

CENTER FOR CHILD PROTECTION



2009 ANNUAL REPORT

help. hope. healing.

LETTER *from the*
DIRECTOR



Dear CHILDREN

I have wishes for each and every one of you as you grow up and experience this world. Many of life's greatest adventures happen now, when you are young and full of imagination. My greatest wish would be for you to remain innocent and live without the pain of abuse and the betrayal of being hurt by someone who should protect you. But the reality of this life is that some of you will suffer because of abuse. My fervent goal is that you won't have to go through it alone.

All of us as mothers, fathers, grandparents, aunts and uncles believe that we have a special responsibility to you and to the children in our lives. We know that you depend on us as a community to teach, respect, inspire and protect you. This is true whether you are a baby or a teen on the verge of becoming an adult. It is our responsibility and our duty as a part of living in this wonderful community to make sure you can grow up feeling safe.

Last year, the Center was there for so many children just like you. We saw boys and girls from two years old to seventeen. They came from all over Travis County and may have gone to your school. These children were brought to the Center because they were hurt, injured and had the courage to tell a safe grown-up. Many of them now have hope that their lives will get better. In 2009, we saw more teenagers than ever, because we now have the space at the new Center to give them the help they need.

If you ever need help, I want you to know that because of all of the adults that have supported the Center by donating, volunteering and attending events, you'll have a place to go. My prayer is that I will only see you as you enjoy and play on the playground or are hanging out at the mall with your friends. But if I see you walk into the Center, know that there are so many adults in our community that truly care about you. They care about what has happened to you and are working to make sure that you have all you need to get past the hurt and begin to heal.

Please remember that whenever you are feeling alone, there are people who care about you. People that don't even know you but want to protect you from harm. My hope is that there will always be a safe, caring adult who is there for you in every moment of crisis, but know that we will be here when you need us the most.

Wishing you joy and safety,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra A. Martin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sandra A. Martin

Chief Executive Officer

A CHILD'S TRUTH



“A hero is an ordinary individual who finds the strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles.”

- Christopher Reeve

PEOPLE *often* ASK...

...how long a child is involved with the Center for Child Protection. The answer, of course, is not straightforward since each family has different needs and different circumstances surrounding their case. At the core of the Center's involvement, however, is the child-centered nature of our services. Each child processes trauma at his or her own pace, and we are committed to working with every child and their protective caregivers until they are ready to move forward.

Nine year old Lauren* is a child whose trauma was so severe that she has received services through the Center for almost five years. At age four, Lauren lived with her mother, and her mother's boyfriend, Sam. Sam had not only befriended little Lauren, but had convinced her that the two of them were husband and wife. Lauren loved to play make-believe, but at her young age, she didn't understand that the wedding ceremony arranged by Sam was not real. Sam used these techniques to manipulate Lauren into having sex with him at the tender age of five. He used her to play out many sexual fantasies, including his favorite - little Lauren in a cheerleader outfit. The abuse continued for many months, and Lauren became so traumatized that she began to experience common symptoms of victimization - she was easily startled, had night terrors, and developed attachment issues.

Once her mother found out and reported the abuse, Lauren first came to the Center to describe her abuse in a forensic interview. Due to her extreme trauma, Lauren was referred to regular appointments with one of the Center's therapists. Over the course of several years, Lauren's progress was slow because her mother's poor choices had perpetuated a chaotic home life for her. The Center's therapist continued to help Lauren work through her trauma, and at the same time, advocated for Lauren with Child Protective Services to find a more

appropriate placement for her. Thankfully, Lauren had a grandparent who was able to provide a stable and nurturing home. It wasn't long before Lauren began to make progress in her therapy sessions, and a reduction in her symptoms was evident. Despite this, Lauren's therapist and her close family members felt as though she had been too traumatized to testify against Sam. Lauren was referred to the Center's Court School program, which provides courtroom education to children and protective caregivers just before their case goes to trial. With the support of her grandparent, Lauren did extremely well in Court School. Being familiarized with the courtroom and knowing what to expect helped give her the strength and courage to testify in open court against Sam. Though no one believed that she would be able to withstand the stress of a criminal trial, Lauren remained strong, and her testimony resulted in a 60-year conviction for her abuser.

*Names and identifying circumstances have been modified to protect the privacy of families.



“WHEN *despair* AND DESPERATION REPLACE
DIGNITY AND JOY IN THE SOUL OF A CHILD,
THE MOST HORRENDOUS OF CRIMES AGAINST
HUMANITY HAS BEEN COMMITTED. SHAME ON
ANYONE WHO CAN TURN AWAY. THE CENTER
FOR CHILD PROTECTION PROVIDES THESE
little ones WITH WINGS. WE MUST
SUPPLY THE *wind*.”

