



*Listen. Understand. Act.*

ALLIANCE FOR CHILDREN  
*2007-2008 Annual Report*

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Alliance For Children (AFC) is proud to present its first ever annual report, detailing some of the highlights from fiscal year 2007-2008. This past year has marked the first full year of occupancy of the new Fort Worth center. It is now fully staffed with three Child Protective Services units of investigative workers, the entire Crimes Against Children Unit of the Fort Worth Police Department, staff from the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office and AFC center and administrative staff.

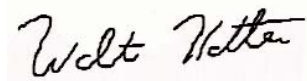
Looking back at the past year, we are so grateful to all of you for your support and encouragement as we have continued to grow our capacity and services to better serve children and families traumatized by child abuse. During 2008, the three AFC centers located in Arlington, Fort Worth and Hurst provided 2,603 children first time investigative services.

At the beginning of fiscal year 2008, AFC launched the Tarrant County Child Forensic Interviewer team, comprised of three specialized AFC Child Interviewers and the District Attorney's Child Forensic Interviewer. These interviewers conduct all the child forensic interviews of children age twelve and younger who are alleged victims of child abuse, or witnesses to other acts of violence. During this period, 1,386 children benefitted from this new service.

Our clinical program has also grown considerably this past year since the addition of therapy dogs to the children's group therapy sessions. Licensed therapists and 13 trained therapy dogs and their human handlers are now giving special comfort to recovering children in group therapy sessions, forensic interviews and court preparation. Last year 1,248 sexually abused children benefited from the free group counseling AFC provides.

Without you, none of these innovations would be possible. More importantly, these children and their protective parents would not have the opportunity to heal. It takes tremendous courage for a community member to become involved in the ugly issue of child abuse. Thank you for listening, understanding and helping us to act.

Sincerely,



Walt Hatter  
Board President



Nancy Hagan  
Executive Director



## Mission Statement

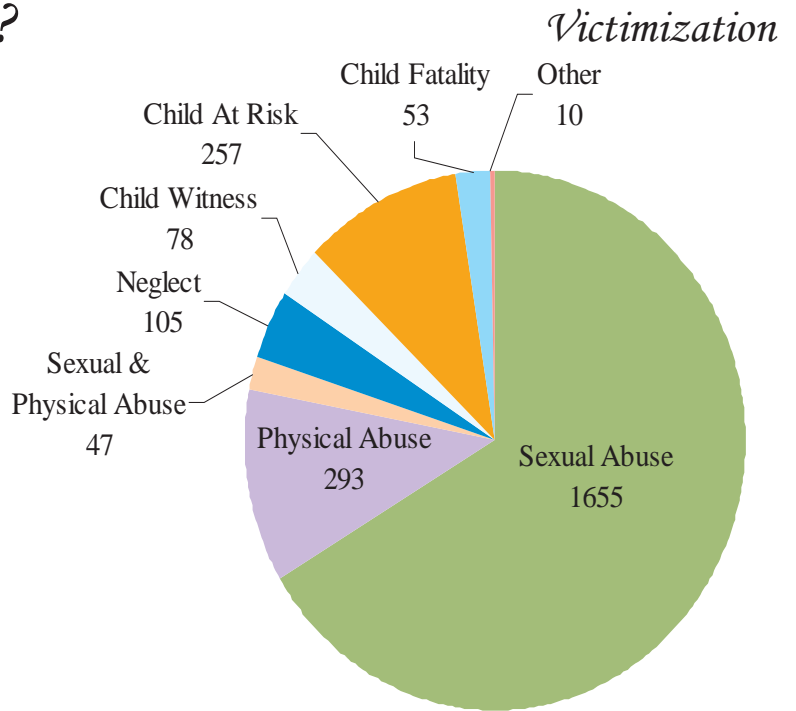
*The mission of Alliance For Children is to unite the communities of Tarrant County to fight child abuse by providing children's justice centers that coordinate the efforts of partner agencies and facilitate the delivery of needed services.*



