FY 2019 Program Accomplishments

1. Program Services for Children and Families

*The following figures are based on total numbers of children and adults served, as well as services given from March 1, 2018 to November 30, 2018 which have been projected to the fiscal year end February 28, 2019.*

### CLIENT SERVICES BY DEPARTMENT

*NOTE: MANY CLIENTS RECEIVE SERVICES FROM MULTIPLE DEPARTMENTS*

- Therapy & Psych: 38%
- Family Advocate: 18%
- Forensic Interviews: 16%
- MDT: 23%
- Medical: 5%

#### Services Count:

- Multidisciplinary Team Enhancement Program: 5,999
- Therapy and Psychological Services: 9,894
- Forensic Interview Services: 4,260
- Medical Services: 1,157
- Family Advocate Services: 4,627
Demographic Breakdown

TOTAL CLIENTS BY GENDER

- Female: 74%
- Male: 26%

TOTAL CLIENTS BY ETHNICITY

- Hispanic: 50%
- Black: 25%
- Asian: 1%
- White: 19%
- Native American: 0%
- Multi-racial: 4%
- Other: 1%

TOTAL CLIENTS BY AGE GROUP

- Age 0-5: 19%
- Age 6-12: 45%
- Age 13-17: 35%
- Age 18 & Over: 1%
Total Number of Children Served: 4,341

Number of children who received forensic interviews: 4,228\(^1\)
Number of children who received medical services: 1,157
Number of children who received psychological/therapy services: 400

Total Number of Adults Served:

Number of adults who received forensic interviews: 21
Number of adults who received psychological/therapy services: 224

Training and Education

Number of attendees (CAC staff, law enforcement, community, etc.): 10,000+
Number of trainings: 612

Activity Center Visits

Number of children visiting center: 7,240
Number of volunteers: 79

\(^1\) Number reflective of interviews and extended assessment interviews.
2. **$33 Million Capital Campaign Complete**

It was with great pride The CAC Foundation Board announced the completion of their capital campaign in September of this year. With a public announcement and official groundbreaking ceremony in 2012 the past six years have been challenging, but clearly rewarding. The new expanded facility added 89,000 square feet to the current building; 21,000 additional square feet to house partner agencies; 18 additional therapy and interview rooms; a new 14,500 square foot conference center allowing for prevention and training; and lastly a new 6-story parking garage adding 249 additional parking spaces.

The expanded facility will allow for increased prevention trainings as well as coordinated multidisciplinary services with partner agencies for the sexually abused children and their families in Harris County. The child-friendly facility with a welcoming environment is warm and protective so that children feel safe receiving services which include a forensic interview, family advocate crisis intervention, children’s services provided by our activity center and then lastly therapy and psychological services so they can begin their path to healing.

In Harris County, the direct and immediate costs of child sexual abuse is nearly $35 million annually. It only costs $10.53 to train an adult to improve their child-protective behaviors. Research suggests that the average trained adult will better protect at least 10 children from sexual abuse in the years after training.
3. **Forensic Services responded to crisis in Santa Fe, Texas to provide trauma-informed forensic interviews**

In response to the Santa Fe High School shooting in May, The Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) organized a community services response immediately following the crisis. CAC interviewers were on-site to assist with interviews of minors who were potential witnesses to this violent crime and who were having psychosomatic responses. CAC Forensic Interviewers, Lisa Holcomb, BS, Brittany Dancer, MA, and Claudia Gonzalez, LPC-S, along with Lisa Bourgoyne and interviewers from The Advocacy Center of Galveston County assisted in the response. The value of research-based and trauma-informed forensic interviews was salient in gathering verbal accounts from student witnesses.

4. **6th Annual Urban Team Forum held at The CAC**

On October 15th, 16th and 17th The Children’s Assessment Center hosted 41 Executive Directors from large urban advocacy centers as well as members of the National Children’s Alliance for a 3-day training. Advocacy centers from urban programs from NYC to San Diego, California to Detroit, Michigan to Baltimore, Maryland were in attendance with other fellow executive directors from urban cities. Topics included: Expanding access – equity and CAC service delivery, initiatives to increase mental health services, trauma informed CAC’s, leadership and coaching, organizational excellence and innovative prevention initiatives. Executive Director Elaine Stolte presented on the Dual Status Youth Initiative here in Harris County funded by Houston Endowment. Members of her panel included: Lisa Hall, Houston Endowment, Tiffany Dupree, Harris County District Attorney’s office, Kelly Opot, Harris County Youth Collective, and Shay Bilchik, Director of Juvenile Justice Reform at Georgetown University.

Urban Team Executive Directors were also treated to a lovely dinner and reception at the home of CAC Board Member Mark Anderson. In addition, The CAC hosted the National Children’s Alliance Board of Directors for their annual board meeting, which took place on October 15th. The CAC Board of Directors joined them for a tour and lunch at The Children’s Assessment Center to discuss the advocacy center movement on a national level.
5. **Collective Healing Initiative**

This grant originated from the Department of Justice’s Office of Victims of Crime, and ensuring that the department embraces a victim-centered, trauma-informed approach is core to this effort. The Children’s Assessment Center was selected as one of the community partners to support the assessment, strategic planning, and implementation of the grant.

