



ChildSafe
Help & Healing for Sexual Abuse

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San Antonio child advocacy organization ChildSafe receives generous grants from local foundations for services provided to child victims of sexual abuse

San Antonio 6•20•11...ChildSafe of San Antonio was recently awarded three generous grants for services and programs they provide to child victims of sexual abuse, as well as for upgrading their facilities.

The Kronkosky Foundation awarded ChildSafe a grant in the amount of \$50,00.

The organization also received a grant from the Ruth Lang Charitable Fund, Frances Margaret Seaver Fund and the Ernestine Boylan Shugart Fund of the San Antonio Area Foundation in the amount of \$20,000 for ChildSafe's Child Abuse Resource Enhancement (CARE) program.

In addition to these gifts for core services, the organization also received a \$15,000 grant from The Myra Stafford Pryor Charitable Trust for building renovations.

ChildSafe provides a full spectrum of services to children who have been sexually abused and their supportive family members, including forensic interviews, medical exams, case management services, counseling, and their unique CARE program.

CARE is a consortium of businesses, schools, and other non-profits that provide special opportunities for ChildSafe clients and their supportive (non-offending) family members to participate in a variety of activities, services and programs of therapeutic value. Activities are chosen to promote healing, reduce the likelihood of high-risk behaviors, and minimize the risk of re-victimization among ChildSafe clients.

These activities range from peer activities, such as music lessons at the International Academy of Music and the Arts, art classes at the Carver Community Cultural Center and Southwest School of Art and Craft, to early childhood education at Headstart and Early Headstart, mentoring with Big Brothers/Big Sisters and counseling to provide parent/caregiver support. The local YMCAs provide many opportunities for children and families, and they include activities that the sexually abused child shares with siblings, parents and caregivers. CARE connects children and their families with more than 35 service partners in the Bexar County area, all completely funded by ChildSafe through generous grants they receive.

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“Gifts from charitable foundations and generous individuals in the community help fund our services and allow ChildSafe to provide the most comprehensive care for young victims,” said Kim Abernethy, ChildSafe CEO.

Notable is the fact that ChildSafe’s services are on-going from the time a child makes an outcry of sexual abuse to the time they are 18. This flexibility is vitally important, as the needs of each victim varies tremendously and allows for an approach that is unique to each child and his/her personal situation.

ChildSafe has been serving Bexar County for 23 years and is the only such advocacy center in the area for children who are victims of sexual abuse.

For more information about ChildSafe, please visit the organization’s website at www.childsafe-sa.org.

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