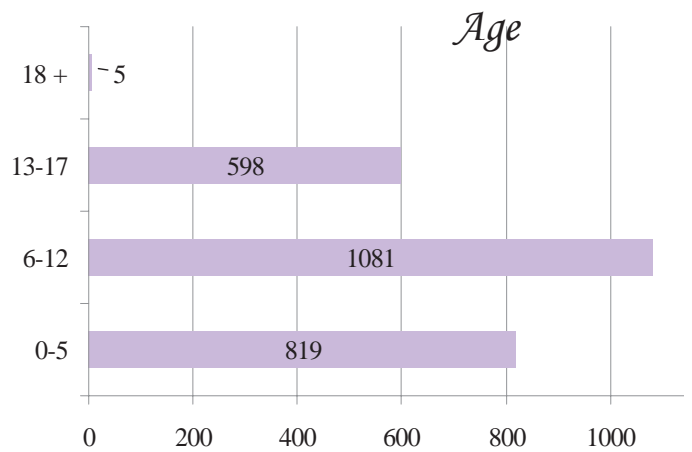
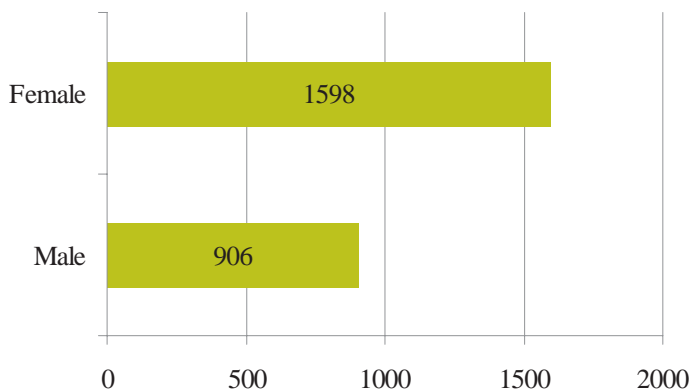
# Just who are these children?

In Fiscal Year 2007-2008, AFC provided first time services to 2,603 children.

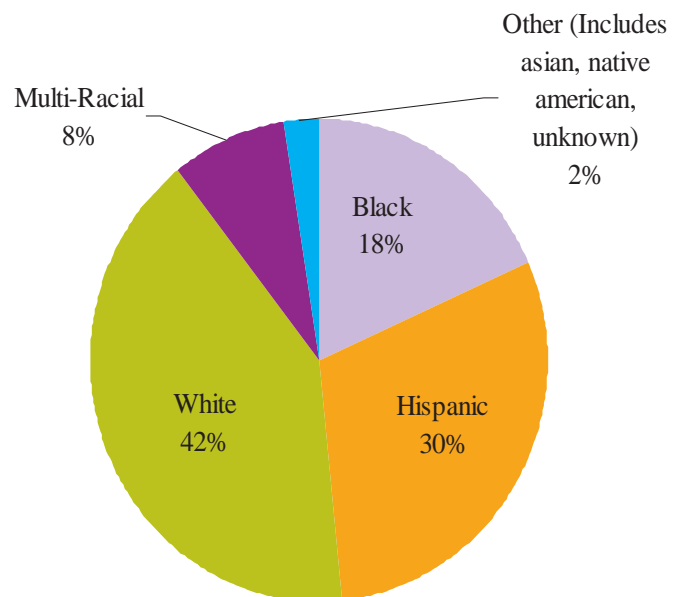
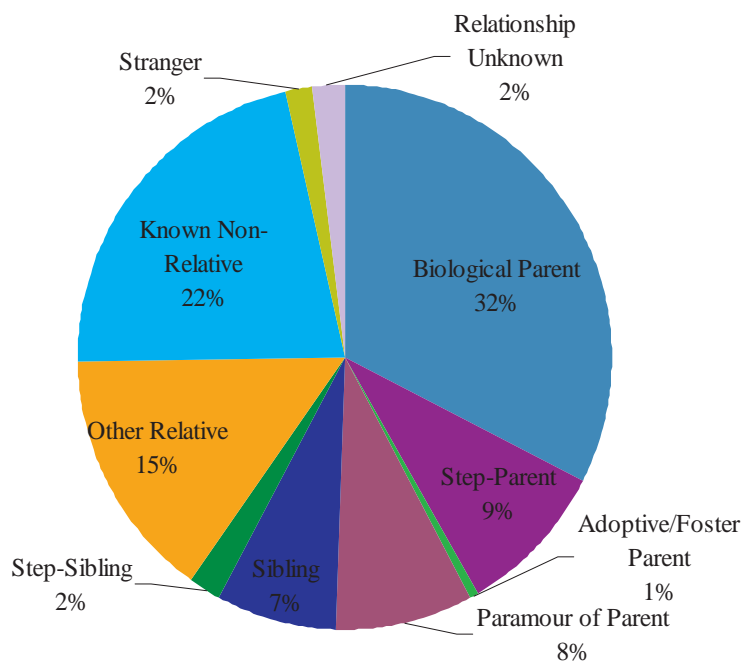
\*\*Data collected from the Tarrant County District Attorney's office & AFC's data collection system.



