



The
**Center for the
Prevention
of Child Abuse**

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



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Prevention of Child Abuse**

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Parenting Program

Kaitlyn Deragon
Personal Safety Program
Coordinator

Katarina Lee
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Nika Lynch
Supportive Parenting Program
Case Manager

Cecilia McPeck
Trauma Therapist for the CAC

Peace
Facility Dog

OUR PROGRAMS & SERVICES

CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

A family-friendly space with a multi-disciplinary team approach to support children disclosing stories of alleged sexual and/or extreme physical abuse. Includes forensic interviews, medicals, advocacy, and trauma therapy.

SUPPORTIVE PARENTING PROGRAM

Intensive case management services for parents with developmental disabilities and/or a mental health diagnosis that includes weekly home visit support, supervised visitation and parenting classes.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Training for adults, caregivers, teachers, and other community groups on how to recognize and report child abuse and neglect. Includes Mandated Reporter Training for professionals who need certification and a free presentation for the general public.

PERSONAL SAFETY PROGRAM

Age-appropriate in-class instruction on sexual abuse prevention to children ages Pre-K through Fifth Grade that includes body safety and internet safety.

Mission

THE CPCA'S MISSION IS TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE IN THE MID-HUDSON VALLEY

The Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse (CPCA) is a private non-profit that has been dedicated to the reduction of child maltreatment since 1973. Each year, we offer support and advocacy services to thousands of children that have been abused and families that are at-risk. We are also the only agency in Dutchess County providing sexual-abuse prevention training to children. Through our services, children and adults are empowered with knowledge to prevent future abuse.

By the Numbers

4,865 children, families and adults in the Hudson Valley received support, education and services

3,632 children learned how to be a boss of their body

532 children felt safe to disclose their story of abuse

670 adults were trained to recognize the warning signs of child abuse

86 child cases were enrolled in trauma therapy to assist children on their healing journey

32 families received intensive case management support and were delivered essential items and food to keep their children safe and healthy

Agency Highlights



Executive Director, Kim Haight, was appointed to the Board of Directors of New York State Children's Alliance.



CPCA was awarded a grant from New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NYSPCC) to administer *Athletes are Children First (AAF)* pilot program in the Hudson Valley.



Chrissy Tuttle, our Director of Operations, graduated from the 2020 Leadership Dutchess class.



We had a historic Giving Tuesday on December 1st. Generous donors offered up to a \$50,000 match, which our supporters exceeded in raising. The final total raised, with the match, was over \$110,000!





"Thank you for being there for me so I can talk to you."

—Child Advocacy Center Client

Child Advocacy Center

FIGHTING CHILD ABUSE DURING A CRISIS

The Child Advocacy Center (CAC) is a safe, family-friendly space for alleged child victims to disclose a story of sexual and/or extreme physical abuse. The CAC team is comprised of victim advocates, law enforcement, CPS workers, trauma therapists and program coordinators all working together to ensure a child's safety. The goal of a CAC is to reduce retraumatizing the child by collecting as much information as possible in a forensic interview. The CAC also provides resources to assist children and families through the healing process.

Throughout the pandemic, our Child Advocacy Center remained open, ensuring children had a place to turn to. In 2020, 532 children came to the CAC to disclose a story of abuse.

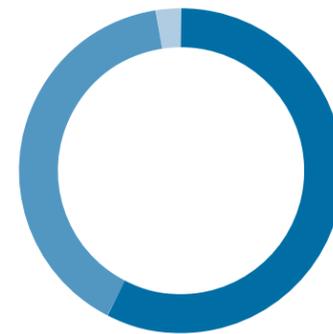
In order to guarantee that families and staff were safe upon entering the building, masks were donated and a new screening process was insitituted. In addition, enhanced cleaning procedures were adopted, and with the help of donations of cleaning supplies, we were able to disinfect prior to and following each family visit.

During the spring and summer months, in the midst of the countrywide shutdown, we were unable to conduct medicals at our location as usual, and families that needed non-emergent medical exams had to travel to Westchester. To support these families, our family advocates secured gas cards and traveled across Dutchess County to hand deliver the cards so that children and families were able to make their medical appointments.

