

Children's Safe Harbor

— a children's advocacy center —



— 2019 — Annual Report

936-756-4644 | childrenssafeharbor.org | 1519 Oddfellow Street, Conroe, TX 77301



Serving Children and Families in
Montgomery, San Jacinto & Walker Counties

Children's Safe Harbor cares for children between the ages of two and seventeen who have suffered sexual abuse, severe physical abuse and trauma. Since we opened our doors on August 31, 1998 we have provided a safe place for over 17,634 children to be heard, helped and healed.

A Letter from The Executive Director

Dear Children's Safe Harbor Partners and Supporters:

As we approach August 31, 2020, Children's Safe Harbor reaches the milestone of **22 years of service** to our community! With each year, our multi-county children's advocacy center serving Montgomery, Walker and San Jacinto Counties continues to achieve great successes within the heart of our mission: to coordinate child abuse investigations for children ages 2-17 and to offer healing and justice as they share their experiences of pain, trauma and victimization. As a nationally accredited children's advocacy center, we have been blessed by decades of shared visions of best practices that align our law enforcement criminal investigations partner agencies and the civil protections and support provided through the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

In 2019, Children's Safe Harbor again served more children in need of our unique program than the previous year. In 2019, we opened the door for the unique service of forensic interviewing which begins the investigation and ultimately the healing process to 2,615 children and their families. In 2018, we provided the opportunity for 2,166 children to share their experiences of victimization. In 2019, that number increased to 2,615 children, a 17% increase over the previous year.

As you read through our 2019 Annual Report, you will see how our children's advocacy center model has grown in service statistics, new programs, especially our efforts to support children who are sexually exploited and trafficked, and the ongoing celebration and commitment of our community's support of our program through volunteerism and financial investments.

I am honored to share with you the depth and breadth of our work on behalf of our most courageous and vulnerable children. As we move forward in 2020, navigating unprecedented demands of a pandemic and the consequences of public health initiatives, skyrocketing unemployment, and ongoing ambiguity and uncertainty, we know increasingly the importance of our work on behalf of our children. Not all homes are safe. Not all children are blessed by parents and caregivers who can demonstrate a model of love and compassion for them and their siblings. We all need to open our hearts and minds to be that voice for all of our children. If you see something disturbing happening to a child, please call 911 or the Texas Child Abuse Hotline (800) 252-5400. By sharing your concerns, you are activating the system of protection for our children.

We are all connected in the future of our communities and the safety net for our children. Bless you for your ongoing support and belief in this incredible model which is the heart-beat of healing and justice for our children and their families.



Warm regards,
Victoria J. Constance, MSPH, PhD
Executive Director



Our Mission

To achieve justice and healing for every abused child and engage our community in that mission.

Our Vision

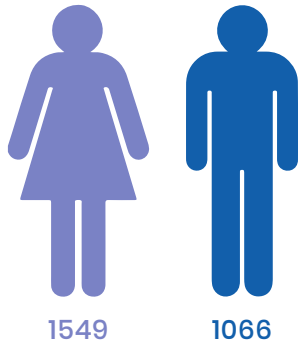
Engaging our community to prevent child abuse and achieve justice and healing for every abused child.

Our Goal

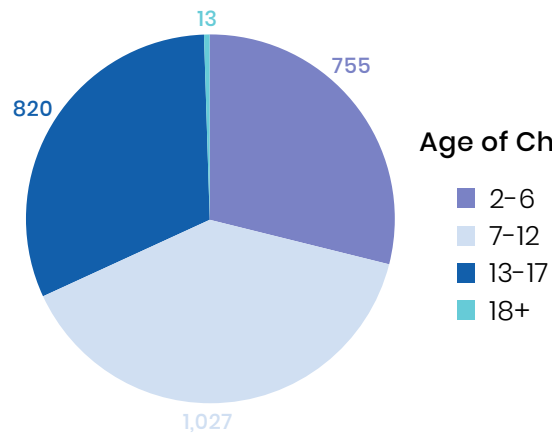
With a team of community and professional agencies united, we are committed to counsel the mind and heal the body of brave children and prosecute offenders of the youngest and most vulnerable victims of our society.

