

# COLORING OUTSIDE THE LINES

**ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022**



Dear Friend and Supporter,

There is nothing ordinary or structured about child abuse. As the children's advocacy center of Tarrant County, we daily find ourselves *Coloring Outside the Lines* for the betterment of our community's most vulnerable.

In these pages, you will find a glimpse inside what happens year-round at our three centers across Tarrant County serving alleged victims of criminal child abuse. In partnership with Child Protective Investigations, 36 law enforcement agencies, medical providers, and other community partners, Alliance For Children has served 2,434 new children as part of their abuse investigation this year alone.

As we consider our theme of *Coloring Outside the Lines*, we ask you to lean into a few realities that we recognize in service to our community:

- There are not hard lines or a box that we can put around child abuse. Frankly, I wish there were. I wish we could easily identify offenders and thus prevent them from hurting children. Yet, we see offenders of every age, ethnicity, occupation, and religion. Sadly, there is no "one size fits all" approach here.
- We serve children impacted by trauma. Trauma can drastically impact every piece of a child's life - how they think, how they feel, their home environment, who they trust, and the list goes on and on. Our team of professionals must stay fluid and adapt to meet the needs of each specific child and not put them in a box of pre-described services.
- Our approach to investigations and healing for children is tailor-made for each victim and their protective family, using creativity in our approach for each identified need.
- One thing we know for certain is that children can and do heal from abuse. It is a joy to see our children move from the often dark place we first meet them in and work together to build a brave new space for them to shine.

Thank you for joining us in our service to Tarrant County children. We are honored to see children's lives transform and families heal.

*Tanya D. Merlino*

Tanya Merlino  
Board President

*Julie Evans*

Julie Evans  
Chief Executive Officer

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Texas Department of Family and Protective Services  
Texas Health Resources  
Watauga Police Department  
Westover Hills Police Department  
Westworth Village Police Department  
White Settlement Police Department



Through the past year, we served

2,434

CHILDREN

including the alleged child abuse victim  
themselves and other siblings in the home.

It is our **MISSION** to protect Tarrant County children  
from child abuse through **teamed investigations,**  
**healing services** and **community education.**

# INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES

FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 (OCTOBER 1, 2021 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2022)

25,268

Intakes/Cases reviewed by our Multidisciplinary Team Coordination Program.

10,394

Intakes/Cases referred for Multidisciplinary Team Coordination based on protocol.

1,847

Forensic Interviews conducted with alleged child abuse victims and their siblings.

1,606

Cases reviewed for Multidisciplinary Team staffing.

1,693

Families received advocacy and support services.

335

Individuals received group counseling services.

776

Individuals received individual counseling services.

9,728

Counseling sessions provided to children and adults.

# COMMUNITY EDUCATION

29,548

Children trained in personal body safety.

25,218

Children trained in internet safety.

2,313

Adults educated in child abuse prevention.

11,008

Hours donated by volunteers.

