




CHILDSAFE

2023 IMPACT REPORT

The image shows a multi-level interior space. On the left, a man in a blue shirt is walking up a staircase with a white railing. The ceiling is made of horizontal wooden slats with recessed lighting. In the foreground, a teal carpeted area features a row of colorful stuffed animals. In the background, a play area is visible through a large opening, where several children and an adult are sitting on a blue bench. The walls are a mix of wood paneling and light-colored panels.

*Our mission is to restore dignity, hope,
and trust to children traumatized
by abuse and neglect.*



Dear Friends and Supporters,

I would like to express my deepest gratitude for your unwavering support, which has brought hope and healing to thousands of children who have been victims of abuse and neglect perpetrated by adults in our community, as evidenced by this report. Your kindness and dedication to the children and families of Bexar County are truly appreciated.

The demand for trauma-informed care offered by ChildSafe is greater than ever, and in 2022, extended beyond Bexar County. In addition to carrying out our services for families in Bexar County, we also extended our assistance to children and their families in Uvalde. Within the week of the Uvalde school tragedy in May, 2022, our therapists traveled to Uvalde in teams of 2-3 to provide crisis support. Over a period of six weeks, a total of 12 ChildSafe therapists responded to Uvalde, providing crisis therapy to 122 children and their families directly impacted by the shooting. We continue to offer telehealth and in-person services at the request of Bluebonnet Children's Advocacy Center for a few families requesting longer term trauma therapy support.

ChildSafe has observed a shift in trends regarding child abuse, where for the first time in 25 years, cases of sexual abuse have exceeded cases of physical abuse. According to the Department of Family and Protective Services, in 2021, Bexar County had 571 confirmed victims of child sexual abuse, compared to 501 victims of physical abuse. This trend persisted in 2022, with 620 confirmed cases of child sexual abuse compared to 539 cases of physical abuse.

The rise in child sexual abuse incidents in Bexar County can be attributed to various factors, including the impacts of COVID-19 and the heightened stress, financial difficulties, and social isolation that accompanied it. Additionally, the absence of in-person schooling meant that teachers, who are primary reporters of abuse, were not able to directly observe children.

Add online exploitation to the mix, and keeping our children safe is more difficult than ever. New data from The Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) has revealed a shocking surge in online sexual exploitation of 7-10 year olds in

2021, with a 3X increase compared to previous years. This alarming increase was part of a larger trend of child sexual abuse images - commonly referred to as child pornography - that IWF reviewed. In fact, the number of such images reviewed in 2021 exceeded the combined total of the previous 15 years, setting a distressing record.

While child abuse remains a pressing issue, the positive news is that through prevention programs, education, and community outreach, we can take proactive steps to better protect children and prevent such abuse from occurring. Moreover, when children and families receive treatment at an earlier stage, it accelerates their path to recovery and healing.

As we review our fiscal year 2022-2023, we served 5,773 individuals through intervention services. In addition, ChildSafe organized its first quarterly client celebration event to recognize and honor the clients who completed one of ChildSafe's trauma-specific therapy models, including Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Child and Family Traumatic Stress Intervention, Parent-Child Care and/or Adventure Therapy. The agency was pleased to celebrate this important milestone with 16 clients who took the courageous steps towards healing and successfully completing these programs.

With your help, we continue to create a culture of safety and awareness, and work towards a future where every child is protected from harm.



Kim Abernethy
President/CEO



“They gave us privacy and let us express any concerns.”

“They were very understanding about my situation.”

“The staff made me feel like we weren’t alone.”

—CHILDSAFE CLIENTS





*“The environment was very peaceful.
Everyone was so kind and informative.
I am so thankful to have the support that made us
feel comfortable and safe during this whole process.”*

—CHILDSAFE CLIENT

SERVICE STATISTICS

Last fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, **21,778** services were provided to children and their caregivers, and **190** exploited youth received coordinated crisis recovery, long-term support, and delivery of healing services.

5,733

children and their families received our intervention services

1,773

forensic interviews were provided to children

6,900

healing counseling sessions were provided to child abuse victims and their caretakers

246

clients received therapeutic care through outdoor behavioral healthcare (adventure therapy)

4,999

individuals were trained in child abuse prevention best practices

509

volunteers provided **2,506** hours of skilled volunteer service, valued at **\$72,925**

4,300

clients received essential items from our Whataburger Resource Room

415

children received school supplies to ensure a successful school year

624

children, who would otherwise go without, received holiday gifts

CHILD DEMOGRAPHICS



Female **72%**
Male **28%**



Under 14 years of age **62%**
14 years and older **38%**



Hispanic **68%**
White **15%**
Black **8%**
Multiracial **8%**
Other **1%**



Low to moderate income **82%**
(By HUD's Median Area Income Measurement)

FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY

For every **\$1** donated to ChildSafe,

82¢ goes directly towards client services.