Our Clients

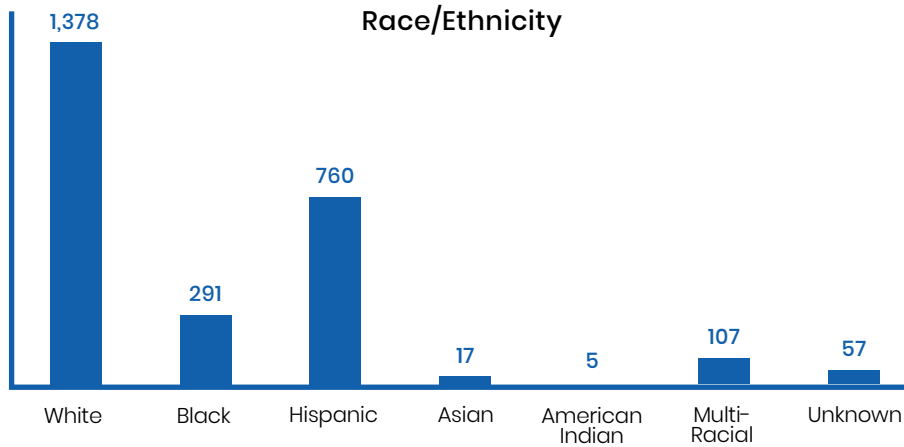
Gender of Child



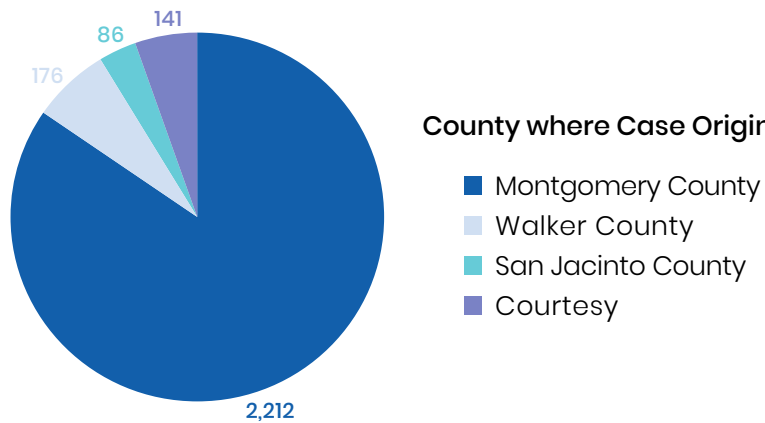
Age of Child



Race/Ethnicity

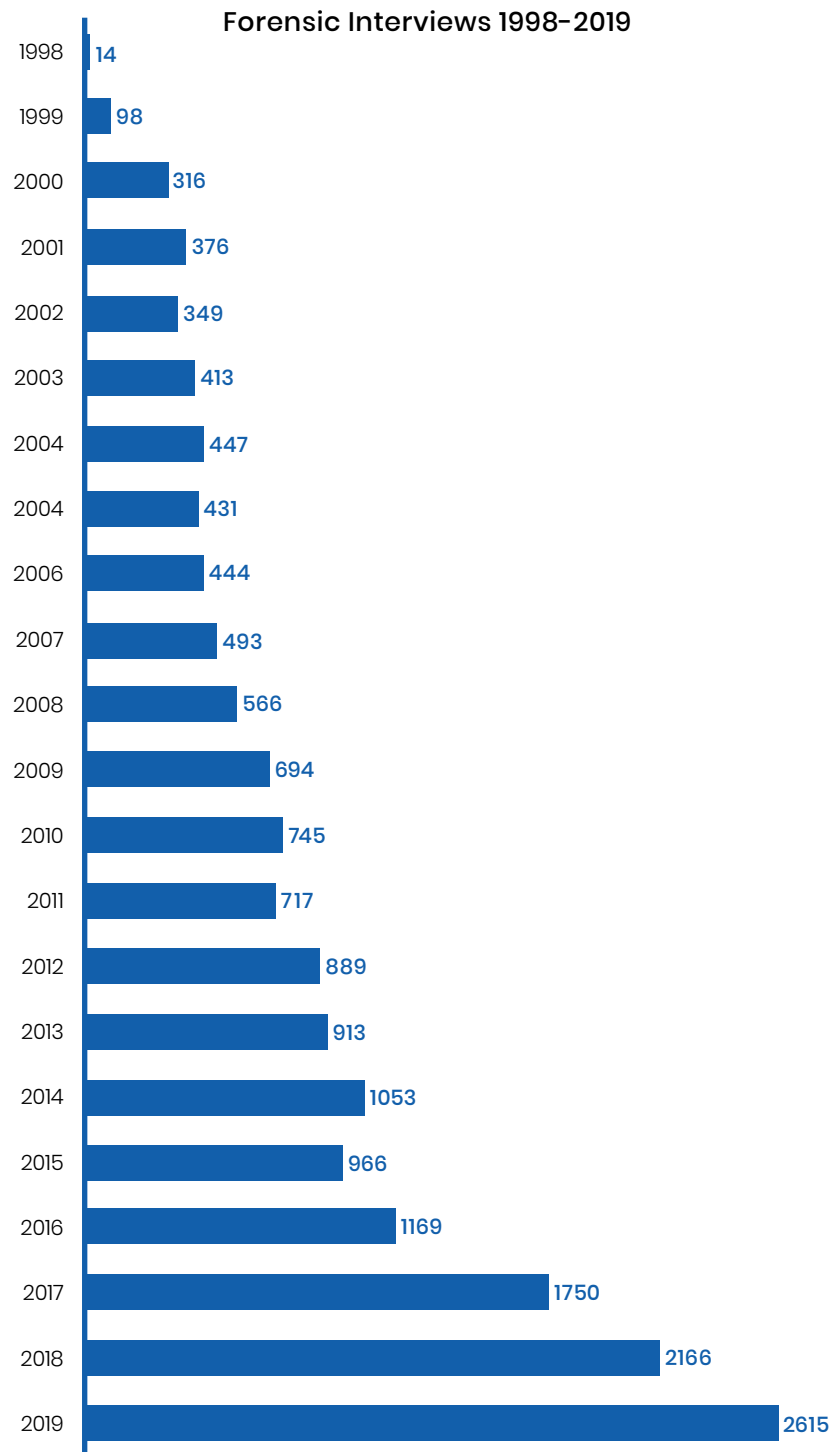


County where Case Originated



Forensic Interviews

Forensic Interviews are typically the first service provided for our families. A forensic interview is a neutral, fact finding interview conducted by someone who is specifically trained according to Texas standards.



2019 At A Glance



Help

- 6,843 Total number of Intakes received and reviewed
 - 5,882 Intakes received & reviewed in Montgomery Co.
 - 586 Intakes received & reviewed in Walker Co.
 - 375 Intakes received & reviewed in San Jacinto Co.
- 2,615 Forensic interviews conducted
- 1,675 Families received family advocacy services

-
- Law Enforcement Disposition
 - 16 Charges were filed
 - 260 Referred to DA
 - 108 Referred to CA
 - 48 Referred to Juvenile Probation
 - Prosecution Disposition/Results
 - 12 cases accepted for prosecution
 - 22 convictions
 - 20 pleas
 - 2 acquittals



Justice



Healing

-
- 169 Medical exams conducted
 - 376 Individuals received counseling services (child and caregiver)

Multi-Disciplinary Team

The Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Crime Statistics continue to estimate that one in four girls and one in six boys are sexually abused before their 18th birthday in the US. Nationally, 61% of all rape victims are under age 18, and of those rape victims younger than 12 years old, 90% of them know their offender¹. Because the social problem of child abuse is not specific to any economic category or demographic group of people, the target groups for potential clients of Children's Safe Harbor are all of the families of the counties we serve.

To reduce the trauma and re-victimization of children who have been sexually and/or severely physically abused and/or assaulted, Children's Safe Harbor's service delivery structure is provided within the framework of a multi-disciplinary team approach. Bringing the team of services all together in one co-located building to serve child victims minimizes the need for children to have to endure retelling their traumatic experience over and over to multiple agencies while facilitating investigation, prosecution, justice and healing.

This multi-disciplinary team approach focuses on child-centered strategies and the necessity of coordination of civil and criminal investigations, treatment and prosecution of child abuse cases. Many caregivers have little or no knowledge of the impact of sexual abuse on their child's development, social, intellectual and emotional functioning. Caregivers need to be educated as to the needs of their sexually abused children, parenting strategies, and how to create a supportive environment following the disclosure of abuse.