According to the IACP National Policy Summit on Community-Police Relations report, when any segment of a community lacks confidence or trust in their local police, high-profile incidents serve only to inflame these feelings and further erode trust. If managed properly, the post-event response can contribute to community-wide trust and confidence in the police and play a significant role in the healing process for victims. Furthermore, attention to officer trauma and resilience can promote greater officer wellbeing and improved quality of service.

The CAC has an established, collaborative relationship with HPD, so this grant strengthens our ability to assist in enhancing trust with communities where pre-existing relationships may be barriers; improve the handling of post critical incident response to contribute to community-wide trust and ensure that the department is meeting the needs of personnel who are exposed to trauma.

6. **The CAC Forensic Services will close out a record year with largest annual increases in child sexual abuse victims served**

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4,228 CHILDREN INTERVIEWED (PROJECTED FOR FYE)
APPROXIMATELY 60% DISCLOSED CHILD ABUSE • 585 SPANISH-SPEAKING CHILDREN
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![Pie chart showing the distribution of child abuse cases](chart.png)

Forensic Interviewing Program increased services to children by 12% in FY 2019 (up 34% over 3-year period from FY17 to FY19). Specialized Forensic Interviewers conducted 3,195 trauma-informed interviews to date and will close out FY 2019 with the largest annual increase in services to victims of child sexual abuse and other violent crimes.

This historic rise in children served is part of a three-year trend of substantial growth in the demand for CAC Services. One factor contributing to this historic growth in children receiving services at The CAC was the passage of **Senate Bill 1806 by the 85th Legislature** that requires child sexual abuse reports by a professional be routed to a CAC for an MDT response. Additional staff, cross-training, and strengthened MDT relationships were also contributing factors.
7. **Building Appropriate Sexual Education (BASE) Program**

This juvenile diversion program is a unique collaboration between The CAC and the HCDAO. Mental Health Services for youth with problematic sexual behaviors are provided. Of note here, the child’s caregivers are incorporated into the intervention and are actively involved in the child’s recovery and future success. Youth who successfully complete the program are diverted from juvenile court involvement. The BASE Program is an inspiring example of how the juvenile justice system and a children’s advocacy center can effectively partner together in the service of healing our children and families and strengthening the larger community in which they are embedded. It is one of the only juvenile diversion programs of its kind in this country.

8. **The CAC assists Harris County District Attorney’s Office needing space**

Due to the flooding of the Criminal Justice Center after Harvey, the Harris County District Attorney’s Office found themselves without a home. Luck would have it that with the recent completion of The CAC expansion, space designated for future growth was available and immediately transformed with cubes and phones to accommodate 40 Assistant District Attorney’s and their support staff. The CAC was happy to house the Child Abuse Division along with other prosecutorial staff working on child abuse investigations. The new home provided the opportunity to establish better working relationships among partner agencies. The Harris County District Attorney’s office staff were housed at The CAC from September 1st through mid-July 2018.

9. **Governor Greg Abbott holds Press Conference at The CAC on Human Trafficking**

On February 6th Governor Abbott joined over 200 guests at The CAC to discuss the new statewide efforts to combat Human Trafficking. Since the creation of his Child Sex Trafficking Taskforce, innovative and promising initiatives have been launched around the state to protect children and respond to human trafficking. Governor Abbott announced policy changes including ways to assist victims, protect children by increasing penalties and increased funding efforts by the state for law enforcement and DFPS. Joining Governor Abbott was a Human Trafficking survivor who powerfully spoke about her abuse and how she was sold into human trafficking by her biological father beginning at the age of 5. Many non-profit human trafficking organizations, faith based organizations and business leaders attended in support of the new policy changes and discussed their commitment and support for changes related to human trafficking in Harris County.
10. **Foreign Journalist Tour The CAC**

20 Foreign Journalist visited The CAC and heard presentations by the Harris County District Attorney’s office and The CAC related to human trafficking. The journalists were invited guests by the US state department. Their program included touring numerous US cities and talking to professionals on how to combat human trafficking. They asked numerous questions and toured The CAC speaking to all the partner agencies. Afterwards several Ukrainian dignitaries contacted The CAC indicating they wanted to establish and advocacy center in the Ukraine.

11. **Second Year for Harris County Youth Collective – Dual Status Youth**

With generous funding from Houston Endowment, The CAC was selected to oversee grant funding to improve outcomes for dual status youth.

Dual Status Youth, also referred to as “crossover youth,” are defined as youth who both experience maltreatment and are part of the CPS system and then later enter into the juvenile system for various offenses. These youths face even worse outcomes than those youths involved in only one system, including higher rates of recidivism, substance abuse and failure in school. The Harris County Youth Collective initiative currently includes representatives from the Harris County Juvenile Probation Department (HCJPD), the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS), and Harris County CPS (HCCPS) as well as many other organizations and non-profits in Harris County. The CAC participates in the steering committee and the oversight committee.

