



# Children's Advocacy Center of Paris

Annual Report 2021

## 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

## Finding Their Voice

Child abuse doesn't just happen to the child but effects the whole family and creates a complex range of trauma and emotions that can last a lifetime. Thankfully, the CAC of Paris is the place where children and their families impacted by trauma can start to find help. Every day we have the opportunity to give children a voice where they can disclose their experiences of trauma, violence, and abuse and start their journey towards healing. 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 that voice.

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Perry".

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

## A Multi-Disciplinary Team Approach

A committed and effective Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) with a shared common goal is the foundation of our Children's Advocacy Center. Our MDT is composed of representatives from all our local law enforcement agencies, child protective services, prosecution, juvenile probation, medical providers and our CAC staff which includes forensic interviewers, victim advocates, and mental health providers. MDT's coordinated investigations and service delivery to mitigate potential trauma to children and families, to keep open the lines of communication and maintain transparency and foster trust, and to help optimize a quality response overall, while preserving and respecting the rights of clients, and the mandates and obligations of each agency. A coordinated approach results in efficient interagency communication and information sharing, ongoing collaboration of key individuals, and a network of support for children and families.



## Services Provided in 2021

### Joint Investigation Coordination

A child abuse investigation is started when a report of abuse is made to either local law enforcement or Child Protective Services. The CAC of Paris starts helping facilitate the joint investigation approach at the time a report is received, getting our partner agencies together faster and ensuring no report falls through the cracks.

- 709 reports of abuse and neglect from the Department of Family & Protective Services were reviewed and collaborated on.



### Child Forensic Interviews

The Forensic Interview is a developmentally appropriate, fact-finding interview designed to gather as much reliable information from a child regarding allegations of abuse or neglect. The Forensic Interview is often the cornerstone the rest of the investigation is based on.

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

### Victim Support & Advocacy

Caregiver support is essential to reducing trauma and improving outcomes for children and family members. Our Family Advocates are skilled in providing support and education to families as they navigate the multiple systems and agencies involved in a child abuse investigation.

- 157 families received crisis intervention and family advocacy services.

### Mental Health Services

Therapy helps the healing process begin. 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. CAC therapists work with children on complex issues utilizing Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy.

- 81 Child victims received 464 counseling sessions  
- a **29% increase from 2020.**
- 45 Non-offending parents received 210 counseling sessions

### Forensic Medical Evaluations

A forensic medical evaluation holds an important place in the multi-disciplinary assessment of child abuse. An accurate and complete history is essential in making medical diagnoses and determining appropriate treatment of child abuse.

- 19 Forensic Medical Exams were conducted by trained Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs).

### Multi-Disciplinary Team Case Review

Every month we bring all our partner agencies together to review every open case— from cases that are just beginning to cases that are awaiting prosecution. By sitting down together as one team and discussing each case, the team is able to share information and make better case decisions.

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

## On-Going Training for Staff and Multi-Disciplinary Team Partners

Ongoing learning is critical to our CAC staff and Multi-Disciplinary Team Partners' success and we are proud to be able to provide access to specialized trainings on crimes against children topics.

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

## Rainbow Room Services

Our Rainbow Room is where new clothing, shoes, hygiene items, and pack and plays are provided to children entering into the foster care system or who are placed with relatives while their case is being investigated.

- 238 children received over \$20,500 worth of items from the Rainbow Room—a **15% increase from 2020**.

## By the Numbers

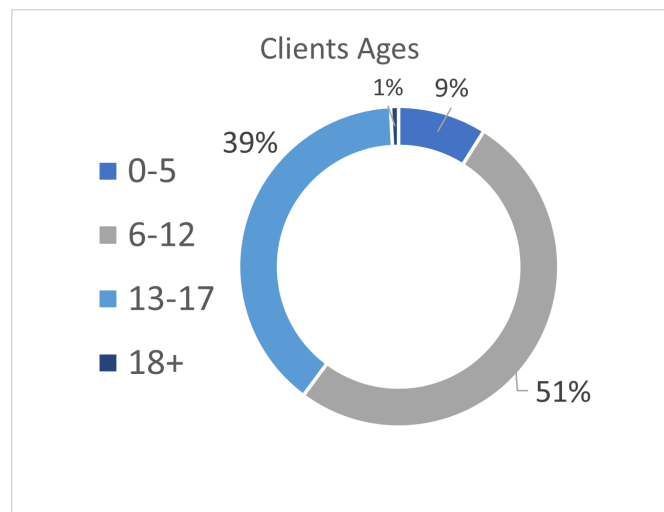
### Types of Abuse

- 53%** Sexual
- 20%** Physical
- 23%** Witness to Crime
- 3%** Neglect

### Alleged Perpetrator

#### Relationship to Victim:

- 34%** Biological Parents
- 19%** Known Non-Relatives
- 11%** Other Relatives
- 10%** Parents' Boyfriend/Girlfriend
- 14%** Step Parents
- 9%** Siblings



**86%** had never been to the CAC before

**9%** were not old enough to attend Kindergarten

**99%** of child victims knew & trusted their alleged perpetrators

## Community Awareness and Education

Now, more than ever, it's important to know how to protect the children in your life? It is estimated that for every adult who learns the signs and symptoms of abuse, ten children are made safer. 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 1 hour training for your group, church or school— we can even provide training on a virtual platform.



# Upcoming Events

22st Annual  
*Sweetheart Soiree*

February 11th, 2023

Love Civic Center

Sponsorships available soon

3rd Annual  
**Chipping Away At Child Abuse**

**Golf Tournament**

Monday, April 24th, 2023

Paris Golf & Country Club

## 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chadlee Johnston, *President* | Derek Chennault, *Vice President* | Levi Graham, *Treasurer* | Lee Wilson, *Secretary* | LeAnna Bawcum | Chris Bean | Chastiti Briggle | Broadway | Kenny Daus | Kelsey Doty | Sara Estrada | William Higgins | Brittany Twitty Johnson | Cory Jones | Brittney Williams-Keys | Jeremy Massey | Jill Novak | Mihir Pankaj | Johnathan Smith | Lindsey Severson | Kenneth Webb | Marianne Whitehouse

## 2021 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**



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Paris, TX 75460  
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F: 903-784-7104  
www.cacparis.org  
Facebook/CACParis

## Financial Information

<b>Revenue</b>	
Grant Funding (includes VOCA, HHSC, United Way, St. Joseph's Community & RAM Foundation)	\$470,460
City and County Funding	\$30,791
Fundraising	\$87,350
Private Contributions/Other Income	\$34,996
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$623,597</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Program	\$409,480
Building/Maintenance	\$33,674
Training	\$11,178
Fund Development	\$7,694
Operating Expenses	\$80,493
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$542,519</b>