Children's Safe Harbor, as a children's advocacy center, has two sets of customers: multi-disciplinary team partners (law enforcement and the Department of Family and Protective Services) and the children and families that they bring as part of a criminal investigation of child abuse. The multi-disciplinary team is the core feature of this model of healing and justice.

Specialized staff of Children's Safe Harbor reviewed these 6,843 Department of Family and Protective Services intake reports for local law enforcement in Montgomery County.

1 - Children's Defense Fund (1991) The health of America's children: state and city data appendix to CDF's child, youth, and family futures clearinghouse report. Washington, D.C.

Multi-Disciplinary Partner Agencies

- Conroe Police Department —
- Cut and Shoot Police Department —
- Magnolia Police Department —
- Montgomery County Sheriff's Office —
- Montgomery County Police Department —
- Oak Ridge Police Department —
- Panorama Police Department —
- Patton Village Police Department —
- Roman Forest Police Department —
- Shenandoah Police Department —
- Splendora Police Department —
- Stagecoach Police Department —
- Willis Police Department —
- Conroe ISD Police Department —
- Montgomery ISD Police Department —
- New Caney ISD Police Department —
- Splendora ISD Police Department —
- Montgomery County Precinct 1 —
- Montgomery County Precinct 2 —
- Montgomery County Precinct 3 —
- Montgomery County Precinct 4 —
- Montgomery County Precinct 5 —
- Montgomery County County Attorney's Office —
- Montgomery County District Attorney's Office —
- Montgomery County Juvenile Probation —
- San Jacinto County Sheriff's Office —
- Coldspring ISD Police Department —
- San Jacinto County DA's Office —
- Huntsville Police Department —
- Walker County Sheriff's Office —
- Walker County DA's Office —
- Texas Department of Family and Protective Services —
- Texas Children's Hospital (Jan. 1 – Sept. 30) —
- Texas Forensic Nurse Examiners (Oct. 1 – Dec. 31) —

Human Trafficking

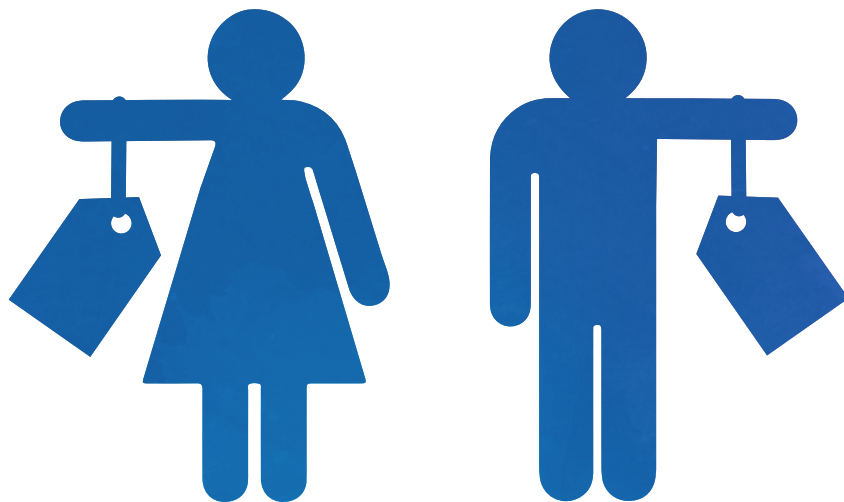
According to the National Human Trafficking Hotline, 1,000 human trafficking cases were reported in Texas in 2018, of which 719 were sex trafficking cases.

A newly formed coalition to support children involved in sex trafficking called “The Montgomery County Coalition Against Human Trafficking” was initiated in 2019 and began processing their work. This coalition is made up of governmental and private organizations that act as a link between survivors of trafficking and the community.

The office of the Governor uses the term Child Sexually Exploited Youth (CSEY) to identify these children in need of services. In 2019, **Children’s Safe Harbor assisted 37 CSEY victims** in our children’s advocacy center. Another 27 children were considered high risk for CSEY.