- *Lynne Skinner, Former Board Member,
Founder, Austin Cup*

CHILD *and* FAMILY SERVICES



*“The most important question in the world is, ‘Why
is the child crying?’ ”*

- Alice Walker

Forensic Interview

After a report of abuse is made to law enforcement or Child Protective Services, children are brought to the Center for Child Protection to begin the investigation process. Each child is interviewed by a trained forensic interviewer whose job it is to collect a complete account of what happened for the investigation.

Medical Exam

Children may return to the Center to receive a medical exam if their abuse is suspected to have taken place more than 96 hours from the reported incident or over a long period of time. A pediatrician specializing in forensic medical exams for children conducts a thorough examination to document evidence that can be used during a criminal investigation.

Therapy Services

The Center provides individual therapy, family therapy, crisis counseling intervention, emergency clinical assessments, psychiatric assessments, family assessments, family reunification sessions, and termination session services. These services are offered at no charge to ensure children have access to the help they may need to heal from the trauma of abuse.

Family Advocate Program

Family Advocates at the Center provide immediate crisis intervention and support while the child receives a forensic interview and throughout the duration of the case. Empathetic practitioners guide parents and caregivers through the steps in the investigation and prosecution process, so they can quickly access resources, therapy, and follow-up assistance needed to support their child, family, and themselves.

Intensive Case Management

At-risk families receive intensive one-on-one case management to prevent child abuse or neglect. Home visits and assessments may be done to assist a family to better understand how to manage a child's complex situation.

Group Services

Parent Education Class – Topics include child development, home safety, healthy choices, communication, conflict resolution, stress management, effective discipline and self-esteem.

Protective Parenting Group – Topics include crisis and trauma, physical and sexual abuse, neglect, domestic violence and substance abuse, patterns of behavior, defenses, empathy, communication, boundaries, personal responsibility, attachment and bonding.

Protective Parenting-Sexual Abuse – Topics include defining sexual abuse, impact of sexual abuse on the family, victim and sexual abuse dynamics, offender dynamics and cycle of offending behaviors, being a protective caregiver, personal risk factors, and rebuilding a strong family.

Court School

Each month, the Center hosts a court orientation program to introduce children and families to a court room in advance of their scheduled appearance. Forensic interviewers explain the different roles of each court official, and children have the opportunity to role-play and ask questions.



“I HAD WANTED TO DO VOLUNTEER
WORK FOR ABUSED OR NEGLECTED
CHILDREN FOR A WHILE, BUT I THINK OUT OF
fear OF WHAT I MIGHT BE FACED WITH, I KEPT
PUTTING IT OFF. ONCE I STARTED WORKING
WITH THE KIDS, I REALIZED THEY ARE JUST
normal kids THAT HAVE EXPERIENCED
SOMETHING TOUGH. I WAS AMAZED BY
THEIR *resilience.*”

- *Mayra Artusi, Volunteer*

Emergency Funds

During times of acute crisis, the Center may provide emergency funds and resources for family preservation. Through the “Kid’s Closet,” staples such as car seats, bottles, and clothing are available to children and their protective caregivers who come to the Center. All expenditures are designed to be short-term in nature yet make a high impact to reduce the trauma for children or move them through the system more quickly. Other examples include purchases of medication, bus fare, or food.

A YEAR *in* REVIEW



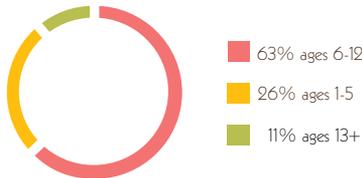
*“There can be no keener revelation of a society’s soul
than the way in which it treats its children.”*

- Nelson Mandela

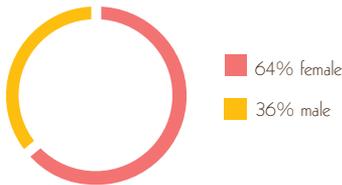
IN 2009...

3,409 services were provided to 1,484 children and 3,043 services were provided to 1,123 adult caregivers. A total of 739 children were brought to the Center for Child Protection for a forensic interview. A majority of children were referred because of sexual abuse, were female, and between the ages of 6 and 12.

Age of Children Interviewed

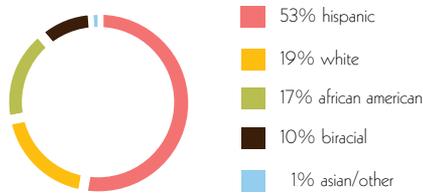


Gender of Children Interviewed



A majority of children (69%) came to the Center because of sexual abuse. Children were also referred to the Center because of physical abuse (14%), witnessing a violent crime (11%), multiple abuses (4%), or other reasons (2%). Of those reporting, 45% of caregivers reported an income at or below the federal poverty line, although children referred to the Center came from across the city and surrounding county from affluent, middle-class, poor, urban, and rural areas alike. Center staff provided most services in English and Spanish. All children and families received services at no charge.

