

# Monthly Mission Moment

with The Children's Assessment Center



May 2024

## A Message from our Executive Director

No one in need of quality mental health care should be denied access to it. However, access to affordable mental health care continues to be a challenge for many in our community. **We are proud to share that last year alone, The CAC provided 10,215 mental health services to children and families affected by child sexual abuse - all free of charge.** At The CAC, no child or family is ever turned away for inability to pay.

The more we talk about the importance of mental health care, the more we can work towards solutions for breaking down barriers that prevent those in need from receiving it. May, National Mental Health Awareness Month, is the perfect time to acknowledge that, although we have made significant progress, we have work to do. Please join us in continuing the conversation so we can envision a future where quality mental health care is not a luxury but the norm.

Sincerely,

**Kerry McCracken, J.D.**

*Executive Director at The CAC*



"Unresolved childhood trauma can lead to an adulthood spent in survival mode, where one

is afraid to plant roots, plan for the future, to connect and trust others, and to experience joy. *In the dark, scary abyss of this pain, the compassionate and skilled clinicians of the Therapy & Psychological Services Department facilitate more than survival – they help clients and families find their voice and empower them to thrive*"

**Dr. Anita Jaffer**

*Clinical Director of Therapy & Psychological Services*



## Pancakes with Police

We celebrated National Police Week with our law enforcement partners.

We currently partner with over 40 law enforcement agencies throughout Harris County. Pancakes with Police was a fun way to connect with our partners and show our appreciation for their support of our mission, tireless efforts, and unwavering commitment to ensuring the safety of our community.



## Better Together

Members of our team joined Development and Marketing professionals from 14 advocacy centers across the nation. Their forum took place at Project Harmony in Omaha, NE.



## Volunteers Making a Difference!

Thanks to our friends at Spindletop, we had volunteers from Conoco Phillips and Kosmos Energy.

We engaged with passionate volunteers this month thanks to our partnership with **Spindletop Community Impact Partners**. Our friends at ConocoPhillips assembled almost 3,000 self-care bags for our clients and families. The Kosmos Energy team painted an extension of our graduation wall and helped us organize our Rainbow Room. **We are so grateful for the time and talent shared by our volunteers!**



## Upcoming Trainings Hosted by The CAC

June 5th

Darkness to Light:  
Commercial Sexual Exploitation  
of Children

June 18th

Darkness to Light:  
Stewards of Children

*At The CAC, we believe that prevention happens through education.*

Visit our Events Calendar to sign up for a training and to learn more about the virtual trainings we offer at The CAC. Check out all of our trainings [here](#).



## Style with a Purpose

We are so grateful to be a beneficiary of Armenta's Style with a Purpose Fundraiser. **Use the code "CAC" during May, and 10% of Armenta proceeds will go to The CAC to empower child survivors of sexual abuse along their healing journey.**

ARMENTA

*Armenta is a female artisan collective blending traditional craftsmanship with sustainable practices, empowering women, and fostering positive change.*

Shop Armenta's Collection [here](#).



# HOIST

## CAC Donor Highlight

Houston Oilman's Invitational Shooting Tournament (HOIST) has supported The CAC since 1997 and donated over \$1.4 million to our mission to protect children and heal families. Their consistent and transformational support has enabled us to serve thousands of children and families as they recover from the trauma of child sexual abuse.



*Thank you, HOIST, for your long history of advocacy of our mission and for being part of the solution to end child sexual abuse in our community.*

*The mission of The CAC is to provide a professional, compassionate and coordinated approach to the treatment of sexually abused children and their families and to serve as an advocate for all children in our community.*



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