Our Child Advocacy Center staff also provided additional support to families outside of agency office hours to help them navigate through furloughs, job loss and financial difficulties.

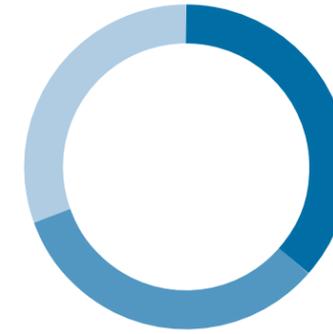
CHILD CLIENTS

GENDER



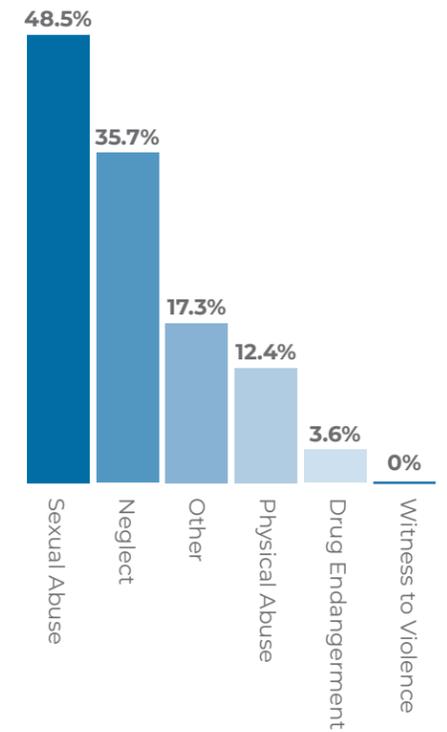
- Female
- Male
- Undisclosed

AGE



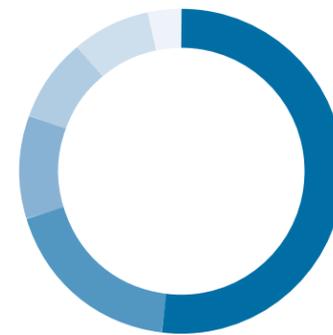
- 0-6
- 7-12
- 13-18

TYPES OF ABUSE REPORTED



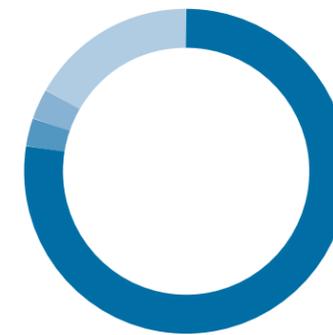
OFFENDERS

RELATIONSHIP TO VICTIM



- Parent
- Other Relative
- Other Known Person
- Unknown
- Step-Parent
- Parent's Partner

AGE OF OFFENDER



- 18+
- 13-17
- Under 13
- Undisclosed

- 532** Child Clients
- 415** Forensic Interviews
- 30** Arrests Made
- 86** Child Advocacy Center Cases Enrolled in Trauma Therapy (30% of cases)

“The advocates were nice and calm talking with my daughter while I was giving information to the CPS worker.”

—ANONYMOUS PARENT

HEALING STARTS HERE

In January, prior to COVID-19 concerns, our Child Advocacy Center implemented a new therapy component onsite to provide mental health services to child victims of physical and sexual abuse. Licensed trauma therapists, who have the specialized credential of Certified Clinical Trauma Professional Level 2 (CCTP L-2), provide support and stability for children and their families after traumatic experiences.

When COVID-19 forced our staff to transition to more remote operations, we offered therapy virtually through the Doxy.me platform. Staff also delivered art therapy kits, which included Play-Doh, crayons, and notebooks, to children receiving therapy services. In 2020, 86 families (30% of our cases) began their healing journey through our therapy program.



PROVIDING A COMFORTING PAL

In early December, we introduced our first full-time facility dog, Peace. Funding that was received over the past three years enabled us to secure this specially trained dog from Educated Canines Assisting with Disabilities (ECAD) and allowed for certification of three staff members to become his handlers.