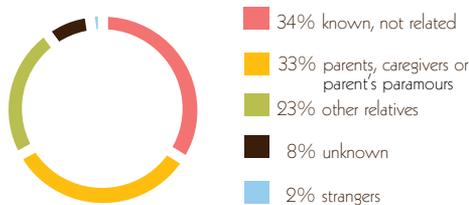
Race/Ethnicity of Children Interviewed



Profile of the Offenders

Despite popular fear of stranger danger, children are most at risk of harm from people they know. Ninety percent of children referred to the Center reported the person who harmed them was someone they knew. Of the offenders reported, a majority were male (87%) and age 17 or above (71%).

Offenders' Relationship to Child



Volunteer Report

In 2009, 200 volunteers contributed 13,049 hours of service valued at \$264,242. This was a record year with a 22% increase in total hours served. Monthly volunteer orientations allow potential volunteers to learn about the Center and the various opportunities available. Volunteers assisted children waiting for interviews and therapy appointments. They sorted and inventoried clothing, hygiene essentials, and child safety seats in the Kid's Closet. They also participated in administrative capacities such as tracking data and statistics

so critical to recording information about children helped throughout the year. Our generous volunteer base ensures that services for children and families run smoothly, extending the Center's ability to help more children and families as they recover from the trauma of abuse.

Interns from area universities have been instrumental in raising the standard of care given to children and families that use Center services. Last year alone, they contributed 4,545 hours of service. Not only did they assist with follow-up calls to families, case tracking and research, they also contributed by assisting with set-up and registration at various fundraising events.



THE FRIENDS *of* CHRISTOPHER GUILD

The Friends of Christopher Guild is a sustaining volunteer membership organization dedicated to expanding the safety net for abused children.

Founded in 1992, this diverse group of women assists the Center through fundraising and direct services to children and families. In October 2009, the Guild held the sixth annual PlayBingo Ladies Luncheon. The event raised \$164,070 on behalf of the Center. The Guild also sponsored the 18th Annual Lexus Car Raffle which raised a record \$199,142.

FINANCIAL REPORT



“Generosity is not giving me that which I need more than you do, but it is giving me that which you need more than I do.”

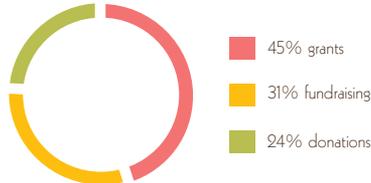
- Kahlil Gibran

Financial Report

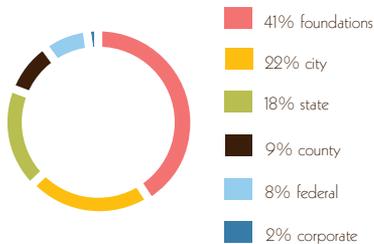
The Center for Child Protection spent \$2,843,800 toward total operations, and held \$9,515,654 in net assets at the end of the year. A total of 79% was spent on program costs including forensic interviews, therapy, parenting classes, and clinical staff. Fundraising expenses were 18%, and 3% was spent on administrative expenses. All of the services were provided to children and families at no charge.

A majority of the Center's funding comes from private sources (74%), which is obtained by donations from individuals, corporations, and private foundations. Government funding accounted for 26% of income in 2009.

