

The Children's Advocate



Summer 2011 A newsletter from the Children's Advocacy Center for Denton County

Check out our website!
www.cacdc.org

Thank you CACDC Volunteers!

Children's Advocacy Center for Denton County (CACDC) would like to give a heartfelt thank you to ALL of our community volunteers who give their time and talents to the agency. Simply put,

"We really cannot do it without you!"

A few of our volunteers were awarded for their 2010 commitment to the agency.

Upcoming Events -2011-

September 8, 2011

16th Annual
CACDC Golf Tournament
8:00am & 2:00pm Shotgun Start
Bridlewood Golf Club,
Flower Mound

September 17, 2011

CoServ Poker Run

October 8, 2011

Robson Ranch Women's
Club Holiday Market
Robson Ranch
9:00am-3:00pm

October 15, 2011

Top Tin Street Rods Car Show
9:00am-3:30pm
Bartonville Town Ctr

November 12, 2011

9th Annual Cloud 9 Charities
New York Style Fashion Show
Hilton Garden Inn, Lewisville

-2012-

February 18, 2012

3rd Annual
Champions for Children Gala
Circle R Ranch, Flower Mound



Rose Boehm Award
Rick "Wild Thang" Wilson

Jane Graham Award
R. Dean Barnes, Jr.



Volunteer of the Year Award
Mike & Anne Lakusta

Directors Award
Cloud 9 Charities



Special Thanks to All Committee Chairs and Volunteers!

2011 Gala Chairs:

Mike & Anne Lakusta

2011 Gala Committee Chairs:

Annette Bibby, Julie Redmond, Maureen Sexton,
Monique Dykstra, Rex Gale, Sara Beth Garriss,
Susan Dawson, Susan Gale, Tom Puckett, Ruby Freiley

2011 Annual Breakfast Chair:

Jean Spence

2011 Golf Tournament Chairs:

Tom Puckett, R. Dean Barnes, Jr.

Volunteer Celebration Reception

A Volunteer Celebration Reception was held in May. Hors d'oeuvres were made by staff members and several prizes were given. Thank you to Lavada Smith who treated volunteers to a chair massage.



2010 Team Member Award



Rebecca Burchett, Child Protective Services Investigator, received the 2010 Team Member Award for her excellence and dedication to the CACDC team.

Message from the Executive Director

Going to Court — A Scary Experience

Recently, I attended a trial involving a child who received services at the Advocacy Center. I have attended several trials as Executive Director, but this recent experience reminded me of the amazing bravery of children.

In Denton County, we see 10 to 15 trials per year involving child sexual abuse from an adult, alleged perpetrator. Most cases are disposed through a plea bargain. However, we must prepare our kids as if they are going to trial. Families at the Center cite the wait as the worst thing of all. Often, these kids must wait one to three years after their initial outcry and interview before a trial occurs. There is a thorough law enforcement investigation, a grand jury process, and court motions which could prolong the time for trial. Meanwhile, children and families wait for closure. One misconception is that the videotaped forensic interview is the only time the child will have to tell his or her story. Sometimes, that is true. However, if there is a trial, the children have to testify and tell their story in court. The

videotaped interview may be introduced into the trial, but often the children must testify.

A trial is scary for a child even with our counselors help. Imagine having to tell 12 strangers you never met about the horrible abuse you suffered by someone you trusted. Meanwhile, the perpetrator is staring at you from the defense table. Questions from attorneys force you to give details and they often ask the same question twice. As you try to answer, there are objections before you finish. You repeat it and relive it. All of this, hoping the person who hurt you will be punished. After a child testifies, he or she goes to a witness waiting room to be called back. Sometimes that means returning four or five days thereafter.

The criminal justice system is not designed for victims, especially children. That's one of the reasons why the Children's Advocacy Center is so important. Because of our agency model and team approach to the investigation, many perpetrators decide to take a plea,

which prevents the child from having to testify. If a child does have to testify, we provide comprehensive counseling to children and families, education on the criminal justice system and courtroom preparation.

In order to continue providing therapy and counseling services to more children and their families, we need your help. ***Please join the Circle of Healing today and take a stand against child abuse.***



Dan Leal

Dan Leal
Executive Director

Keeping in Touch with the CACDC

We have a new mission statement!!

“To provide justice and healing for abused children through interagency collaboration and community education”.

Become our Fan on Facebook!



Follow us on Twitter!

Our 2010 Annual Report is online at www.cacdc.org under News & Events.

Circle of Healing

In 2010 alone, the counseling program at (CACDC) conducted 9,057 therapy services.

The agency has developed a comprehensive therapy program that helps address children's anxiety, fears, placement of blame on the offender, and most importantly to let the children know they are not

alone. Children who receive ongoing counseling are less likely to be re-victimized and more likely to lead a healthy and productive life. The unique approach to this program allows parents to receive

peer group support while the children heal in their own peer groups. CACDC provides free childcare on-site to other siblings, in order to alleviate the hardship of families attending their scheduled sessions.



“My little girl is so much better from a year ago because of all of you. I am a stronger parent because of this agency. “

—Anonymous Client

Join the Circle of Healing & Make a Pledge Today!

Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

www.cacdc.org or (972)317-2818x244

BELIEVER - \$10 month (\$120 annually) pays for 3 forensic interviews.

FRIEND - \$25 month (\$300 annually) pays for 6 group therapy sessions.

HELPING HAND - \$50 month (\$600 annually) pays for 12 play therapy sessions for a child between 3-8 yrs.