Peace has a specific skillset that allows him to assist people who have experienced extreme trauma and he understands over 50 commands. His presence provides unique comfort that calms children, reduces stress, and helps them open up during interview and therapy sessions. When needed, Peace will also support children who are testifying at the courthouse.



NAVIGATING FAMILIES THROUGH HARDSHIPS

The Supportive Parenting Program provides intensive case management services for parents with developmental disabilities and/or a mental health diagnosis that includes weekly home visits, supervised visitation, and group parenting classes.

From March to July, parenting classes usually done in group settings shifted to a one-on-one online format. Home visits were also done virtually. Staff stayed in communication with families to ensure that all their needs were met, delivered food when necessary, and helped parents set up Google classroom for their children so that they could continue to attend school.

With food donations from Red Line Diner, staff were able to feed 55 families.

In 2020, staff also assisted two parents who had babies during quarantine. Staff were there to help the overwhelmed parents transition home from the hospital. This included helping to set up insurance information, connecting them with referrals, and gathering donations such as formula, diapers, and a crib to ensure that the newborns had all their basic needs to stay safe and healthy.

32 Families Served

55 Meals Delivered



Rose's Story

Rose wanted to become the parent her children needed. This past year, she made dramatic leaps by putting her child's needs before hers. With CPCA support, Rose was able to put together a series of real-life changes that included completion of the Lexington Recovery outpatient treatment to remain sober and drug free, as well as meeting her probation mandate to no longer be justice-involved. She is currently working with CPCA staff to obtain OPWDD eligibility to secure financial stability and services that may lead to an improved quality of life.



“At a time when so many other programs have been put on hold, we are so grateful that we were able to provide this extremely important program to our elementary community.”

—JESSICA DOMMU, School Counselor at Pawling Elementary

Personal Safety Program

TEACHING SAFETY FROM HOME

The Personal Safety Program offers in-person instruction to children on how to keep their bodies safe. Prior to schools being shut down, staff were able to conduct presentations to 3,269 children. When schools transitioned to remote learning, the program was forced to postpone lessons and had to shift their thinking of how to teach children about body safety. In the early months, schools were emailed body safety tips and coloring books to distribute to their students. Staff also developed virtual presentations through Zoom to educate parents and caregivers on how to keep children safe while gaming and on social media. Puppet skits were recorded with the help of Good 4 You Productions in case schools would not allow for in-person instruction.

When schools returned for fall, staff reconnected with students both in-person and virtually and ended the 2020 year presenting to an additional 738 students. By the end of 2020, Personal Safety Program were able to give lessons to students in 11 of the 13 school districts in Dutchess County.



3,632 Children Served

11 (of 13) School Districts Received Personal Safety Lessons



Community Education

EXPANDING WAYS TO EDUCATE ABOUT ABUSE

The Community Education Program teaches adults, caregivers, educators, and other community groups on how to recognize the signs of child abuse and neglect, as well as how to report when an instance arises. Our program provides Mandated Reporter Training for professionals in New York State who are legally required to recognize and report any suspicion of child abuse. We have also developed a free presentation, for anyone in our community interested on how to keep children safe.

After a lot of preparation during 2019, free in-person presentations were provided from January to March. When shutdown preparations began in March, our staff transitioned from face-to-face presentations to an online format offered through Zoom.

Despite not being able to meet in-person, 470 individuals received training, including groups from Faith Christian Academy, Upton Christian School, Webutuck Elementary School, Fishkill Elementary School, Legal Services of the

Hudson Valley, Dover Central School District, Foreign Car Specialists, Dutchess County Medical Reserve Corps, Nubian Direction, Wappingers Falls Rotary Club, and SUNY New Paltz education program students.

The online format created an opportunity to connect with the community more easily. Attendees found it convenient to partake and arrangements for the presentation were easier to make. Attending the presentation was also included in tasks given to teachers and social workers to fill some work time normally dedicated to personal interactions with students and clients.

670 Individuals Trained to Recognize & Report Child Abuse

“I believe everyone should see [this presentation] to help open their eyes and raise awareness to this ongoing problem.”