2009 Funding Sources



2009 Grant Funding Sources



CORPORATIONS & FOUNDATIONS

- 21st Century Technologies, Inc.
- 3 Roots Foundation
- 4Charity Foundation, Inc.
- A Texas Christmas Carol
- AcupunctureAustin.com
- Aetna Foundation
- Alice Kleberg Reynolds Foundation
- All Ways Dance
- Allen Financial Services
- Allied Sales Co.
- AM 1300 The Zone
- American Airlines
- An Affair to Remember Catering
- API Productions
- Applied Materials
- Austin Aztex
- Austin Capitol Concrete
- Austin Catering
- Austin Community Foundation
- Austin Cops for Charities
- Austin Custom Boots
- Austin Home Works
- Austin Med Spa
- Austin Museum of Art
 - Laguna Gloria
- Austin Social Planning
- Austin Wellness Clinic
- Bank of America
- Bank of America Foundation, Inc.
- Barker Photography
- Best Buy Children's Foundation
 - Tag Team Awards
- Betty Lash & Kate Skin
- Blue Genie Art Industries
- Boon Insurance
 - Management Services, LP
- Borders
- Boris Body & Fine Auto
- Brilliant
- Broadcast Marketing & Entertainment
- By George
- Calvin's Fine Jewelry
- Calypso St. Barth
- Casino Knights, Inc.
- Champion Toyota
- Children's Justice Act
- ClubCorp Charities, Inc.
- Cohn & Wolfe
- Combo Mahalo
- Continental Airlines
- Convio
- Cornerstone Group Architects
- Coutures by Laura
- Cristiani's Jewelers
- Crosswind Communications
- CSIdentity Corporation
- Daniller and Company
- David Yurman
- Dell Children's Medical Center
 - of Central Texas
- Dell Direct Giving Campaign
- Dell Foundation
- Dillard's
- Dolce Salon
- Dresser Wayne
- Driscoll Motors
- Eliza Page
- Elizabeth Christian & Associates
- Entorian Technologies
- Eric Hegwer Photography
- Estilo
- Executive Signs Austin
- FameCast, Inc.
- Fancy Plants
- FastFrame and the Westlake Gallery
- Feather Your Nest
- Final Touch Fitness
- Fleckman & McGlynn, PLLC
 - & Wine Bar
- Four Seasons Hotel
- Francine & John Webb Foundation
- Frost Bank
- Gibson Plumbing
- Ginny's Printing
- Global Impact
- Grande Communications Passion and Commitment
 - Investment Club
- Greater Austin Development
- Greenhat Event Design
- GSD&M Idea City
- Haddon + Cowan Architects
 - Collaborative
- H-E-B
- Hilton Austin
- Horseshoe Bay Resort Marriott
- Houston's Restaurant
- HyPerformix, Inc.
- IBM Employee Services Center
- Ideal Image
- Infoglide Software
- International Bank of Commerce
- JCD Business Ventures
- JCS Consulting
- Joe and Teresa Long Family Fund
- Julian Gold
- Julia's Gems
- Junior League of Austin
- KB Home
- Keepers
- Kurant Events
- KVET 98.1
- KVUE
- KXAN Austin News
- Laine Strategy Group
- Lake Austin Spa Resort
- Lakeway Golf Club
- LCRA Employees' United Charities
- Lexus Champions For Charity
- Lexus of Austin
- Life Purpose Consulting
- LifeSize Communications
- Lombardi Software
- Lone Star Materials, Inc.
- Lowe Foundation
- Luxe Apothetique Salon & Spa

Mama Fu's
Mandarin Flower Company
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Mays Family Foundation
McCarthy Print, Inc.
Media Choice
MFI Foundation
Million Dollar Round Table
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2009

GUARDIAN *angels*



“The guardian angels of life fly so high as to be beyond our sight, but they are always looking down upon us.”

-Jean Paul Richter

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Deborah & Stephen Yurco

Child Protection Team Members

The following agencies collaborate with the Center for Child Protection to reduce the trauma for children during the investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases: Austin Police Department, A.I.S.D. Police Department, Bee Cave Police Department, Cedar Park Police Department, Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas, Jonestown Police Department, Lago Vista Police Department, Lakeway Police Department, Leander Police Department, Manor Police Department, Mustang Ridge Police Department, Pflugerville Police Department, Rollingwood Police Department, Sunset Valley Police Department, Texas Department of Family & Protective Services, Travis County District Attorney's Office, Travis County Sheriff's Office, and West Lake Hills Police Department.

CENTER FOR CHILD PROTECTION

help. hope. healing.

The Center for Child Protection's mission is to reduce the trauma for children during the investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases.

The Center for Child Protection, a nationally accredited children's advocacy center, is the only nonprofit in Travis County involved in the investigation of crimes against children. The Center's best practice children's advocacy center model is widely endorsed to improve crime investigations and services for children and families. The Center provides a safe, non-threatening environment for children to begin the investigation process and tell what happened to them. After the initial interview, a child may return for a medical exam, counseling and other assistance for themselves and their family during the investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases. Immediate intervention means that children can recover more quickly and families receive what is needed to put their lives back together after an abuse outcry. For 18 years, the Center for Child Protection has worked in collaboration with the Child Protection Team to help 10,184 children who have walked through the Center's doors to be heard at the point of interview and receive help, hope and healing. If you know of or suspect a child is being abused, call 1-800-252-5400. If the situation is an emergency, dial 9-1-1.



8509 FM 969 Bldg. 2 | Austin, Texas 78724 | Phone: 512-472-1164
Fax: 512-472-1167 | www.centerforchildprotection.org

The Center is a founding member of the National Children's Alliance and
of Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas, Inc.

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