## Gender

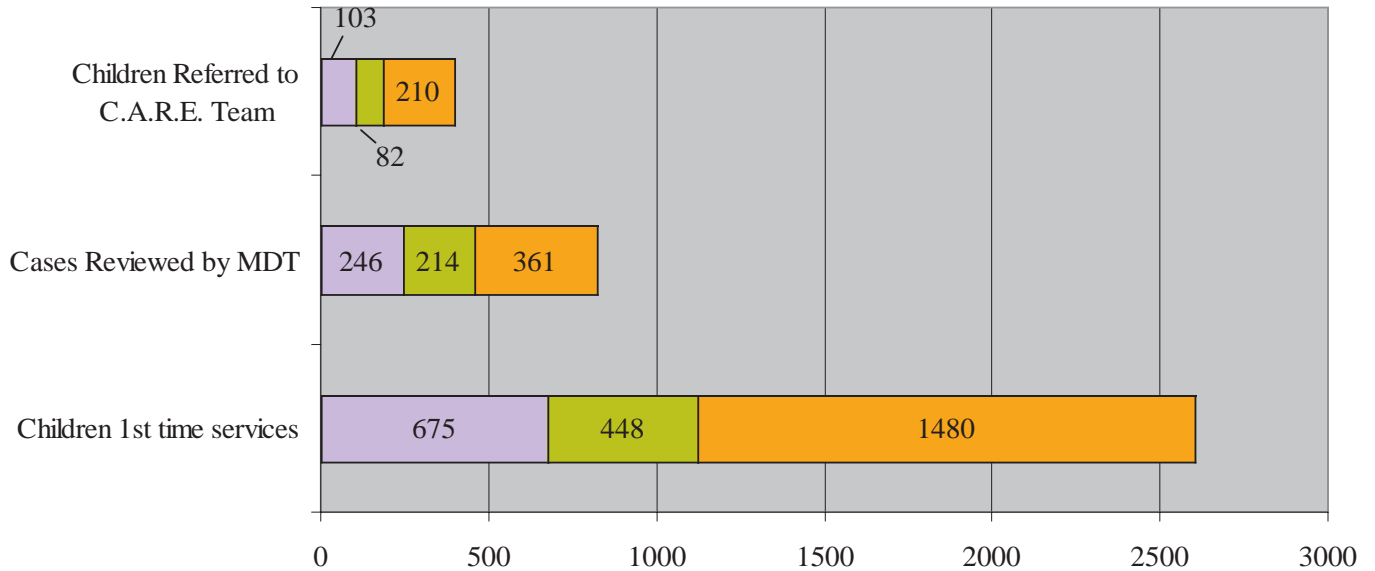


## Perpetrators Relationship to Victims



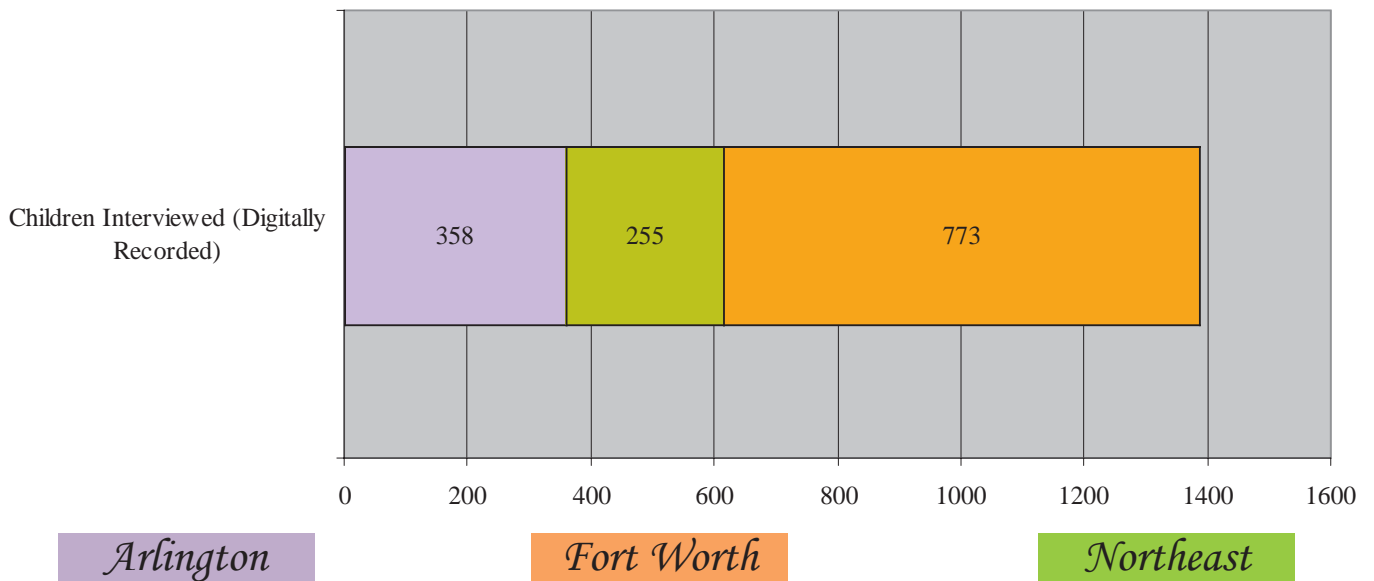
# Here's how Alliance For Children helps ....

## Investigative Services



*C.A.R.E. Team is Cook Children's Child Advocacy Resource and Evaluation Team.  
MDT is the Multi-Disciplinary Team composed of partner agencies.*

*Alliance For Children launched the Forensic Interviewer Program in November 2007 at the request of investigating agencies.*