We have been working on the Montgomery County Care Coordination Guidelines with the Governor’s office. Here are some of the many agencies that have participated in those meetings in 2019:

- Children’s Safe Harbor
- Governor’s Office
- Montgomery County District Attorney
- Montgomery County County Attorney
- Montgomery County Juvenile Probation
- Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
- While all law enforcement agencies were invited to participate, the Montgomery County Sheriff, Conroe Police Department, and Montgomery County Constable’s Office Pct. 3 have participated the most.
- Montgomery County Women’s Center
- BCFS Common Thread
- Freedom Place
- Texas Forensic Nurse Examiners



Healing/Outcomes

What is equally important to the numbers of children and families who are provided our unique services is the impact that our children's advocacy center has on the families that come through our doors. These impacts are referred to as "outcomes". Outcomes answer the questions of "How" and "In What Ways" are families lives supported by our program's unique partnerships and collaborations:

In 2019:

4,737 Individual family members
received services from the family advocacy department.

They were offered referrals in the community and across Children's Safe Harbor departments through their responses to our needs assessments. Family advocates follow up with parents and guardians two weeks after their first contact, often through our services of forensic interviews, and two months after seeking counseling services.

Out of 796 children who were interviewed as being at risk for abuse and trauma, 164 of them disclosed to a forensic interviewer of their own personal experiences of abuse and victimization – 21%. These children were offered our full services as they shared their stories.

Counseling Successes

4,658 hours

of counseling services provided to clients FREE of charge

Of the clients in counseling, 92 were discharged having successfully completed the Trauma Focused-Cognitive Behavioral Therapy recommended 12 sessions of treatment. After just six sessions, 92% of caregivers reported that they had noticed positive changes in their children.

Survey Questions

What did you appreciate the most about your experience at the Center?

"I most appreciate that Children's Safe Harbor is here to help reduce children's trauma. Everyone was very helpful and friendly, listened to us, and seemed to genuinely care. I truly feel like this is the best place to help my daughter and our family through this process."

"The warm and friendly manner which they treated us since our arrival to departure."

"Everyone was very friendly not only with us, but with one another making us feel very comfortable."

"The center felt like a calm place, my kids were so happy playing the toys and playing outside the playground. I loved how the staff were very friendly and answered all the questions I had."



What did you appreciate the most about your experience at the Center since your first visit?

"I found the staff especially professional and caring, during our family crisis."

"That the ultimate focus is the literal BEST interest of the child."

"Everyone was extremely nice and kind."

"Family Advocate checked on family and it was appreciated."

Board of Directors



Victoria Constance, MSPH, PhD
Children's Safe Harbor
Executive Director & CEO of
the Board of Directors



Tom Casperson, MD
Anesthesiologist



John Frere
President
Retired – Director of Real Estate
and Business Services
Anadarko Petroleum Corp.



Yesenia Garcia
Branch Manager
Woodforest National Bank



Mary Nan Huffman, JD
Vice President
Legal Counsel
Houston Police Officer's Union



Ryan Hutson
Commercial Real Estate Broker
The J. Beard Real Estate Co.



Matthew Rodrigue
Treasurer
Sergeant
Montgomery County Constable
Office Precinct 3



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Houston Methodist Hospital



Vincenzo Santini, JD
Secretary
Attorney at Law
The Voss Law Firm P.C.



Kimberly K. Perry
Court Administrator
Judicial District Court 418th



Dwight Johnson
Past President
Retired Sgt. Cisd Police Dept



Crystal Plumley BSN, RCN-OB
Houston Methodist Hospital



Patricia Bellows, MD
Houston Methodist Hospital
Obstetrics & Gynecology



Paul Purcell
Executive Director
Montgomery County
Medical Society



Kathleen Borchardt, MD, FACOG
Houston Methodist Hospital
Obstetrics & Gynecology



Shanna Redwine
Chief of Special Victims Unit
Montgomery County District
Attorney's Office



Nicole Capps
Investigative Program Director
Texas Dept. of Family and
Protective Services



Reynaldo Saldares
Occidental Petroleum Corp.

Donation

In 2019, The Woodforest Charitable Foundation

donated \$400,000

to our capital campaign. Their ongoing generous donation has them as the Pace Setter for this \$10 million building fund.



Pictured from left: Kim Marling, Executive Vice President of Woodforest Charitable Foundation; Victoria Constance, MSPH, PhD, Executive Director of Children's Safe Harbor; Charles Marling, CFO and Treasurer of Woodforest Charitable Foundation.



Fundraising

— A Private Evening with Jack Ingram —

On November 15, 2019, we hosted “**A Private Evening with Jack Ingram**” at Dosey Doe Big Barn at full attendance capacity. This live music performance by Jack Ingram and his band, along with a delicious three-course dinner, made for a very entertaining evening of awareness and investment in our children.

