

# MEET OUR CLINICIANS

"Lifting Children from Crisis to Hope"



**Angela Smith-Moore** was born in Granada Hills, CA and moved to Corrales, NM as a child. She attended California State University, Northridge where she received her Bachelor's degree in psychology in 2008. Angela spent 6 months working as a nanny in Madrid, Spain, for a family with two boys. Soon after, she moved to Albuquerque, NM, to pursue her graduate studies, in 2012, Angela received her Master of Arts degree in counseling Psychology from Webster University. Her experience in providing direct client care to children with historic and complex trauma has helped her in her roles as a Treatment Foster Care Program Manager and as a Clinical Supervisor. She is a SAFE Certified Home Study Evaluator, making sure every foster home meets the highest ethical standards of practice. Angela has worked as a therapist, in a variety of settings, including working with youth in Therapeutic Foster Care and Shelter. Angela has served in the capacity of a Clinical Supervisor for nine years and has learned clinical skills under strong mentors. Angela is passionate about the protection and preservation of wildlife and natural beauty of New Mexico, the clinical and ethical care of New Mexico's youth, particularly foster youth, LGBTQ+ and other marginalized populations, and helping people. She has served as the Clinical Supervisor of Childhaven's Therapy Program since February 2023.

Angela is certified in the following evidence-based treatment modalities: Trauma Focused-Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Eye Movement Desensitization Repositioning (EDMR), Sand Tray Therapy, Motivational Interviewing and is an Advanced Trainer of the Nurtured Heart Approach.



**Heather Yazzie, LCSW**, grew up in San Juan County, NM and on the Navajo Nation. She graduated from Adams State University, in Alamosa Colorado, with her Bachelor's degree in Psychology in 1997. Heather received her Master's degree from New Mexico Highlands University in 2018. Heather began her career at Childhaven in 2011, as a Treatment Foster Care Coordinator, and later served as the Foster Care Program Director, helping re-frame the lives of children with severe emotional and behavioral health issues. Currently, she is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and trauma-responsive Therapist for both Childhaven's Advocacy Center and Therapeutic Foster Care programs, in addition to her outpatient therapy clients. Heather provides evidence-based treatment and psycho-education to children and their family members and has been working as a licensed therapist for Childhaven since 2018.

Heather has worked with children, adolescents, and adults since 1996, in a range of services including: juvenile justice diversion, adult developmental services, children and adolescent psychiatric and residential treatment facilities including teen substance abuse, child welfare investigations, treatment/regular foster care and currently, as a behavioral health therapist.

Heather is certified in the following evidence-based treatment modalities: Trauma Focused-Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Eye Movement Desensitization Repositioning (EDMR), Sand Tray Therapy, Alternative for Families-Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and CAMS Suicide Assessments.



**Sydney Nez** is Dine from Shiprock, NM, and is native to the Four Corners. She is a Therapist and Treatment Coordinator at Childhaven. Sydney started her youth work as a Teen Coordinator at a boys and girls club and then was hired as a Youth Advocate at the Childhaven Shelter Program. In 2014 she received her undergraduate degree in Social Work from New Mexico Highlands University and went on to complete her Master's in Social Work in 2021

Sydney was promoted to a Treatment Coordinator in the Childhaven Foster Care Program in 2012 and is in the process of obtaining her therapy license as a Master's level Social Worker. She provides evidence-based treatment and psycho-education to children and their family members and specializes in the support and training of therapeutic foster parents. She is trained in and conducts Structured Analysis Family Evaluation/SAFE Home studies, assuring every foster home meets the highest ethical standards of practice. Sydney also serves as our Interim Director of the Foster Care program. In her dual roles at Childhaven she helps reframe the lives of children with severe emotional and behavioral health issues. Sydney chose a career in the therapy field based on her own background and personal experiences. She feels motivated to help the clients and enjoys seeing the progress they make every day.

Sydney is certified in the following evidence-based treatment modalities: Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing, Motivational Interviewing and Parent Child Interactive Therapy.