**"Children are the world's most valuable resource and its best hope for the future"**

Herbert Hoover

# Healing Services

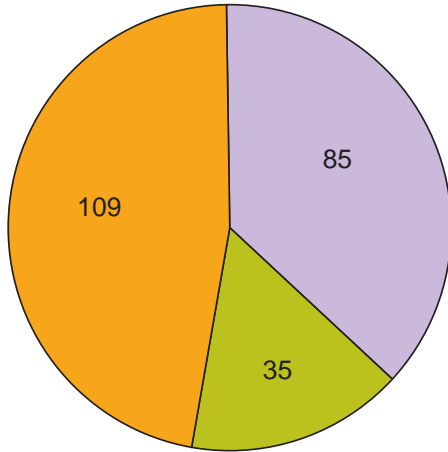
Fort Worth

Arlington

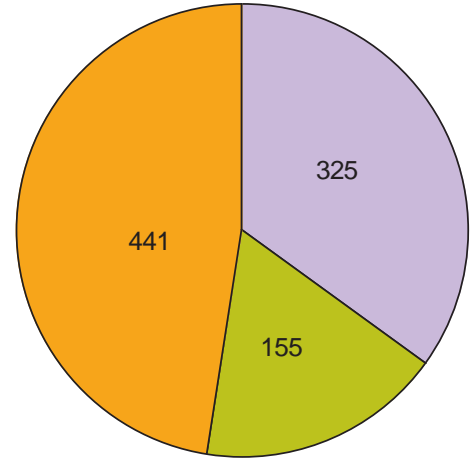
Northeast

## Family Advocate Program

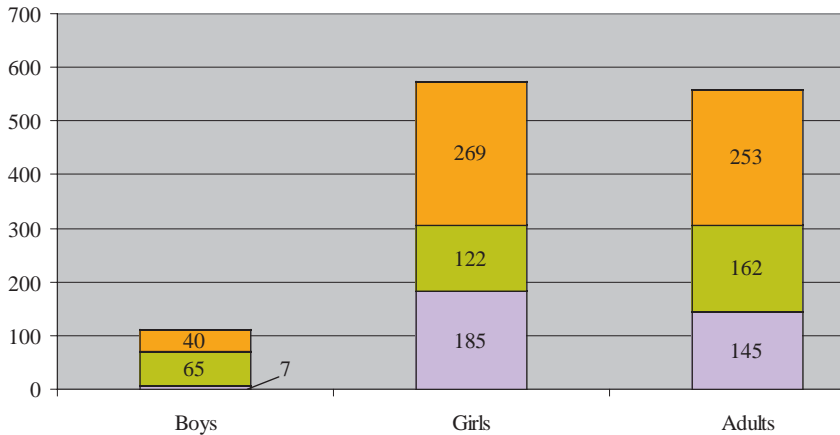
Families Assessed



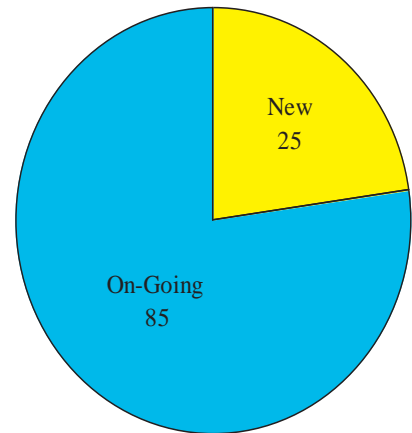
Individuals Receiving Case Management



Individuals in Group Therapy Program

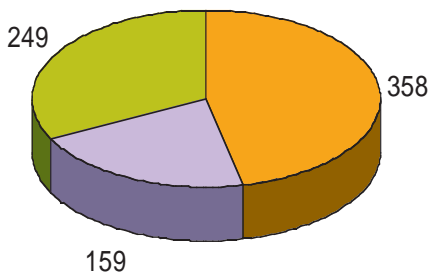


Spanish Speaking Clients in Group (all 3 centers)

