



Working to promote emotional well being

Counselor-on-Campus (COC) Program Information Sheet for Parents

COC Program

Almaden Valley Counseling Service (AVCS), in arrangement with your child's school, provides short-term counseling at the school site at no charge to the student or his/her family. Referrals to counseling are made by teachers, school staff and parents. Sometimes the students will self-refer. Referrals are made for a variety of reasons, for the benefit of the student's personal, academic, and social success. The counselor is on-site during specified day(s) and times.

How It Works

After the referral is made, if the student is (12) years of age or older, the counselor will see him/her for an assessment. Parental consent is required for the student to be seen again, and parents will be called and/or a consent form will be sent home. If the child is under the age of (12), parental consent will be obtained before the student is seen.

Students may be seen for a maximum of 6 – 8 times, although exceptions are sometimes made at the discretion of AVCS. Sessions are usually once per week for 30-45 minutes each. If the student would benefit from additional counseling beyond the 6-8 sessions, or if the nature of the problem makes school site counseling inappropriate, the counselor will recommend outside counseling. The student may be seen at the AVCS office, at another community counseling center, or by a private therapist.

With the exception of obtaining parental permission, confidentiality is strictly observed *except* in cases of possible harm to self or others, suspected child abuse, or subpoena by a court of law.

Almaden Valley Counseling Service (AVCS)

AVCS provides counseling services to individuals and families. Counseling at the agency is provided on a sliding-fee scale basis and is conducted by MFT Interns and trainees, under supervision of licensed Marriage and Family Therapists. AVCS also offers classes on parenting and co-parenting to assist with the challenges of raising children alongside other life challenges.

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