Year two of the initiative was very exciting as dedicated staff in DFPS as well as HCJPD were assigned to identify dual status youth in their system and coordinate with HCYC. Identifying youth early on is critical to navigating appropriate outcomes.

As an extension of the dual status youth initiative, The CAC and the Harris County District Attorney’s Office began the BASE Diversion Program.

Led by John Jordan, Chief Prosecutor of the Juvenile Division of the Harris County District Attorney's Office, and in coordination with The CAC, BASE is a newly created collaborative...
program designed to address the unique problem of dealing with youth who are sexually acting out. Harris County is among the first to develop a program of this kind. Up until now, and still in most communities in the United States, juveniles who are accused of acting out sexually on other children are prosecuted and treated as juvenile offenders. Most of these children have learned this behavior because they have been victimized themselves. Although cases are evaluated on a case-by-case basis, the program is concentrating on offenders between the ages of 10 and 12 and in which the juvenile perpetrator and the victim are related. Every Friday morning at The CAC, law enforcement meets with assistant district attorneys to present cases they believe may be appropriate for the program. If it is determined that a child is an appropriate candidate, the child will be referred to The CAC to participate in a nine month long treatment curriculum called Road Maps developed by Dr. Schmidt, a licensed sex offender treatment provider. If the juvenile successfully completes the program, charges will not be filed. If the juvenile signs up but fails to complete the program or elects not to participate, criminal charges can be pursued at the discretion of the district attorney's office. To date, several juveniles have entered into the program. Only one eligible juvenile has reject the program because of lack of parental consent. The CAC will be recording and tracking statistics on program participants with the hope that we can demonstrate the effectiveness of the program.

12. April Child Abuse Prevention Month

The CAC kicked off April, Child Abuse Prevention Month with a press conference. Speakers were CAC Executive Director, Elaine Stolte, District Attorney, Kim Ogg, Harris County Attorney, Vince Ryan, Houston Police Chief, Art Acevedo, Sheriff, Ed Gonzales, US Attorney, Ryan Patrick, Crime Stoppers CEO, Rania Mankarious and CPS Regional Director, CJ Broussard. April 6th was wear blue day. The CAC staff gathered in front of the building for a group picture. Additionally, CAC staff were present at Commissioner’s Court to recognize Child Abuse Prevention Month.
Every year The Houston Business Journal gives awards to area parks, businesses, and buildings for their unique contribution to the city. This year The CAC was nominated as a finalist in the public/private partnership category. In 2017 The CAC opened the doors to its newly expanded...
and remodeled facility. This new state-of-the-art facility, which not only houses The CAC but also representatives from many of their partner agencies, more than doubled in size. The new space not only offers additional room to provide much needed services to a growing number of children and families, but it also has a 18,000 training center which is utilized daily by law enforcement, CPS, DFPS, and others to provide support for are partners and education for our community. Designed to be child friendly, the facility is beautiful both inside and out and it is suitably located in the lovely Rice Village.

14. Children’s Art Project

Local artist Justin Garcia graciously dedicated his talent to create an art therapy project at The CAC. The “Reflections of Growth” project started with Justin stretching and aging a large canvas in his study. He then cut the piece into segments and installed it in the Therapy and Psychological Services wing at The CAC. With the guidance of CAC Therapy and Psychological Service Director, Dr. Lawrence Thompson and his staff, Children participating in therapy were encouraged to write a message on the wall. The end product is a powerful message of hope, transformation and the resilience of children. The segments will be auctioned off at The CAC’s 6th Annual Advocate Through Art Party on January 31, 2019.

15. Human Trafficking

- **Houston Regional Child Sex Trafficking Team Advisory Council is created:** After a year of dedicated work, the Regional CST Collaborative Working Group has transitioned from protocols to roll out. All human trafficking cases brought to The CAC receive a forensic interview, crisis intervention, hope’s closet clothes and therapy and psychological services. These cases now have become part of the regular Child Sexual Abuse Review Team meetings which occur twice a month. The East Texas Regional Administrator of the Child Sex Trafficking Team for the Governor’s office has been given office space at The CAC and will hold monthly CST Advisory Council meetings at The CAC. Executive
Director Elaine Stolte will serve on the Advisory Council. The CST Advisory Council is working on vision and mission statements. New protocols have been developed and are awaiting signatures.

- **Houston Regional Child Sex Trafficking (CST) MDT Collaborative increased services since launching in 2017, up from 21 youth served in 2016 to 75 in 2018:** The collaborative efforts of members of the Houston Regional CST Collaborative led by the Governor’s Office has resulted in drastic increases in CAC services provided to survivors of human trafficking. In 2018, CAC Forensic Interviewers and Family Advocates provided services to 75 CST youth, up 75% from 43 served in 2017. This historic rise in CST children served is also part of a three-year trend of substantial growth in the demand for CAC Services. The significant increase in services by The CAC also improves safety and justice through best practice MDT investigations of CST, and The CAC model connects youth and families with specialized services earlier to promote the complete healing of CST youth in Harris County.