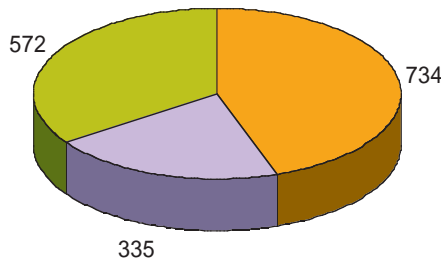


## Family Support

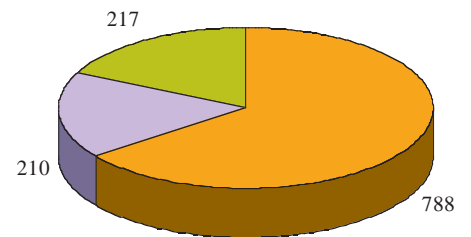
Backpack Program



Thanksgiving



Christmas

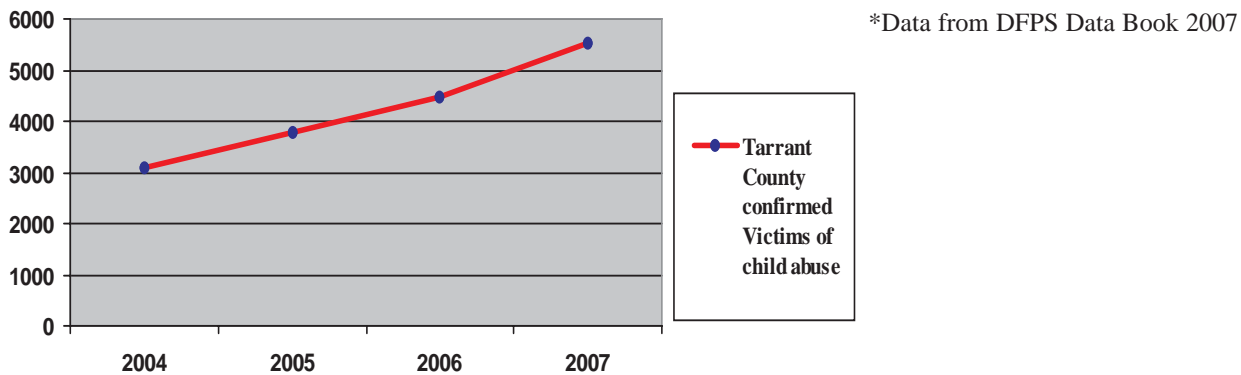


\*\* Numbers indicate how many children were served during this program \*\*

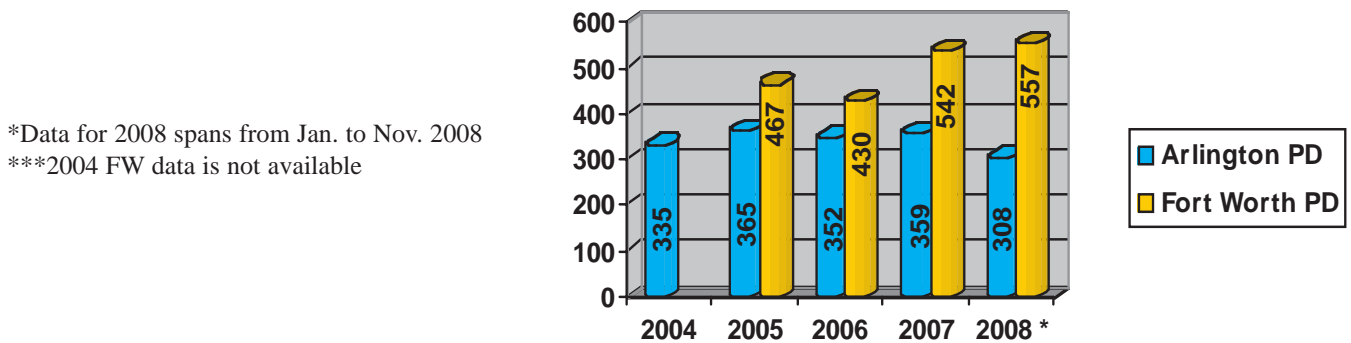
## *Child abuse continues to be a serious problem in Tarrant County.*

The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services' 2007 Data Book reports a 78% increase in Tarrant County in confirmed child abuse and neglect victims from 3,095 in 2004 to 5,529 in 2007 [Graph 1]. Law enforcement agencies have also seen an increase in crimes to children. From 2004 through 2007, Arlington Police Department has seen an increase of sexual offenses against children reported from 335 in 2004 to 359 in 2007. The Fort Worth Police Department saw an increase from 467 in 2005 to 542 in 2007 (2004 data unavailable) [Graph 2].

