has a community-based team including therapists, clinicians, child case managers, youth and family specialists, and family support partners that support clients in providing wellness and treatment services.

For Valley residents who are members of the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), JFCS' plan to offer integrated care means these individuals will have the same access to quality care as individuals on more comprehensive health care plans.

According to JFCS Vice President of Integrated Health, Mary Jo Whitfield, access to care, transportation and gaps in knowledge about how to properly care for themselves are no longer barriers to quality health care.

"Combining primary and behavioral healthcare means a well-rounded, practical approach to treating the whole person, regardless of social or economic circumstances," Whitfield said. "The JFCS West Valley Healthcare Center strengthens the community by providing a one-stop location for these much-needed integrated services."

Jewish Family & Children's Service is a nonprofit, nonsectarian organization that strengthens the community by providing behavioral health, health care and social services to all ages, faiths and backgrounds.

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