



Children's Advocacy Center of Paris

Annual Report 2020

Multi-Disciplinary Team

Children's Advocacy Center
Child Protective Service
Lamar County District
Attorney's Office
Paris Police Dept.
Reno Police Dept.
Lamar County Sheriff's Office
Lamar Juvenile Probation
Red River County Attorney's
Office
Red River County Sheriff's
Office
Clarksville Police Dept.
Bogata Police Dept.
Rivercrest ISD Police Dept.
Red River Juvenile Probation
Local Mental and Medical
Providers

**Our Mission is to
provide hope,
healing and
justice to child
victims of crime in
Lamar and Red
River Counties.**

We Are Resilient

Every day we have the opportunity to serve children in Lamar and Red River Counties who have come forward to disclose their experiences of trauma, violence and abuse. These reminders of courage and bravery continuously ground us and reinforce our appreciation for our Multi-Disciplinary Team partners and our community supporters like you who have helped ensure children impacted by abuse in our area have a voice and can seek safety, justice and healing.

During this last year, home was a place of safety for most of us. Home became our school, our office, our sanctuary, our diner and movie theater where we were able to spend quality time with those we love. But for many children facing abuse, home wasn't the safest place for them. For many children the shelter in place orders meant being shut at home with their abuser. While many other areas saw a decrease in the number of children served due to decrease in child abuse reports, we served a total of 359 children impacted by abuse—a **31% increase from the year before AND the highest numbers of children served in over 15 years**. All because our community—YOU—had the courage to make reports of child abuse when needed.

Throughout all that 2020 threw at us, the staff at the CAC of Paris have remained resilient and strong, focused on providing the critical trauma-informed services child victims need. We believe that every child in Lamar & Red River Counties who is impacted by abuse deserves the best we, as a society, can offer them during times of crisis and trauma: The Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) Model which give them a voice and helps child victims of abuse find their resiliency and their strength. Thank you for helping us be a part of this sacred journey as they find their hope, healing and justice.

With gratitude,

COVID-19 Impact & Response

2020 taught us to expect the unexpected, but it also confirmed what we already knew—that child abuse does not stop during times of crisis. We saw first hand how isolation and economic volatility created circumstances that increased the likelihood of child abuse and other forms of violence. Designated as essential personnel by the Office of the Governor and the Texas Division of Emergency Management at the start of the pandemic, the CAC of Paris pivoted to adapt to the unique challenges presented by donning PPE, increased cleaning and sanitation, and by utilizing innovative technology to continue to provide services and facilitate joint investigations with partner agencies.

Services Provided



Joint Investigation Coordination

- 734 reports of abuse and neglect from the Department of Family & Protective Services were reviewed



Specialized Child Forensic Interviews

- 289 children were able to tell their story of abuse to a specially trained forensic interviewer



Victim Support & Advocacy

- 188 families received crisis intervention and family advocacy services



Forensic Medical Evaluations

- 14 Forensic Medical Exams were conducted by trained SANE nurses



Multi-Disciplinary Team Case Review

- 215 children's cases were reviewed by the Multi-Disciplinary Team and facilitated by CAC Paris



Rainbow Room Services

- 242 children received over \$17,000 worth of items from the Rainbow Room—a **54% increase from 2019**



On-Going Training

- 23 MDT members & CAC staff were provided access to the virtual Crimes Against Children Conference and TEND Conference



Mental Health Services

Therapy helps the healing process begin. And since child abuse affects the whole family, the services provided at the CAC are available at no cost to every child and their non-offending family members.

New for 2020: Problematic Sexual Behavior Cognitive Behavioral Therapy—This specialized therapy model is designed to help children ages 7-12 and their caregivers learn how to gently address problematic sexual behaviors in a therapeutic setting; helping caregivers set healthy boundaries and teach body safety rules.