Graph 1: DFPS Confirmed Victims of Child Abuse



Graph 2: Law Enforcement Sexual Offenses to children



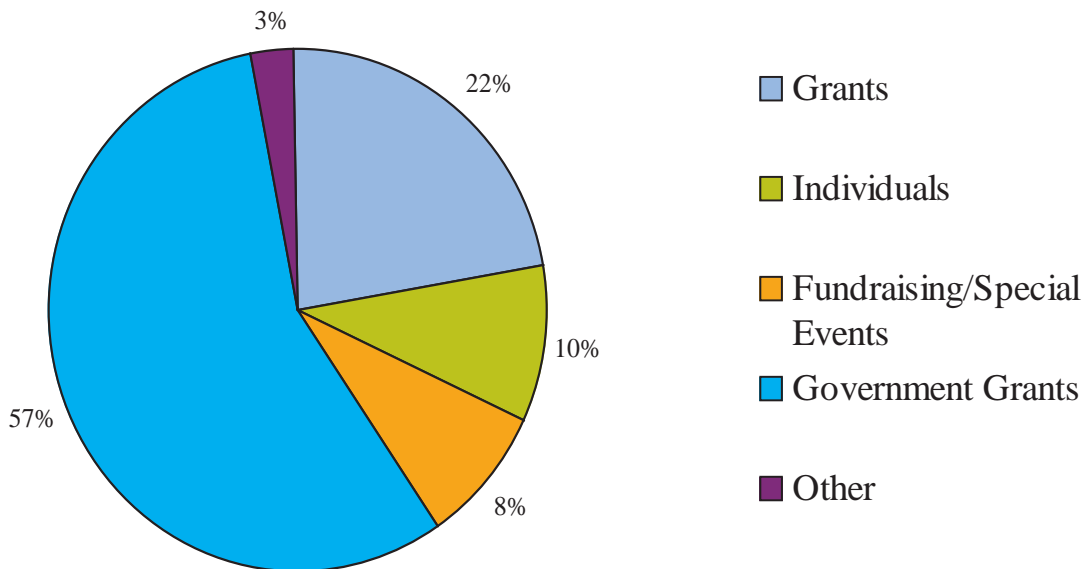
From January to November 2008, the Arlington Police Department logged 308 reports of sexual offenses to children and the Fort Worth Police Department reports 557 reports of sexual offenses to children. Arlington and Fort Worth Police units investigating crimes against children are housed in our centers and utilize the Child Forensic Interview Team. The Alliance For Children Child Forensic Interview Team, staffed by three AFC interviewers and one interviewer from the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office, completed 1386 forensic interviews during fiscal year 07-08 (October 2007- September 2008) and 68% of children made an outcry.

