

Mia Arredondo

Board Member

I've served the San Fernando Valley as an Intervention Specialist with Champions in Service for more than 20 years, well before intervention was established in the valley. After the devastating loss of my older brother whose life was taken as a result of gang violence, I've always felt it is my responsibility to work towards making our community safer. I've had the ability to stand up against gang violence with Champions in Service through Intervention Services to those who fall victim, Policy Reform within the City of Los Angeles, education of our youth, and making resources accessible to our community.

I've always done my best to embed my passion for my work into everything I do, whether it be life classes, gender-specific support groups, advocacy, or one-on-one support for my clients.

As of now, I work as a Supervising Case Manager (through CalVIP) for CIS, and continue to mend the overwhelming need for mentorship of young people within the San Fernando Valley, to help expose them to alternative lifestyles outside of gang involvement and ultimately give them the support and guidance they need to discover their individual purpose.

One of the most rewarding parts of my job is being able to work alongside individuals with passions that align with mine in regard to community impact and improvement, and that is what I have found with CSSJ. But more than this, I found an environment that offered support and allowed healing from the trauma I've survived in my life, and I hope to bring this same experience to those within my community. I anticipate irrefutable benefits to having the presence and support of CSSJ in the San Fernando Valley. It is not only my passion, but my obligation to create the road for having our community's presence felt in the State Capitol, something I hope to achieve through empowering and educating my community on the importance of voting. As we implement "Heal the Vote" in the San Fernando Valley, I hope to provide more resources to my community and the participants I graciously serve.

In the grand scheme of all things regarding my work, it is my hope that every parent, and mother like myself, will be given the opportunity to create wonderful and lasting memories with their children in a safe environment, like I do every day with my four beautiful daughters. I know that working with CSSJ is another important steppingstone that will pave the road to a better and safer community for everyone.