ADVOCATE - \$100 month (\$1,200 annually) pays for a child to receive one year's worth of individual counseling.

HERO - \$200 month (\$2,400 annually) pays for a family to receive group counseling services & childcare for 1 yr.

BENEFACTOR - \$5,000 year – pays for 125 children to enter services at CACDC.



“What you do for all the families that walk through the door of the Advocacy Center is a true gift and I am thankful that you were there when we needed you.”

—Anonymous Client

Thank You!

To All of the Organizations that Support Us!

Kappa Delta Sorority - UNT



Kappa Delta Sorority raises \$3,100 at their Shamrock 5k on the UNT Campus! Lauren Blankenbaker, VP Community Service, presents check to Stacie Wainscott & Dan Leal.

Cloud 9 Salon



Cloud 9 Salon Art Gala Auction in support of two great causes, donates \$4,000 for CACDC! Kim Cloud of Cloud 9 Salon & Spa presents checks to CASA and CACDC.

Many thanks to *Flower Mound United Methodist Women's Group* for choosing us as beneficiary for their Afternoon Spring Tea!

Lantana Ladies League



Lantana Ladies League works hard to donate \$5,000 to help make the lives of abused children better! Dan Leal accepts check from Lee Ann Shannon & Michi Joseff

Volunteer Highlight



Eagle Scout, Michael Perez, with the help of his father James Perez, has been helping the CACDC look and feel more comfortable for staff and clients by volunteering his carpentry skills. Michael built and installed a wooden bookshelf in our reception area, as well as repaired and stained 3 benches and a picnic table.



Running Moms Rock



Running Mom's Rock run in support of CACDC at Shops of Highland Village. Event organizers, Erika Westmoreland & Michelle Sedas donate \$2,750!

CACDC Ramping Up for Fall Family Assistance Drives

Back to School Supplies Drive

Donation deadline:

August 5, 2011

Volunteers needed:

August 6th & 13th

View www.cacdc.org for a list of needed supplies for each specific drive.

Wishlist Needs

Undergarments-Bras (NEW)

Uniforms (NEW)

(kaki pants/skirts, solid polo style collared shirts)

Shoes (NEW)

All sizes/genders

Baby items

(food, bottles, pacifiers, diapers, etc.)

Bottled water & boxed juices

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Items collected October-November

Donation deadline:

November 10th

Volunteers needed:

August 12th & 19th

Christmas Adopt-A-Family

Adoptions available mid-October

Donation deadline:

December 9th

Volunteers needed:

December 10th & 17th

Prevention & Agency Corner

New Mission Statement Reflects Need to Bring Child Abuse Issue to Light.

Krystal Powell, Child Abuse Prevention Coordinator has been busy training Denton County residents through the Darkness to Light's Stewards of Children curriculum.

This FREE training teaches adults how to Prevent, Recognize and React responsibly to child abuse.

Krystal would like to challenge CACDC supporters to coordinate training for friends, family, co-workers or neighbors. Classes can be conducted at the agency or in your own home.

Contact Krystal at 972-317-2818 x222 or Krystal@cacdc.org to schedule one today.



15th Annual Community Breakfast "Put a Child on Your Heart"

presented by



\$28,500 raised!

Thank You to Jim Sundberg of the Texas Rangers and Ellen Malone, CACDC

Board Member for speaking.

Thank You to our Breakfast Sponsors:



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Denton Regional Medical Center
Doug and Bonnie Robison
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Northstar Bank of Texas
Sam Pack's Ford Country
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Silver

Alphagraphics
Bartonville Town Center
Baylor Medical Center at Carrollton
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Silver, continued

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Hilton Garden Inn/PSAV
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Mayor Melissa Northern
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State Farm Insurance-Tony Jones
Strasburger & Price, LLP
State Farm Insurance-Matt Portz

Other Agency News

• Restorations in the building from major flood damage were completed in June. During the ice storm in February, a frozen pipe broke flooding the agency.

Precautionary measures are now underway to prevent any future damage to building during extreme cold spells.



• The agency's first bi-lingual forensic interviewer was hired to address growing needs to serve the Hispanic population.

• The Board of Directors finalized the organization's strategic plan for 2011-2014 and it emphasized the need for private support and expansion of services in northern Denton County.

**In 2011, over \$121,000 net proceeds raised!
Thank You!**



**3rd Annual Champions for Children Gala
February 18, 2012**

Visit www.cacdcchampions.org for more information.



Children's Advocacy Center for Denton County
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2011 Board of Directors

- R. Dean Barnes, Jr., Chairman
- Matthew Schirle, Vice Chair
- Jason Pierce, Treasurer
- Vicki Hardy, Secretary
- Susan Romero
- Bradley Olson
- Claudia Grose
- Susan Hauser
- Kathy Palmer
- Paul Johnson
- Chris Robinson
- Chief Russ Kerbow
- Ellen Malone
- Tamara Cuthrell
- Tim Chambers
- April Cain
- Kim Cloud
- Cameron Cox
- Rex Gale
- Susan Watson



16th Annual CACDC Golf Tournament

presented by



Thursday, September 8, 2011

8:00am Shotgun &
 2:00pm Shotgun
 Bridlewood Golf Club

Player Registration - \$150
 Sponsorships Available

Register at www.cacdc.org

THANK YOU SPONSORS



CW2 Christopher Chabot Martin Memorial Scholarship

Rob & Kim Seay

Our New Mission Statement:

To provide justice and healing for abused children through interagency collaboration and community education.