## PERPETRATOR'S RELATIONSHIP TO VICTIM

34%

Known Non-Relative

19%

Other Relative

18%

Biological Parent

11%

Stranger/Unknown

10%

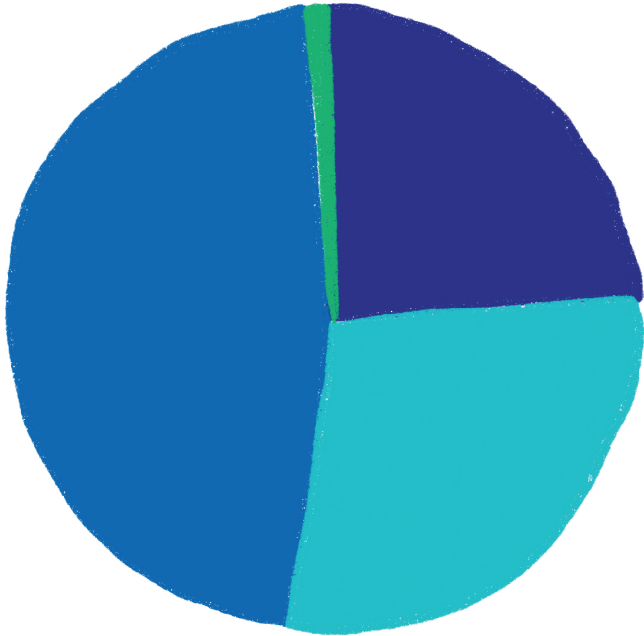
Sibling/Step-Sibling

8%

Step/Adoptive Parent

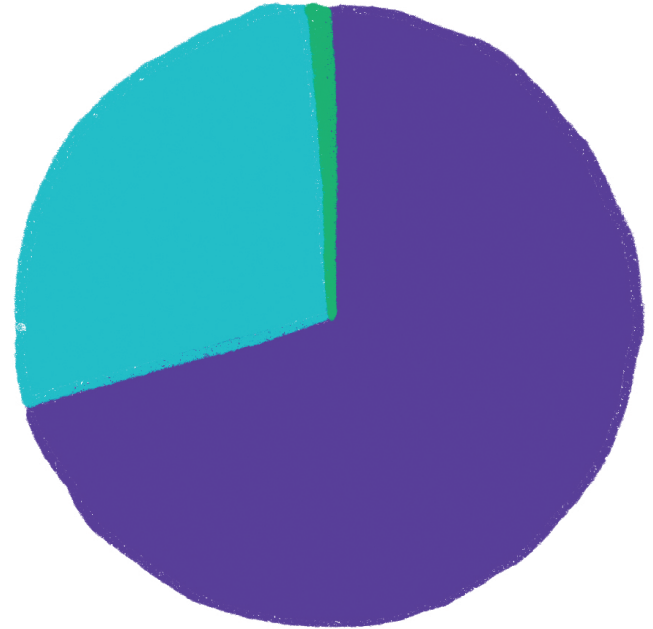
# DEMOGRAPHICS

FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 (OCTOBER 1, 2021 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2022)



## AGE OF CHILD

0-5	571
6-11	670
12-17	1,177
18+	16

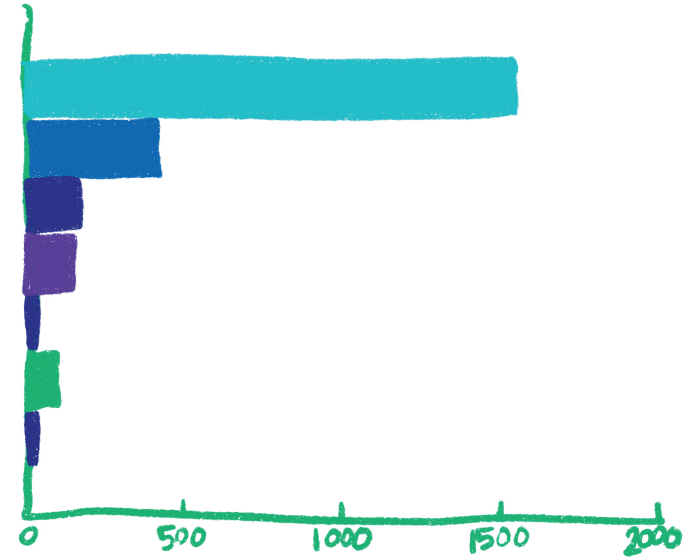
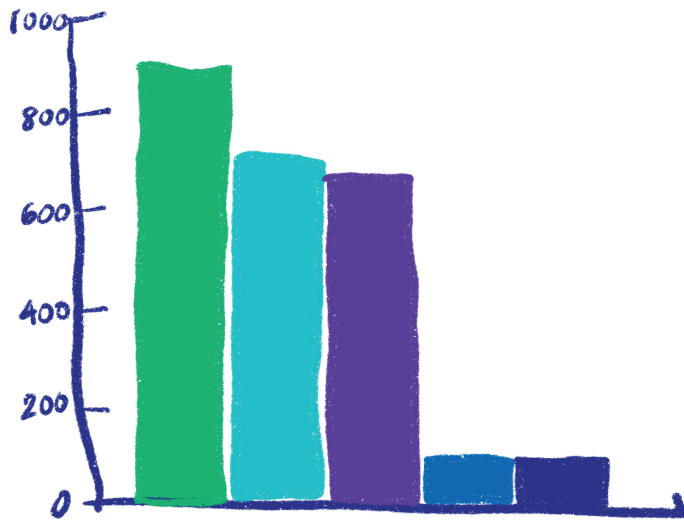