- **Hope’s Closet launches to meet emergent needs of survivors of child sex trafficking (CST). To date, over 50 survivors have been served:** As The CAC services for children recovered from child sex trafficking dramatically increased, the need for adolescent clothing, toiletries, blankets and comfort items also became necessary. Modeled after the “Go Bag” Project implemented during the Super Bowl outreach, The CAC partnered with National Charity League volunteer, Emily Clark, a St. Agnes High School freshman, who embraced the idea of Hope’s Closet as a Girl Scout Gold Award Project. In approximately 6-8 months, Ms. Clark worked with CAC advisors, Lisa Bourgoyne and Ginger Brasher, on bag designs, logo, and closet set up. Ms. Clark also raised funds to purchase items for 100 bags intentionally designed to provide CST survivors with dignity, confidence, and courage. To date, over 50 survivors have benefitted from Hope’s Closet. An article in The Buzz Magazines recognized Emily for her hard work.

- **Human Trafficking-focused services:** The Standing for and Achieving Youth Empowerment program (SAYE) continues to address the prevalent issues of child sex trafficking to at risk adolescent girls. The goal of this 5 unit curriculum equips teen girls with the knowledge they need to protect themselves from those who would traffic and otherwise exploit them. The Therapy and Psychological Services Division of The CAC has successfully partnered with Harris County Protective Services Kinder Shelter to bring the curriculum to adolescent girls at the shelter who are at risk for this form of human trafficking. We are also currently working to develop a similar curriculum aimed at preventing our adolescent boys from becoming child sex trafficking victims. To date, 47 young girls have completed SAYE. Some of the notable outcomes that were noted on the Exit Surveys are that the training taught them that traffickers/pimps come in all shapes and sizes, and some reported learning how to protect themselves and stay safe, even when they run away. Additionally, some girls have been able to identify, or place a name to, being trafficked. More clearly, they experienced sex trafficking, but did not identify themselves as victims or being sex trafficked.
** Sysco and Truckers Against Trafficking Initiative: ** The CAC is collaborating with SYSCO to help educate their employees on ways to recognize and safely report human trafficking that they may encounter in the course of their business. Prostitution is extremely prevalent at truck stops, retail establishments, other locations SYSCO employees frequent through the course of their employment and human trafficking victims are often found to be working in these locations. SYSCO wants to be on the forefront of the anti-trafficking movement and The CAC is proud to be developing a curriculum to help them lead in this fight.

16. **The CAC assesses client needs in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey and provides necessary resources**

Hurricane Harvey was a Category 4 storm that caused historic damage in Harris County and surrounding areas. Families were impacted economically and many lost everything. The CAC prioritized assessment of families directly impacted by Harvey, and served **483 clients** that reported being affected by the hurricane. Family Advocates assisted these families to meet basic material needs while also addressing child sexual abuse.

Children also voiced victimization as a result of this catastrophic event. Several children and their families were displaced and had to reside in shelters, relative’s homes, or with family friends. This allowed access and the opportunity to perpetrate on our most vulnerable population. One child disclosed, “It only happened because of the rain.”

A total of 11 families were identified by T&P to have been drastically impacted by Hurricane Harvey last year. As a result of generous contributions from multiple sources, these families were able to return to a life of new normalcy which help to support their graduation from therapeutic services.

17. **Professional Trainings**

- In 2018, The CAC logged 491 trainings at the end of October plus November scheduled to date for 37 trainings and December scheduled to date for 20 trainings. This is compared to a total of 523 in 2017. The year will end with more trainings than last year at approximately **550** trainings. The increase can be attributed to The CAC Training Center and increased staff in Training.

- The CAC Training Center has provided space to partner agencies, Harris County, and community partners which includes:
  
  a. Harris County District Attorney’s Office
  b. Harris County Juvenile Probation
  c. Harris County Sherriff’s Academy
  d. Texas Governor’s Child Sex Trafficking Team
  e. Harris County Dual Status
  f. National Charity League
  g. NCA Urban Forum
  h. CAC of Texas
i. Harris County Protective Services (TDPRS)
j. Harris County Youth Collective
k. Harris County Auditor’s Office
l. Harris County Child Fatality Review Team
m. TCH-ACE Coalition Meetings
n. HPD Collective Healing Meeting

- The CAC Training Center was able to host onsite trainings for staff and other local CAC members in lieu of them having to travel long distances:
  a. Advanced Family Advocate Training - Working with Poly-Victims and Families in a CAC Setting (2 Day Training) conducted by Children’s Advocacy Centers (CAC) of Texas.
  b. Child Sex Trafficking Forensic Interview Training (CST FIT) - 3 Day Workshop conducted by National Criminal Justice Training Center/Fox Valley.