- 84 Child victims received 396 free counseling sessions—a **9% increase from 2019**
- 50 Non-offending parents received 221 free counseling sessions—a **24% increase in the number of sessions from 2019**

Community Awareness and Education

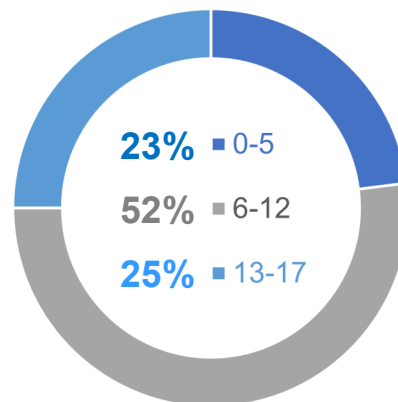
COVID-19 reinforced the importance of learning the signs and symptoms of child abuse and how to report. Do you know how to recognize and report child abuse? We welcome any opportunity to speak at various civic clubs, church groups or businesses. Call us today to schedule a free training for your group, church or school– we can even provide training on a virtual platform.

By the Numbers

Types of Abuse

- 53%** Sexual
- 17%** Physical
- 15%** Witness to Crime
- 10%** Neglect
- 5%** Drug Endangered

Ages Served:



Alleged Perpetrator

Relationship to Victim:

- 32%** Biological Parents
- 24%** Known Non-Relatives
- 15%** Other Relatives
- 11%** Parents' Boyfriend/Girlfriend
- 7%** Step Parents
- 7%** Siblings

85% had never been to the CAC before

23% were not old enough to attend Kindergarten

99% of child victims knew & trusted their alleged perpetrators



The Multi-Disciplinary Team Process

The Children's Advocacy Center of Paris (CAC) provides the critical services children and their non-offending families need as they go through the criminal justice system. The CAC coordinates the investigation of the most severe cases of child abuse in our community by bringing together the professional agencies that investigate child abuse to form a multi-disciplinary team that collaborates and works the investigations jointly so that the child's best interests are kept in mind. Since 1999, the CAC of Paris has worked with Law Enforcement, Child Protective Services, Mental and Medical Health Providers and Prosecutors to help over 4,700 victims of abuse.

Two Fun Ways to Support!



Save the Date!

21st Annual
Sweetheart Soiree
February 12th, 2022

Sponsorships available soon



2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Corey Fagan, *President* | Chadlee Johnston, *Vice President* | David Thrasher, *Treasurer* | Derek Chennault, *Secretary* | Bill Higgins, *Past President* | LeAnna Bawcum | Chris Bean | Aaron Benson | Chastiti Briggie | Shari Coker | Kenny Daus | Kelsey Doty | Sara Estrada | Cory Jones | Jeremy Massey | Jill Novak | Mihir Pankaj | Johnathan Smith | Steve Smith | Lindsey Severson | Kenneth Webb | Lee Wilson

2020 CAC STAFF

Rebecca Peevy, *Executive Director* | Don Dickerson, *Finance Director* | David Coats, LPC, LDCD, *Therapist* | Angela Bates, *Forensic Interviewer* | Jaci Shovan, *Family Advocate/ Intake Coordinator* | Reisa Holzwarth, *Family Advocate* | Heather Handy, *Administrative Assistant*



Child Abuse Hotline

1-800-252-5400



711 Pine Bluff
PO Box 536
Paris, TX 75460
P: 903-784-5787
F: 903-784-7104
www.cacparis.org
Facebook/CACParis

Financial Information

Revenue	
Grant Funding (includes VOCA, HHSC, United Way, St. Joseph's Community & Lennox)	\$421,084
City and County Funding	\$21,167
Fundraising	\$74,216
Private Contributions/Other Income	\$23,396
Total Revenue	\$539,863
Expenses	
Program	\$394,011
Building/Maintenance	\$6,596
Training	\$8,230
Fund Development	\$36,057
Operating Expenses	\$65,455
Total Expenses	\$510,349