

ANNUAL REPORT 2022 - 2023

A word from the executive director:

As we reflect on the year that has been and anticipate what is to come, our thoughts remain with the brave and resilient children that we were established to serve and the shared dedication of our community to make a lasting impact in their lives. Child abuse knows no boundaries and affects every neighborhood and community. Nationally, the reality remains that 1 in 7 girls and 1 in 13 boys will be sexually abused before they turn 18. As the Southeast Alabama Child Advocacy Center enters our 30th year, we remain steadfastly committed to supporting children and seeking an end to child abuse.

Our community recognizes child abuse as one of our most pressing concerns, and we have made progress in both our work in preventing child abuse and providing best practice interventions. We continue to invest in making sure our staff strives for professional excellence, whether that means seeking licenses and certifications in their chosen fields, or pursuing new and promising methods to engage and educate our community and stakeholders on their responsibility to recognize, report and prevent abuse.



We are introducing two new services to our community beginning in 2024. Our Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program will begin providing expert and compassionate medical care to children ages 0-18, who are survivors of sexual assault and abuse. In addition, we are launching our Darkness To Light community education initiative, which seeks to provide free training to adults and youth-serving organizations in our community and motivate others to feel empowered and informed to take preventative actions.

Together, let's work to strengthen and support a community where children are loved, believed, and protected. Every child deserves someone who will listen, support and act. Together we hold the power to redefine their stories from ones of tragedy to those of triumph.

For the Kids,







Forensic Interviews 357



Trauma-Focused Mental Health Sessions

861

Victim Advocacy 7,522



Multidisciplinary Team Case Coordination Meetings

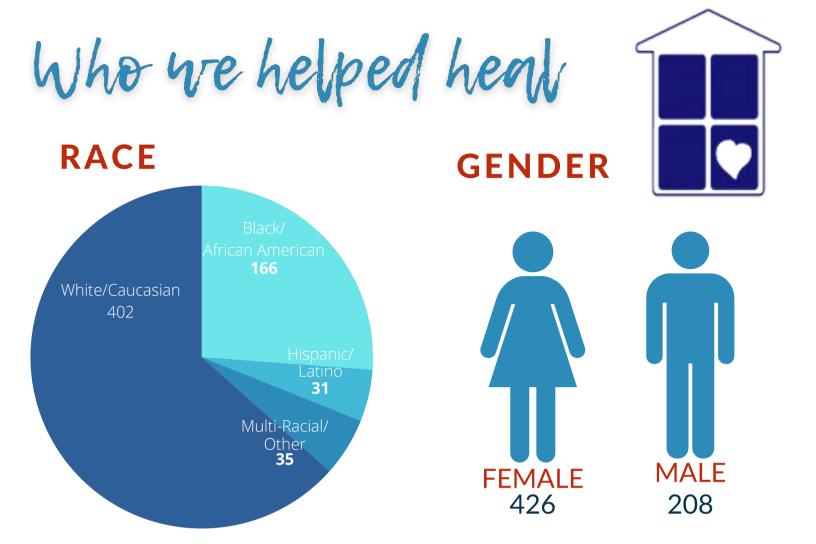
18







Henry Elton Bertagnolli CAC Therapy Dog



How we worked on preventing **PREVENTION EDUCATION & OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**



Brunch, Bubbly + Bingo 2023 Hosted by CAC Junior Board of Directors







MDT Annual Training



Facility Tours (18)

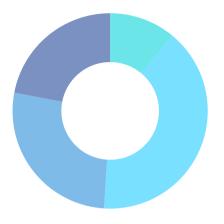


Resource Fair/Tabling Events



Social Media Reach (7,000)





FUNDING:

Appropriations - 11% Grants - 40% Fundraising - 22% Contributions - 27%





EXPENSES:

Advocacy Services - 70% General Admin - 11% Special Events - 19%

JUNIOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS:



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CAC STAFF:





Jennifer Kennedy, Victim Services Advocate Lynette Celis, Bilingual Forensic Interviewer Savannah Taylor, Forensic Interviewer William McKissic, Education Advocate Laura Bertagnolli, Therapist Melissa Maddox - SANE Nurse Coordinator Aline Mays-Easley, Therapist Terri DuBose. Executive Director Laurabeth Thomas, Community Advocate Grace Geisler, MDT Coordinator Madison Hobbs, Child Advocate

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Want to help?

A caring and supportive community is required to make a lasting impact in the lives of children. Many options are available for you to step in and join us in our mission to keep the children in our community safe, and be the soft place to land when they are harmed. Here's how you can help:

- Report suspected child abuse to 1-800-252-5400
- Make a tax-deductible donation to our center
- Join our sustained giving program
- Volunteer
- Attend our events
- Host a third-party event
- Donate in-kind gifts or services
- Request a training
- Follow us on social media (Facebook & Instagram)







Southeast Alabama Child Advocacy Center 110 Harmony Lane, Dothan, AL 36303 (334) 671-1779 www.southeastcac.org