## GENDER OF CHILD

Female	1,723
Male	701
Non-Binary	10

ALL NUMBERS REFLECT DATA DISCLOSED TO US BY OUR CLIENT FAMILIES.





## RACE/ETHNICITY

Hispanic	897
White	705
Black	671
Multi-Racial	77
Other	84

## TYPE OF ABUSE

Sexual	1,567
Physical	417
Child Witness	173
Neglect	149
Other	12
Child Fatality	102
Sexual & Physical	14

# DONORS

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Charles Schwab Challenge at  
Colonial

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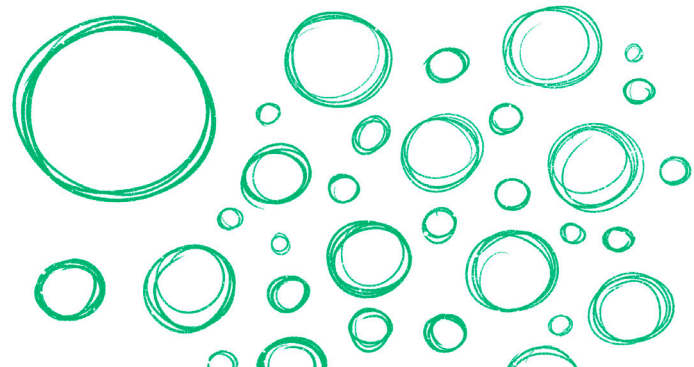
Dr. J. Regenerative Medicine

Sarah Lester and Stephen Drake

Lindsey Dula

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Family Foundation



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*Thanks to the support of our community, Alliance For Children is able and grateful to provide all programs and services free of charge to the children and protective family members we serve.*

\*Listed are donors who contributed \$1,500 and above during Fiscal Year October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022. We make every effort to reflect accuracy.

# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Beginning in 2019, our three-phase capital campaign is well on its way to completion. Addressing needs and improvements at all three of our area locations, Alliance For Children is excited about the progress we have made to ensure healing remains a reality for Tarrant County children for years to come!

In early November 2021, Alliance For Children successfully relocated our Fort Worth center to a renovated building located in west Fort Worth, just off of Camp Bowie Boulevard and the Benbrook traffic circle. This building has not only significantly expanded our square footage, enabling us to add more staff and partners to investigate, support, and heal these cases of child abuse, but has allowed us to make critical improvements within our longstanding practices and forward-thinking updates to technology. The opportunities this new center has provided have elevated our approach to cases of child abuse in Fort Worth and the surrounding area in ways we never imagined possible.

Construction on our Arlington center began in 2022. Starting with a 24,000 square foot expansion to our annex building, the same areas of advancement implemented and identified in Fort Worth are in the process of being added to this campus. This will allow for essential improvements and additional room for growing staff and partnerships to keep up with the growth of the county, and in turn, the number of cases seen by Alliance For Children and our partner agencies. Once the addition to the annex is completed, we will then renovate the original Arlington center located at the front of the property, where we served our first child victim in 1992, just off of West Abram. The original center will then become a building dedicated entirely to counseling services, reestablishing a continuum of care at the same location. This project is expected to be completed in Fall 2023.