"Children are likely to live up to what you believe in them "

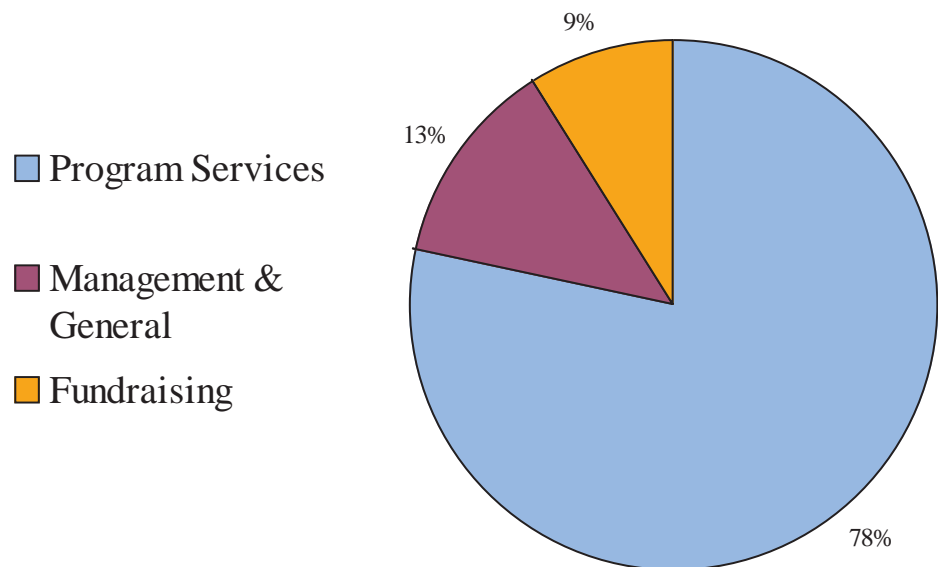
Lady Bird Johnson

# Your gifts go here ....

## Revenues



## Expenses



*\*\*Alliance For Children is audited annually by the independent firm, Rylander, Clay & Opitz. This data was collected from the 2008 audited statement, which disclosed an annual budget of \$1,867,000. For more information, or to view the full statement on-line, please visit [www.allianceforchildren.org](http://www.allianceforchildren.org)*

"While we try to teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life is all about"  
Angela Schwindt

# Educating the public ....



Stewards of Children is a revolutionary sexual abuse prevention training program that educates adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse, and motivates them to courageous action.



NetSmartz is an internet safety program helping children to recognize online dangers.

