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June 21, 2021

Dear Friend of New Beginnings,

I hope this finds you and your family well. So many people in our community have suffered hardships during this challenging time. The number of people experiencing severe anxiety and/or depression has skyrocketed, and individuals from economically disadvantaged backgrounds have been disproportionately impacted. Nearly half of Americans suffering from a mental illness go without any treatment because they cannot afford it.

For over 50 years, our Counseling Center has ensured that everyone in our community, regardless of their ability to pay, can receive mental health treatment. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic recession, we lowered our fees substantially for our clients who were financially impacted. While our average fee is typically \$13 per session, many of our clients are now paying less than \$5 a session for our services.

Despite this challenge, we stood strong, and with your help, we have continued to deliver on our mission. In addition, with our telehealth platform, we are able to meet people where they are at and serve people throughout the county who would not otherwise be able to access mental health services.

We have learned from previous disasters that the psychological toll on people who have been severely impacted can persist for many years. Being able to access mental health treatment during a critical moment can be life-changing. Today, we have more people seeking our services than ever before, and we expect this trend to continue for the foreseeable future.

Please consider making a gift today, which will support our Counseling Center directly and help more people access our services. A gift of \$250 provides an individual, couple, or family with at least five months of counseling. Any amount helps and will go a long way in strengthening our community.

Thank you for your past support and your kindness and generosity.

Sincerely,

Michael Berton
Development Director

mberton@sbnbcc.org | (805) 963-7777 x112



New Beginnings
324 East Carrillo Street, Suite C
Santa Barbara, California 93101
Phone: (805) 963-7777 | Fax: (805) 963-8135
www.sbnbcc.org

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Thank you for all you do to support our agency and community! We decided to launch our first-ever summer appeal campaign to raise funds to help ensure our fellow community members can access our mental health counseling services. We hope you enjoy reading our appeal and look forward to being able to gather together in person soon!

Our mission is to provide quality, affordable counseling, shelter, case management, and education that strengthens our community and provides our clients with the ability to live healthy and productive lives.