- The Children’s Assessment Center conducted training for the Harris County community through The CAC Keeping Our Children Safe Series by presenting:
  a. Stewards of Children Child Sexual Abuse Prevention training by Darkness to Light to raise awareness of Child Sexual Abuse and provide tools to adults to prevent, recognize, react responsibly to, and report child sexual abuse. The CAC has provided 8 on-site workshops for 124 people from the community.
  b. NetSmartz is an internet safety training for children and parents: In April The CAC provided 4 on-site workshops for children and parents in the community.

- The Children’s Assessment Center is dedicated to providing prevention programs that meet the needs of the Harris County community. In addition to the above prevention trainings, The CAC provided the following prevention workshops offsite in the community:
  a. The Children’s Assessment Center’s School Safety Training: Overview of Child Sexual Abuse Case Process in Harris County, Dynamics of Child Sexual Abuse and Child Abuse Reporting Laws for Texas. The CAC provided 21 to date workshops for school representatives in the community.
  b. In March for HIPPY School (HISD), the CAC provided 2 trainings on NetSmartz Internet Safety to parents.
  c. In April, the CAC provided three trainings for Jose Santiago (Aldine ISD) on P.S. It’s My Body Happy Bear for 110 students.
  d. The CAC provided NetSmartz Internet safety training to two chapters of the National Charity League, from Houston and Spring.
  e. Three special requested trainings for friends of The CAC Board: 1) April for Age Specific geared towards 8-10 year old girls; 2) May for Child Safety Group Conversation for Boys 8-10 years old; 3) November for Children 8-10 years of age on Internet safety.
18. **The CAC provided Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training for KIPP Academy**

In February and March, The CAC provided a series of trainings for **KIPP Academy: 33 P.S. It’s My Body (Happy Bear)** training for a total of 480 Pre-K thru 4th grade students, and **16 Safe Boundaries**, for a total of 320 5th thru 8th grade students.

19. **The CAC Clients needing Transportation**

The CAC teamed up with the Harris County Community Services RIDES program to provide much-needed access to services for our clients. In the first two months, we provided 19 trips for 7 CAC clients and their families. Community Services obtained grant funds for 50% of the cost and our VOCA funds paid the additional 50%. We look forward to how this program will provide an additional avenue for our clients supplementing the existing Metro fare cards and fuel cards programs.

20. **Building Improvements**

There were many improvements made at The Children’s Assessment Center in 2018, which have resulted in the campus being more attractive, functional, accessible and safer for employees, clients, and visitors. The most notable are:

- Renovation of the Alleged Perpetrator area. Added new waiting area furniture, carpet, painted walls, re-laminated doors, CCTV cameras, LE viewing monitors, and gun lockers.
- Installation of new playground and CCTV cameras in the area.
- Installed millwork (i.e., storage cabinets, cubbies, surface counters, etc.) in the Training Center, Forensic Services, Activity Center, Therapy & Psychological Services, ADMIN, IT, Law Enforcement areas.
- Installation of wayfinding signs at the Training Center entrance and the elevator foyer.
- Added landscape planters at the building entrances and courtyard.
- Installed glass inserts in multiple doors to make the areas including rooms more visible and safer.
- Installed multiple signs, pictures, plaques, and acrylic posters in the hallways - all floors including the Press Room.
- Painted multiple accent walls throughout the building including DFPS and MEP areas.
- Installed panic alarm devices in the T&P department.
- Enhanced the 3rd floor breakroom with the addition of a TV and planters.
- Installed bird control deterrent products including spikes to alleviate the pigeon problem on the 3rd floor Terrace and parking garage.
- Worked in conjunction with Houston Bike Share to add a station on the Northeast corner of the property.
21. Advocacy Center Board Visits

Due to the increase in VOCA funding many advocacy centers are expanding the breath of their services, therefore increasing the need for additional programmatic space and the need to raise capital funding. Several advocacy centers have come and toured The CAC to learn how to expand their facilities and raise the needed funds. The entire board of directors from Clarke County, Nevada and members of the Ft Worth and Montgomery county board of directors came to spend a day with our CAC to learn from us, our partners and our board of directors. Numerous other Executive directors have also come for a tour.

22. Cultural Humility Training

Seventy-five Children’s Assessment Center (The CAC) staff members attended the Celebrating our Country’s Mosaic: Promoting Cultural Humility in the Workplace Workshop taught by Sandra Lopez, LCSW, ASCW, DCSW on Wednesday, October 31, 2018. The annual workshop is a requirement for all CAC staff members to continue to improve cultural competency to better serve children, families, and to continue to improve the work environment. At the conclusion of the workshop, attendees where better able to: 1) Identify key challenges related to working with children and families of culturally diverse backgrounds; 2) Develop a framework for understanding the significance of promoting cultural humility when working with families at The CAC; 3) Examine blind spots or cultural biases that may act as barriers when working with children and families; and 4) Identify practical strategies for weaving cultural humility and cultural competency into service delivery to clients and co-workers.

