

## **Todo Por Mi Familia: *Mental Health Services for Reunified Families***

In November 2019, the District Court of Central California ordered the federal government to provide immediate mental health services to thousands of families that were separated at the border and who remain in the United States. The [order](#) is a result of a class action lawsuit, *Ms. J.P. v. Barr*, brought by three Central American mothers who were separated from their children after crossing the U.S. border seeking asylum.

[Seneca Family of Agencies](#), a non-profit mental health agency, is leading **Todo Por Mi Familia**, a nationwide effort to connect impacted families with mental health assessments and treatment. Over the last two years, Seneca supported the class action lawsuit as a pro bono expert witness and consultant.

### **Scope of Services:**

- Families qualify for services if they were separated by the U.S. Government on or after July 1, 2017 and remain in the United States.
- Parents can receive individual therapy and/or family therapy, depending on what the mental health provider determines is appropriate after an assessment.
- Seneca will coordinate referrals to local mental health clinics that meet the families' various needs.
- Mental health services will be free and conducted in a language that the family speaks fluently. Seneca will arrange payment for applicable co-pays and coordinate interpretation services if needed through early 2021.
- Seneca will not share any information about the family or services they access with any individual or agency without prior written and informed consent and will not share any identifiable information with the U.S. Government.

### **Potential Signs that a Family May Benefit from Services:**

- Difficulties at school, work, home, or in relationships
- Increased and on-going worry about their safety or fear of re-separation
- Changes in familial relationship since reunification
- Difficulty sleeping or eating
- Withdrawal, apathy, lack of enjoyment of usual activities
- Inability or decrease in the ability to comfort or console one another
- Substance abuse

**Families can access services by calling Seneca's Confidential and Toll-Free Hotline at 844-529-3327 or e-mailing [info@todopormifamilia.org](mailto:info@todopormifamilia.org).**

For more information about scope of our services, please contact Paige Chan, Esq. at 323-326-8287 or [paige\\_chan@senecacenter.org](mailto:paige_chan@senecacenter.org).