More than
\$165,390 was raised
for Children’s Safe Harbor.



Pictured are board member Dr. Tom Casperson (2nd left) and former board member Faith Casperson (3rd from right), with Michelle & Josh Darnell, Cathryn & Stephan Darnell, and Dr. Timothy Casperson & Dr. Gurpreet Mukker of Conroe Foot Specialists



Pictured from left are Kimberly & Tyler Dunman (former CSH board member), with CSH Treasurer and Sergeant with Montgomery County Constable Office Precinct 3 Matthew Rodrigue & wife, Kelly



CSH board member Vince Santini & wife, Mary (center); with City of Shenandoah Councilman Ted Fletcher & wife, Ritzy



Pictured from left are Judy Robert, former CSH board president; Mary Neskora, past CSH board member; and Dwight Johnson, past CSH board president, retired Sgt. Cisd Police Dept.



Pictured from left are guests and supporters Russell Broadbent, Dr. Dawn Schwab-Broadbent, Jennifer Hudson, and Mike Fortner

Donors

— A Private Evening with Jack Ingram —

Premier Sponsor (\$20,000):

John and Marla Frere

Platinum Sponsor (\$10,000):

Anglia Homes

Gold Sponsor (\$5,000):

Bryan and Mary Neskora
Montgomery County Medical Society
Waterway Wealth Management (Dan Michalk)
Eli and Mary Nan Huffman
Dr. M. Kathleen Borchardt
Manners/Coole Foundation
DE Harvey Builders

Silver Sponsor (\$3,000):

San Jacinto Child Welfare Board
Casperson Family

VIP (\$1,000):

Victoria Constance
Vince and Mary Santini
Tyler and Kimberly Dunman
Crystal Plumley
Woodforest National Bank

Special Friends of the Harbor:

Anglia Homes (\$40,000)
Howard and Helen Frank (\$5,000)

Individual Donors:

Alan and Kelly Hodde
Anglia Homes
Brian and Kathleen Richards
Bruce Northcutt
Bryan and Amy Bleibdrey
Carl and Judith Wechter
Chris Allen
Daniel and Teanna Neskora
Daniel Garza
Darrel Wilde

David and Dawn Boring
David Strauss
Dorothy Roach
Dr. Timothy and Gurpreet Casperson
Dr. Tom and Faith Casperson
Dwight Johnson
Elizabeth Grimm
Greg and Michelle Howard
Greg Thornburgh
Harley and Vickie Lovings
Howard and Hellen Frank
J.C. Kuczynski
James Baine
Jared and Katelyn Brown
Jennifer Hudson
Jennifer Johnson
Jim Adams and Jane Reed
Judy Robert
Justin and Amanda Hill
Justin and Kathleen Borchardt
Klay and Marissa Kubiak
Laura Bond
Brett Ligon for DA Campaign
Matthew and Rebecca Harrelson
Matthew and Shelby Beshan
Paul and Joan Purcell
Randall Thomas
Reynaldo and Karla Saludaes
Richard and Shirley Locke
Ryan and Echo Hutson
Constable Precinct 3 Ryan Gable
Scott and Michelle Sanders
Shanna Redwine
Sheila Dowell
Solomon Dental Group
Spinal Care Chiropractic
Steve and Cheryl Campbell
Texas A&C LLC
Yvonne Allen

Fundraising

— Montgomery County Precinct 3 Constable Ryan Gable's 6th Annual Breakfast Fundraiser at Longhorn Steakhouse —

Precinct 3 Constable Ryan Gable hosted his 6th annual "Campfire Breakfast" on December 13, 2019, at Longhorn Steakhouse in The Woodlands to raise funds for Children's Safe Harbor. Underwritten by Longhorn Steakhouse, guests are asked to make a \$20 donation for their breakfast ticket. These breakfast events are attended by dozens of community leaders, elected officials, and law enforcement.

In its sixth year in 2019,
\$6,825 was raised
for Children's Safe Harbor.