23. Central Intake Launched

Central Intake has taken on the full-time scheduling of all forensic interviews for CPS and LE. With TFC 261.4061, there has been a noticeable increase in forensic interview/medical referrals from CPS and Law Enforcement agencies. Central Intake Staff was increased from 3 to 4 to efficiently process referrals and schedule forensic interviews. As Central Intake moves forward with projected plan to include scheduling for the T&P Department; a Supervisor position to oversee the daily tasks of Central Intake was added. This ensures hands-on training and support for staff as scheduling for all CAC services will soon be centralized. The MDT Manager and the Central Intake Supervisor work closely to ensure a smooth intake process for clients, families, staff and Partners.

24. ICAC Press Conferences

- On Tuesday, June 19th, The CAC hosted a press conference where Houston/Metro Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) announced the success of a three-month-long operation called Operation Broken Heart that resulted in 60 arrests. For the fifth year, a partnership involving eight counties and 65 different law-enforcement agencies from across the Houston area worked together conducting 255 investigations, leading to file numerous local, state and federal arrest warrants and recovering thousands of gigabytes of child pornography and graphic images.
On Wednesday, September 12th, The CAC hosted a press conference where Houston/Metro Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) and The Harris County Precinct 1 Constable's Office announced the success of a three-day operation that resulted in the arrest of 13 men during an undercover sex sting.

25. **Children's Services Volunteers & Interns**

Children’s Services is extremely delighted to show off the many organizations and individuals that have stepped up to become involved in helping to support our efforts throughout the year. Volunteers from many local colleges, churches, corporations, and dedicated individuals have given their skills and time to The CAC. Volunteers are not only working in the Activity Center, donating goodies and clothes but also helping within many other departments, on special projects and numerous CAC events throughout the year. Thanks to the faithful, dedicated support from these generous people and others, we have been able to not only provide exemplary care to our daily clients in the Activity Center but also host numerous parties as well as special activities.

Volunteers have contributed over **2813.787** hours of service (12/2017 – 10/2018)

**83 Volunteers and Organizations**

- Baylor College of Medicine
- Chevron
- ConocoPhillips
- Elite Emergency Care
- FBI Citizen Academy
- Gunda Corporation
- Houston Baptist University
- Houston Community College
- Houston Park & Recreations
- Houstonian Hotel, Club & Spa
- Lone Star College
- National Charity League-Heart of Texas Chapter
- Origin Bank
- Prairie View A&M University
- Rice University
- Sam Houston State University
- Shell
- Stephen F. Austin
- Tailored Brands
- Texas Southern University
- United Sales Associates
- University of Houston
- University of Houston, Clear Lake
26. Children’s Services / Special Events

This year the Activity Center has been able to provide an abundant amount of new experiences, fun parties, and special events for our children thanks to the staff, generous sponsors and caring volunteers! We have enjoyed in so many wonderful things this year! Go Texans Day, Easter Party & egg hunt, National Unicorn Day, A Star Wars Celebration, Independence Day Celebration just to name a few. We have maintained birthday and graduation gifts as well as hosted the Holiday Party, Annual Back to School Party and Halloween Festivities.

Holiday Party

- **1435** Children served, **103** Volunteers

We kicked off the month of December making preparations for our Holiday Toy Drive hosted by the Harris County Sheriff’s Office and Annual Holiday Party. Both, the Toy Drive and Holiday Party were a success. Thanks to generous donors and sponsors, we were able to make sure every child had a happy holiday season! Children and families had the opportunity to create various arts and crafts, have their face painted and take holiday photos thanks to Santa and Mrs. Claus stopping by. Because our supportive elf volunteers, kids were able to select a gift from Santa’s workshop in the midst of the games and goodies. The smiles on the kids’ faces as we concluded the party was truly the touch of joy the holiday season brings.

Birthday Celebration / Therapy Graduation

- **40+** Birthday Gifts, **60+** Therapy Graduation Gifts

This year Activity Center staff has continued to provide Birthday Gifts as well as Therapy Graduation Gifts to the therapy clients! In efforts to help support these kiddos through their climb back to some normalcy, we have been working diligently to receive donations of toys, make-up, gift cards, and more to be able to provide gifts for special occasions. Activity Center staff has been working closely with clinicians to provide cake and birthday bags to make sure their special day!

Overnight Bags/Clothing

- Children served **120+**

Duffle bags filled with clothing and toiletries have been to all children in need. The Activity Center staff is sure to include all of the essential items needed to feel comfort and safe. Each bags is specifically tailored to fit the needs of each circumstance.
Summer Fun Events

- **2151** children served, **37** volunteers

Over the short summer months (May-July) Activity Center children and staff were able to experience many new things! We introduced a new summer theme of Super Hero Summer. We also had a special celebration in honor of Independence Week during July! Children of all ages gained new experiences and learned a little something about courage, standing up for themselves and others and confidence.

