

2019
REPORT



**THE CENTER
FOR THE
PREVENTION
OF CHILD
ABUSE**

WORDS FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gloria Cukar".

GLORIA CUKAR

Board Chair

Our Mission is to prevent Child Abuse in the Mid-Hudson Valley Region.

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. Our mission is to Prevent Child Abuse in the Mid-Hudson Valley. We have been providing nurturing parenting programs and Sexual Abuse prevention for children in our community for over 30 years. All our programs aim to stop the intergenerational cycle of child abuse from a strength based approach to create nurturing environments for all children. We serve over 13,000 parents, children, families, professionals, and community members through our programming.

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"Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results." – Andrew Carnegie



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Tomorrow's Hero
Geoff Brault



Kwon's Marital Arts 6th Annual Kick-A-Thon



Volunteering at the Special Olympics



National Night Out



Staff Retreat



Poguhkeepsie's First Friday



Teddy Bear Drive by Impact PR & Communications

SUPPORTIVE PARENTING PROGRAM

The Supportive Parenting Program (SPP) is available to all individuals that reside within Dutchess County. The program serves adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities or a mental health diagnosis. The program runs 30-week parenting classes (from September to June). SPP provides intensive case management through home visiting services, coordination of services, and the achievement of the individual's goals. For those clients working towards reunification with their child/children SPP additionally provides supervised visitation.

Reychelle was referred to our Supportive Parenting Program in November 2018 after her baby was removed from home when she was only 2 months old. Through her work with her case manager Reychelle has gained knowledge in basic skills such as medical care, home safety, and nurturing parenting skills. As a result, Reychelle was granted unsupervised visits with her daughter in 2019! Our staff will continue to work with Reychelle to gain permanent custody of Ky'lie.

34

Families received services
from our Supportive Parenting
Program Case managers



PERSONAL SAFETY PROGRAM

The Personal Safety Program is a free program for Dutchess County schools that provides in-class presentations about sexual abuse prevention to children Pre-K to 5th grade. The program uses age-appropriate presentations to teach children to use their voice and speak out against their abuser. This lesson is considered a “just in case” lesson, similar to how students view fire drills. Just in case something bad happens, the student will know what to do to protect themselves. The program is offered once a year and students learn what to do if someone made them feel uncomfortable and broke the personal safety rules.

A 7 year old child was away on summer break. While away, a family member sexually abused her. On returning to school the child disclosed to a teacher that they had stood up to the person who inappropriately touched her by saying "NO" and telling her parent about the situation. The child explained that a puppet named Billy had taught them what to do if they felt worried and troubled by a touch. A report was made to the State Central Registry where investigators from our Child Advocacy Center interviewed and arrested the perpetrator. When interviewing the child, the child was able to explain the purpose of personal safety lessons and how they knew the touch was not safe based off of lessons that were provided to her at the end of the school year.



11,100

Students, Teachers, & Parents received
Sexual Abuse Prevention Education

CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

The Child Advocacy Center is a child friendly facility that is the first of its kind in New York State. The CAC brings co-located child protective service workers, law enforcement officers and other service providers together under one roof to meet the needs of child victims and their families while undergoing severe physical or sexual abuse investigations. In the past, children were interviewed in police stations and it was necessary for them to repeat their stories multiple times causing them further trauma. At our facility, we provide a comfortable and supportive environment, complete with snacks and a stuffed toy to hold close for comfort. Our on-site medical room alleviates the need for non-emergency medical exams so that children are not further traumatized by having to visit an emergency room. The CAC operates with the guidance of a multidisciplinary team with representation from each Dutchess County public and private agency involved in dealing with child sexual abuse, the most severe physical abuse and neglect and all child fatalities. This coordinated response reduces trauma to the child victim and enhances prosecution.

This year the Child Advocacy Center held its annual Multidisciplinary Team training to support the work of all our local agencies who work with this young population. Over 60 professionals attended the two day training from September 13-14 at the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health to increase their knowledge on interviewing child victims with disabilities, internet safety, sex offenders and what they can teach us, cultural considerations of children you interview, and sex offender typologies. Although many of the attendees of this training were seasoned professionals, they found it important to attend our yearly training to improve their job performance. In addition to the training, the CAC also had the support of the local community who contributed to many teddy bear and snack drives throughout the course of the year. Because of the generous donations the Child Advocacy Center is able to comfort and support every family who is welcomed into our facility.

416

Children and Families came to the Child Advocacy Center where they were comforted and provided trauma-informed services



YOUNG PARENT PROGRAM

The Young Parenting Program which is a confidential case management program designed to build parenting skills for any pregnant or parenting youth 13-23 in Dutchess County. We provided case management for our clients tailored to their individual needs while focusing on self-sufficiency through goal setting for their education, employment, and parenting. Our program also provided pregnancy prevention in local high schools through peer discussion groups and fosters a nurturing environment for any teen that is pregnant and looking for support. Unfortunately the program was severely underfunded and at the end of 2019 the Agency had to discontinue the program. We continue to look for funding opportunities in the hope that we re-continue this critical program for the youth in our community.

Destiny has been an active participant in the Mommy and Me program ran at The Children's Home of Poughkeepsie. She meets weekly with the YPP Case Manager Kashena and focuses on ways to become a better parent. She has a daughter Yalenie who is one years old and very active. Destiny has utilized ways to cope with stress and established a nurturing parenting routine from the curriculum Kashena has taught. Destiny has improved her parenting skills and has also investigated financial independency.