Pictured from left are Montgomery County Precinct 3 Constable Ryan Gable; Dr. Victoria Constance, Executive Director and CEO of the Board of Directors for Children's Safe Harbor; John Frere, CSH Board President; Billy Banks, Managing Partner, Longhorn Steakhouse; and Sheriff Rand Henderson

Fundraising

— The Saludares Christmas Pajama Party —

The Saludares Christmas Pajama Party was hosted on December 9, 2019, by board member Rey Saludares at his home in Spring. The evening offered some whimsical fun for guests and their children,

raising a total of \$4,024.



Donors

— The Saludares Christmas Pajama Party —

Brad Chappell
Zach Chebul
Heather Curtis
Karl Davis
Hector Delatorre
Leila Gillen
Yvonne Kautsch
Sally Kemp
Michaela King
Ryan King
Bill King

Jon Koenig
Kathleen Maddux
Adam Majeski
Patrick McGrievy
Bertha Nefe
Blynda Owen
David Pantoja
Jarrett Pazahanick
John Reupke
Stephen Sills

Jose Silva
Cindi Sneed
Carin Solomon
Michelle Somera
Candie Tramonte
Genna Tucker
Patricia Vanostrand
Matt Vara
David Wright
Chris Zinn

Fundraising

— The Santini Dinner Party —

The Santini Dinner Party on July 20, 2019, was hosted at the home of board member Vince Santini and his wife, Mary in Conroe. The elegant evening

raised \$5,575.

Donors

— The Santini Dinner Party —

Bryan Beverly
JD Davis
Ronald & Laura Folwell

Goldman Sachs
Vince & Mary Santini
Will H. Steele

Aimee & David Voss
Alexandra Voss

Fundraising

— The Borchardt Dinner Party —

The Borchardt Dinner Party was hosted by board members Dr. Kathleen Borchardt at her lovely home in Houston, along with co-host and board member Dr. Patricia Bellows on August 17, 2019. The evening

raised \$6,600.

Donors

— The Borchardt Dinner Party —

Dr. Kathleen Borchardt
Dr. Patricia Bellows
Stephen and Katie Choi
Kirsten and Rob Galtney
Jamie and Bryson Goeres

Lynn and Graham Gordon
Richard and Helen Hayes
Dr. Barbara Held & husband
Eli and Mary Nan Huffman
Dr. Allison Hunt

Alida Lujan
Sarah Menotti & Ben Baker
Jamie and Nolan Moulle III
Ashley and Lynton Smith

Awareness

Each year at the end of April's Child Abuse Awareness Month, Children's Safe Harbor has exhibited a colorful display of pinwheels representing the number of cases they handled in the previous year.

2,166 pinwheels

were installed by Children's Safe Harbor's staff and board of directors, and members of the Montgomery County Child Abuse Multi-Disciplinary Team.

Since 2013, the pinwheel display has been on the grounds of the Alan B. Sadler Administrative Building in downtown Conroe. In 2018 and 2019, we brought the display to The Woodlands on the grounds of the Montgomery County Ed Chance Courthouse Annex on Lake Robbins Drive. It will continue to rotate to other parts of the county.



2019 Pinwheels Art Display

Volunteers

In 2019, we had 70 volunteers and interns providing direct service work for a total of 5,412 hours. The power of volunteers in our communities is a reflection of the deep connection of residents to the healing and justice outcomes of our children's advocacy center. Volunteers help with our facility needs, as well as specialized food and supplies drives for distribution to our families in need.

One of our most precious resource of volunteers has been the **Child Welfare Board of San Jacinto County**. These mighty volunteers have been the backbone of Children's Safe Harbor's satellite office since 2001. They share their passion with the community through facility care and coordination, child watch, public awareness campaigns, and the sharing of fundraising resources!



Pictured from left to right are Child Welfare Board of San Jacinto County members Luke Love (his landscape company donated the tree), Anna Thorpe, Mae Miller, Judy Miller, Nancy Williams, Joe Williams, Jeanne Walters, Fannie Cochran, Stan Liles, Dawn Boring, Judy Hester, Marilyn Nettles. In front is Mike McCarty and his son (helped with planting the tree)

CWB members who were not there: Luanne Mangham, Sue Hibbard, LeeAnn Currie, Helen Griffin, John Few, Vickie Loving and David Boring. Judy Miller is no longer on the Board and, sadly, Fannie Cochran has passed away

How to Help

Please visit our website to find out how to volunteer
and support our children's advocacy center.



[ChildrensSafeHarbor.org](https://www.ChildrensSafeHarbor.org)



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