Back to School Events

- **1,000+** children served, **81** volunteers

To kick off the 2018 school year, on Wednesday, August 8th, we held our Annual Back to School Party sponsored again this year by ConocoPhillips. Our Carnival at the CAC Party was a huge hit! Families enjoyed the presence of Miss Moo, a petting zoo featuring Milkshake the Pony, fantastic face painting, fun games and prizes, an ice cream booth with all of the fixings, a carnival cutout and photo booth, dental screenings, ID Kits, free haircuts, and The Main Attractions which included a “Magic” Chemistry Demonstration, Fortune Teller, World’s Strongest Man and the Bearded Woman! Children and adults alike truly had a memorable experience. At the conclusion of the party, each child was able to take home a goody bag filled with treats, prizes they had won, and pictures they’d taken. Thanks to all of the school supply donations we received, children were also able to grab a backpack filled with all the necessities for a successful first day of school!

Some of our donors include:

- ConocoPhillips *Main Underwriter*
- Amy LeBlanc Cloud
- CBRE
- CDI Engineering
- CWS Apartments LLS
- Elite Care 24 Hr. Emergency Center
- Elliott Family
- FBI Citizens Alumni Association
- Girl Scouts of San Jacinto
- Granite Properties
- Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo – Miss Moo
- Houston Psychological Association
- Katy Police Officers Association
- Petrobras America
- PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
- Senna House Buyers
Halloween Events

- 546 children served, 29 volunteers

This year because of generous donations candy, kiddos were able to enjoy a daily Halloween Party the entire month of October. On Tuesday, October 30th we celebrated with spooky treats, ghoulish games, edible crafts, tons of candy and of course costumes galore! Kids were able to dress in costumes, get their face painted, and take a photo with the spooky background created by our awesome volunteers. This year the University of Houston American Student Dental Association PreDental Chapter was able to share candy and tools to teach the kids about healthy oral habits. Staff and children trekked through the second floor trick-or-treating throughout the afternoon hours. Volunteers from Gunda Corporation were kind enough to join us for the party; they brought fun treats to eat and even wore costumes. All children enjoyed the activities and gift bags we offered daily. Thanks to so many corporate, individual donors and volunteers this year, children were able to truly enjoy festivities daily.

27. Internal / External Data Redesign

In an effort to maximize efficiency, streamline our processes, and fully utilize our dataset, audits of both our internal database, and of our website were completed. The resulting recommendations are underway with plans to be operational before the end of this year. Additional software modules were engaged, and will assist departmental goals related to events and grant/prospect management, contributing overall to efficient fundraising. With the migration of data to a new web host, and a refreshed interface, user functionality will be enhanced and donors will be better managed as data flowing in is streamlined.

28. The CAC MDT Best Practices initiative celebrates five years of service; approximately 100 investigative caseworkers, officers and CAC staff unite for the 5th Annual MDT Best Practices Investigations Training

In April 2018, The CAC hosted the 5th Annual MDT Best Practices Investigations Training during Child Abuse Prevention Month. Approximately 100 investigative partners and staff were in attendance. Unique challenges of field screens and interviews, key components of SB1806, and coordinated MDT investigations were the focus of the 6-hour training. Executive Director, Elaine Stolte kicked-off the training, and Lindsey Dula, Director of Program Services at Alliance for Children led the training on INFACIT, a CAC protocol developed for screening children in the field. Lisa Bourgoyne, MEd, LPC-S (The CAC Forensic Services Director), Ezalia Walker (DFPS Program Director) and Herbert Canada (DFPS Program Director) also shared insights on the impact and implementation of Senate Bill 1806 at The CAC.
29. **Forensic Services Internship opportunities expand to include Columbia University School of Social Work**

In September 2018, The CAC signed a MOU with Columbia University to provide a placement site for social work students to complete one-year internships in Family Advocacy. The mission of Columbia University School of Social Work is to develop leaders in social work practice and research whose work advances professional values, knowledge, and skills through programs and policies that enhance well-being and promote human rights and social justice at the local, national, and global level. Columbia joined the internship program established with Baylor University School of Social Work in 2015, a program unique in its mission to help students develop an ethical integration of faith and social work practice. 2018-2019 Family Advocate Interns: Sarah Burwell (Baylor) and Alejandra Ortiz (Columbia), under the clinical supervision of Alexis Tate and Ginger Brasher.

30. **Notable Speaking Engagements**

- January 2018 - Elaine Stolte - National Charity League, Heart of Texas Chapter, Mom’s and Daughters Philanthropy Kick-off meeting 220 attendees
- April 2018 - Dr. Thompson - Missing in Harris County Day
- June 2018 - Elaine Stolte and Kerry McCracken - Camden VP Leadership Team
- July 2018 - Elaine Stolte - CACTX Women of Courage Speech at the Governor’s Mansion
- September 2018 - Key Note Speaker Elaine Stolte - Federation of Houston Professional Women
- September 2018 - Dr. Thompson - HCIFS Child Abuse Conference
- September 2018 - Elaine Stolte - Governor’s Office Human Trafficking Judicial Training
- October 2018 - Dr. Thompson Harris County District Attorney’s Office
- On March 22nd, The CAC was invited to the State Capitol in Austin to participate in a group discussion about needs for legislative change in the area of human trafficking. The meeting was hosted by the Governor’s Human Trafficking Response Team and approximately 50 were in attendance.