Our final phase of the campaign includes a 6,000 square foot addition to our Northeast center, located on Grapevine Highway in Hurst. Like the other two projects before it, this expansion will also allow for additional growth to our staff and partnerships, improvements to technology, and the relocation of our clinical team, so all areas of our work might co-locate again as our original model intended. Construction began in 2022 and is expected to be completed in Summer 2023.

We are anxious to share these new spaces and improvements with you and encourage you to come see them firsthand. Please reach out to PHiggins@AllianceForChildren.org should you like the opportunity to tour one of the spaces.

We are grateful to all who have made the future of Alliance For Children's mission and the ability to better serve these Tarrant County child abuse victims a reality.



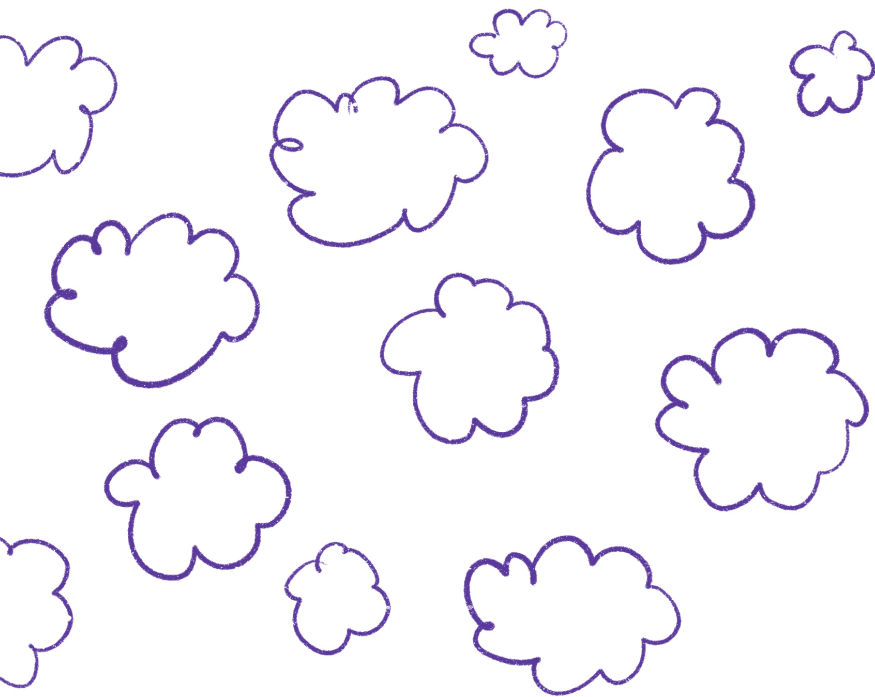
# FINANCIALS

## Statement of Financial Activities

Revenue	Amount	%	Expenses	Amount	%
Government Grants	6,706,667.00	65%	Program Services	5,393,095.00	72%
Contributions	3,253,487.00	32%	Fundraising	997,662.00	13%
Special Events	302,530.00	3%	Management/General	1,106,054.00	15%
Other Income	231,353.00	2%			
Investment Income	-172,400.00	-2%	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,496,811.00</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,321,637.00</b>	<b>100%</b>			

## Statement of Financial Position

Liabilities		Net Assets	
	706,909.00	Without Restrictions	14,228,852.00
		With Restrictions	5,976,532.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$706,909.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,205,388.00</b>
		<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; ASSETS</b>	<b>\$20,912,297.00</b>



### **Arlington**

*Permanent Location*  
1320 W. Abram  
Arlington, TX 76013  
817.795.9992

### **Arlington Clinical\***

301 S. Center  
Suite 412  
Arlington, TX 76010  
817.989.9075

### **Fort Worth**

3609 Marquita Dr.  
Fort Worth, TX 76116  
817.335.7172

### **Northeast**

*Permanent Location*  
625 Grapevine Hwy.  
Bedford, TX 76054  
817.427.3110

### **Northeast\***

837 Brown Trail  
Bedford, TX 76022  
817.427.3110



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\*Temporary location during construction