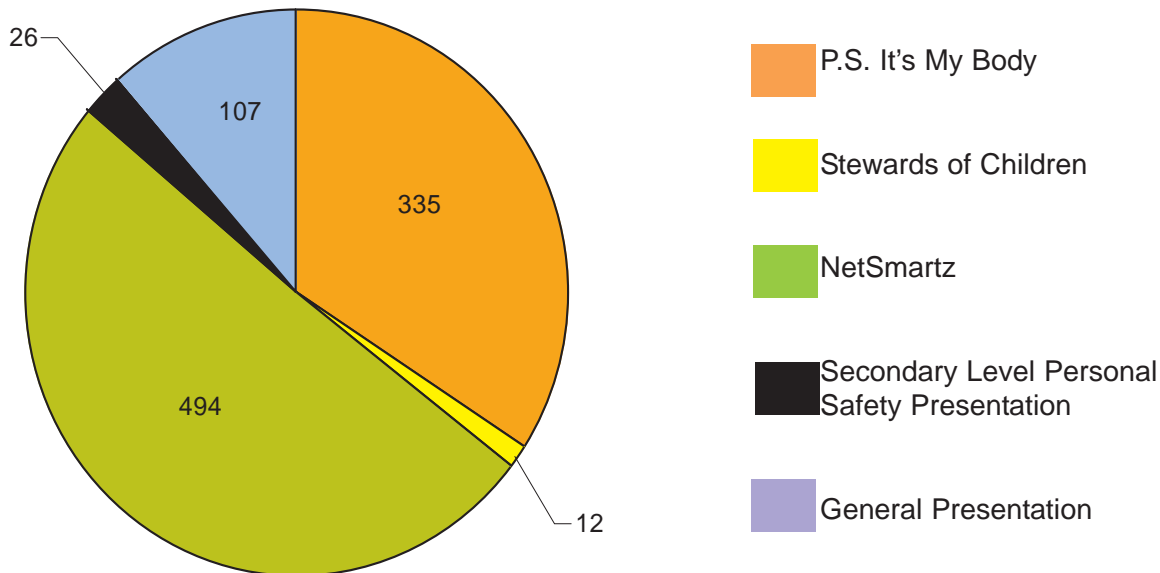
## P.S. It's My Body

P.S. It's My Body is a program that engages children in activities focused around the 3 R's of personal safety: Recognizing, Resisting and Reporting.



*Happy Bear is an important part of the P.S. It's My Body program*

## Community Education Presentations



For 2007-2008, AFC made a total of 974 presentations with 47,578 people in attendance

## "Baby Moses" Law



The "Baby Moses" law makes it legal for a parent to turn over newborns to qualified caretakers with no penalty to the parent if the child is unharmed and 60-days-old or younger.

We are proud to offer a 30 minute presentation about the Tarrant County Safe Baby Site Program and the Baby Moses Law. Participants will learn about the devastating issue of newborn abandonment in our community, the Texas law that protects newborns and desperate parents and includes ways to get involved with this project by supporting designated Safe Baby Sites in Tarrant County.

"The test of the morality of a society is what it does for its children"

Dietrich Bonhoeffer



## *Getting involved with the community ...*



### *Collaboration*

#### *Internet Safety Night at the Ballpark*

In August, Alliance For Children partnered with the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Texas for an Internet Safety Night at the Ballpark in Arlington. The purpose was to educate children and their family members on how to protect themselves from predators on the Internet using NetSmartz programming.

### *Mental Health Connection*

Alliance For Children is proud to collaborate with the Mental Health Connection as a part of the Texas Department of State Health Services Mental Health Transformation Grant. We received the opportunity to be a part of a study that will evaluate the effectiveness of Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy with specific training and ongoing consultation for providers.



*Willie is one of the 13 therapy dogs that Alliance For Children utilizes in our therapy programs. AFC would like to thank the Delta Society and Therapy Dogs International for their continued support.*

### *United Way Task Force*

Alliance For Children is collaborating with the United Way of Tarrant County and many other nonprofit agencies to impact the issue of child abuse in our community. After participation in a charrette, a number of initiatives have begun, including the development of Family Support Centers.

### *And the Award Goes To...*

Our own, Nancy Hagan for CASA of Tarrant County's top honor, the Judge Scott Moore award for being a champion for abused and neglected children in Texas for the past 25 years.

\* Terry Howard from Fort Worth Police Department's Crimes Against Children Unit for Detective of the Year in 2008.

\* Don Binnicker from Child Protective Services for the 2008 Team Excellence Award.

\* Awards from the Children Advocacy Centers of Texas, a state association of 63 child advocacy centers.



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