Programs & Services **82%**
Administration **13%**
Fundraising **5%**





*“I like how nice and calm people are
and how they listen and pay attention to you.”*

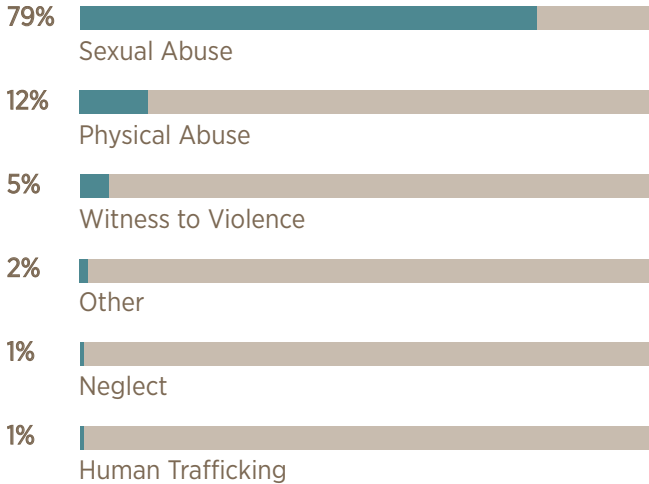
*“It’s a safe place and it makes me feel safe too.
I love it here.”*

—CHILDSAFE CLIENTS

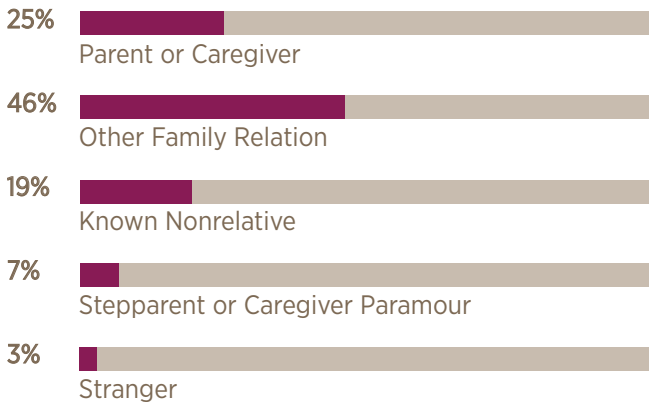


CLIENT STATISTICS

PRIMARY ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE



PERPETRATOR'S RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD



IMPACT INFORMATION

- **95%** of families reported improvement in problem-solving as a result of clinical therapy.
- **85%** of adults reported increased knowledge of concerning risk factors associated with child abuse.
- **70%** of children reported overall improvement as a result of clinical therapy and a clinical assessment.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- **509** community volunteers donated 2,506 hours of skilled labor to support ChildSafe's evidence-based trauma-informed services valued at \$72,925.
- **875** children were served through our annual Back-to-School Bash and Winter Workshop. These events provide an opportunity for our clients and their families to pick out school supplies, hygiene products, warm items, and toys during August and the holidays.



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Thank you to our generous supporters who help strengthen our ability to treat and prevent child abuse in Bexar County. Because of your support, more than 5,700 children and their families were able to seek safety, justice, and healing in 2022–2023.

PIVOTAL GIFTS

GIFTS OF \$100,000 AND ABOVE

City of San Antonio
Harvey E. Najim Charitable Foundation
H-E-B Tournament of Champions
Kronkosky Charitable Foundation
Methodist Healthcare Ministries
The William Randolph Hearst Foundation
United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County
Valero

GIFTS \$25,000 – \$99,999

Capital Group
Carl C. & Marie Jo Anderson Charitable Foundation
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The Adam R. Scripps Foundation
The Greehey Family Foundation
The Guy and Olive Lookabaugh Foundation
The Meadows Foundation, Inc.
The Permanent Endowment Fund of Moody Methodist Church
Valero Energy Foundation

PUBLIC PARTNERS

Children’s Advocacy Centers of Texas, City of San Antonio, Bexar County, State of Texas Health and Human Services, Office of the Texas Attorney General, Office of the Texas Governor, University Health System, federal grants, Victims Assistance Grants, and Victim of Crimes Act. All are essential supporters of ChildSafe’s mission.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY PARTNERS

ChildSafe facilitates a team comprised of City and County law enforcement agencies, Child Protective Services, Bexar County DA’s Office, and health partners who collaborate to provide optimized services, investigations, and public awareness, to ultimately create a safer environment for children in Bexar County.

SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you to everyone who helped raise funds or made gifts to ChildSafe through Big Give, National Child Abuse Prevention Month in April, social media, and workplace giving. Together, your donations make a significant impact in the lives of the children and families we serve.

“I appreciate the calm atmosphere, warmth, understanding, and transparency.”

—CHILDSAFE CLIENT





ChildSafe

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