31. **Through the Women of Courage’s generosity and the My Safe Space: A Room Makeover Project, a CAC family’s home was transformed and a child’s life was forever changed**

When children experience or witness a traumatic event in their immediate personal space, such as their bedroom or living room, these spaces can be reminders of their worst memories. Since 2016, the Women of Courage grant awards through My Safe Space: A Room Makeover Project have provided funding for The CAC to transform spaces in which children impacted by trauma can begin their healing. Whether it’s a new bed, bedding, an area rug, or painting the walls, these room makeovers are a simple yet powerful act of creating a positive, safe new environment for survivors of child sexual abuse.
For the third consecutive year, The CAC was awarded $1,000 to complete a makeover for a family of five whose oldest two daughters, ages 14 and 16, were sexually abused by their stepfather in their bedrooms. Through persistent efforts of Family Advocate, Lesley Mendonca, LPC, LMFT both girls received bedroom makeovers including new beds, bed frames, linens and accessories, plus a gift card for the family. It’s difficult to imagine a good night’s sleep in a bed you were traumatized in, but these girls now have a new safe space.

32. Law Enforcement Appreciation Breakfast

To celebrate law enforcement appreciation week, The CAC hosted breakfast for over 60 law enforcement officers to show our gratitude for their hard work and dedication. Law enforcement from HPD, Pasadena, Deer Park, and the Sheriff’s Department were some of the many that attended. Art work from area school children depicting law enforcement was displayed and handed out to officers. Additionally, a hand full of luck officer won prizes in a raffle.

33. Forensics’ Staff provide Girl Talk session for (8) second grade students

Rebecca Coffee, LMSW, Yvette LeBlanc, MS, NCC, LPC-Intern and Lisa Bourgoyne, MEd, LPC-S planned and delivered a 1.5 hour small group girls talk for approximately (8) second grade girls in the Bellaire area. The focus of the group was education and prevention of child sexual abuse with an emphasis on feeling safe, identifying and talking about uncomfortable touching, and who and when to tell. The training was well received by children and parents.

34. CAC Foundation Board Support

- **Boxing:** The 1st Inaugural Knock Out Child Abuse, Black Tie Boxing Event was sold out two months in advance, Guests attended to watch 12 matches featuring energy brokers and traders competing against each other, with each boxer training over six months under the supervision and coaching of former Heavyweight Boxing Champion Lou Savarese. Dinner by B&B Butchers & Restaurant and a live auction were also included during the evening, as were awards for top boxer (funds raised) and top contributor (guest).
Art: The 5th Annual Advocate Through Art Party (AATP) benefiting The Children’s Assessment Center (The CAC) was held on November 30, 2017 at Kirby Grove. Guests enjoyed a live and silent art auction, dinner, cocktails, and live art performances.

SOS: The 19th Annual Spirit of Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show benefiting The Children's Assessment Center was held on Thursday, April 19, 2018 at the Royal Sonesta. Over 550 supporters helped raise funds for the victims of child sexual abuse and their families. Congressman Ted Poe was honored, and entertainment included a raffle and live auction, as well as a fashion show featuring designer Christian Siriano.

Donor Reception: On Wednesday, April 4, 2018, at The Children’s Assessment Center (The CAC), the 2018 Humanitarian Awards Recipients, Tellepsen, Kelley Lubanko, Aaron Rambo, and FOUND For the Home, were recognized for their support and dedication to the children and families of Harris County and specifically those families served at The CAC. The Office of the Governor, Child Sex Trafficking Team was also recognized for their efforts and statewide response.

HOIST: The 21st Annual Houston Oilman’s Invitational Shooting Tournament was held on May 18th and 19th at Westside Sporting Grounds and an award of $60,000 was presented to The CAC in support of our mission. Development staff attend each year to assist with the tournament and represent The CAC over the two day span of the event.

OKRA: During the month of August, for each drink purchased at OKRA Charity Bar & Saloon, guests receive one vote that they may cast that night for one of four charities selected by OKRA’s members. The charity with the most votes at the end of the month receives the next month’s proceeds. As the winner, The CAC received an award of $12,010.

Halliburton Golf Tournament: Since its inception in 1993, the Halliburton Charity Golf Tournament has donated proceeds from the event to a select group of recipients, selected by a committee as having made a significant impact upon the community and servicing a specific audience. Proceeds are distributed to each organization during the single day event, and each charity has the opportunity to win an additional amount based on their “elevator pitch” given to chief level participants as they arrive from the course over the span of the event. Receiving both the distribution as well as winning the additional funds, The CAC was awarded over $60,000.