—Paula DeGroff, Wappingers Central School District

ONE TOO MANY 5K

A Movement to End Child Abuse



In 2020, with many in-person events canceled, including our annual benefit and our community luncheon, we found another route to help children in our community. Partnering with New York Children's Alliance and in friendly competition with Child Advocacy Centers across the State, we hosted our first annual One Too Many NY 5K.

Chaired by CEO of Impact PR, Filomena Fanelli, our community was ready to move to end child abuse. The event, that took place virtually from September 18–20, had **157 participants** who ran, walked, hiked and biked all around the Hudson Valley and beyond.

Overall, the event was a huge first time success **raising over \$33,000** to benefit local children and families.



YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Create a lasting impact

Since 1973, The Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse has been preventing and breaking the cycle of child abuse in the Hudson Valley. Each year, thousands of children and families find support and healing through our services and are empowered to speak up against abuse.

We believe that every child deserves to live a healthy and happy childhood free of abuse and trauma. When you support The CPCA, you create hope for children in our community to live a brighter future and keep them safe from potential harm.

In 2020, your support affected the lives of 4,865 children and their families, setting them on a journey towards healing.

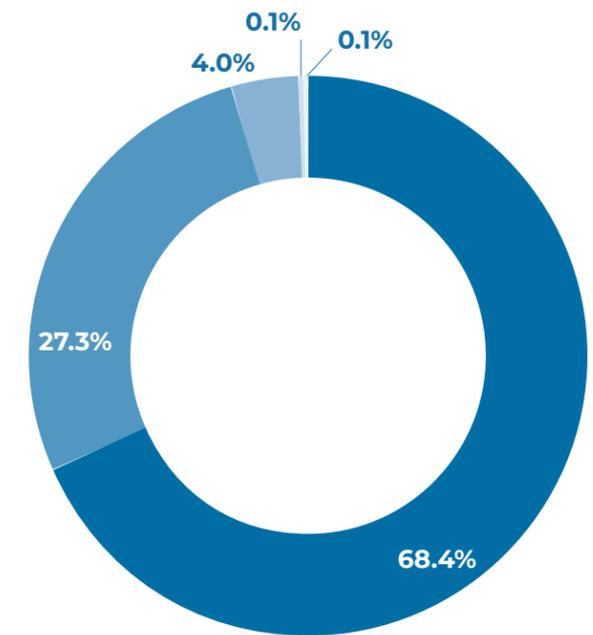
Please consider helping us make an even greater impact in 2021 by visiting thecpca.org/donate

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

INCOME

Government Grants	\$665,279
Contributions	\$265,372
Special Events	\$38,934
In Kind Contributions	\$1,339
Other Income	\$898

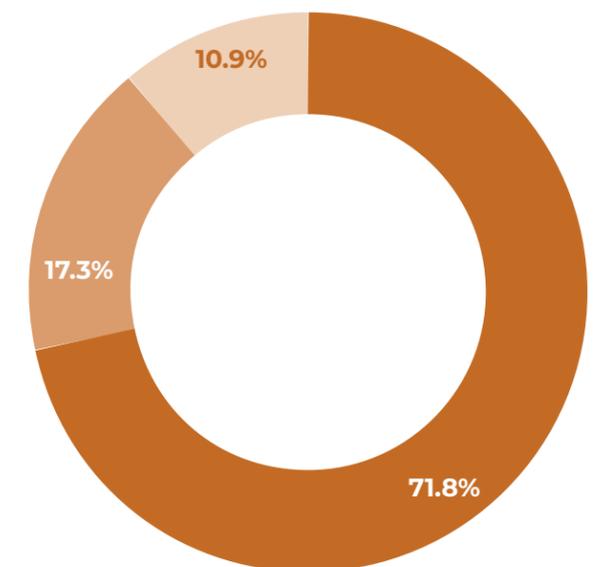
Total Support & Revenue \$971,822



EXPENSES

Programs & Services	\$841,802
Fundraising	\$202,843
Management & General	\$127,085

Total Expenses \$1,171,730





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