19

Young Parents were provided
parenting and case management
services



COMMUNITY EDUCATION

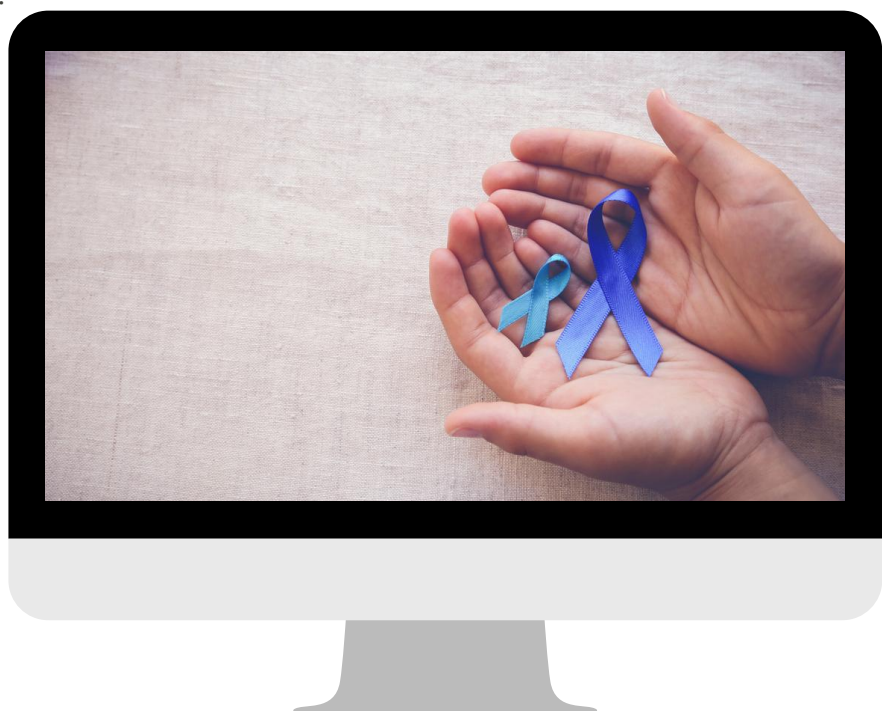
Educators provide training's and education to schools and groups in our community. Participants gain information on preventing, identifying and reporting suspected abuse and neglect. Staff can design a presentation(s) that fit the needs of a variety of interested groups or organizations.

Mandated Reporter Training: In New York State, certain professionals and paraprofessionals are legally required to report any suspicion of child abuse or neglect. This training will help you meet that standard. Mandated Reporters are legally bound to make the call and submit follow-up information. All reports of child abuse or neglect should be made immediately – any time, any day – by phone to the State Central Registry of Child Abuse and Maltreatment. A mandated reporter is a person who, because of his or her profession, is legally required to report any suspicion of child abuse or neglect to the relevant authorities. These laws are in place to prevent children from being abused and to end any possible abuse or neglect at the earliest possible stage.

The Community Education Program has created a presentation for members in the community to educate on the signs and symptoms of abuse and what to do if someone in the community suspects abuse. The program scheduled businesses and organizations interested in having the presentation at their location for the 2020 year.

1432

Professionals, Para Professionals, and community members joined the fight to prevent child abuse through our training's.



Thank You to Our Community Partners



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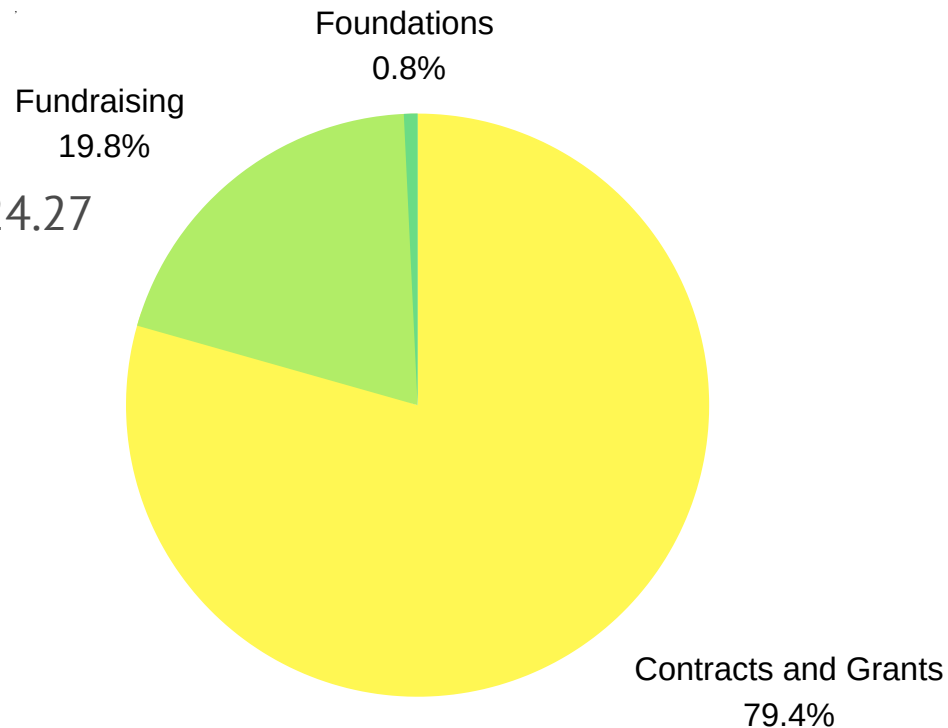
BY THE NUMBERS

REVENUE

Contracts and Grants \$775,924.27

Fundraisers \$189,453.73

Foundations \$7,350



EXPENSES

Staff Expenses \$810,907.22

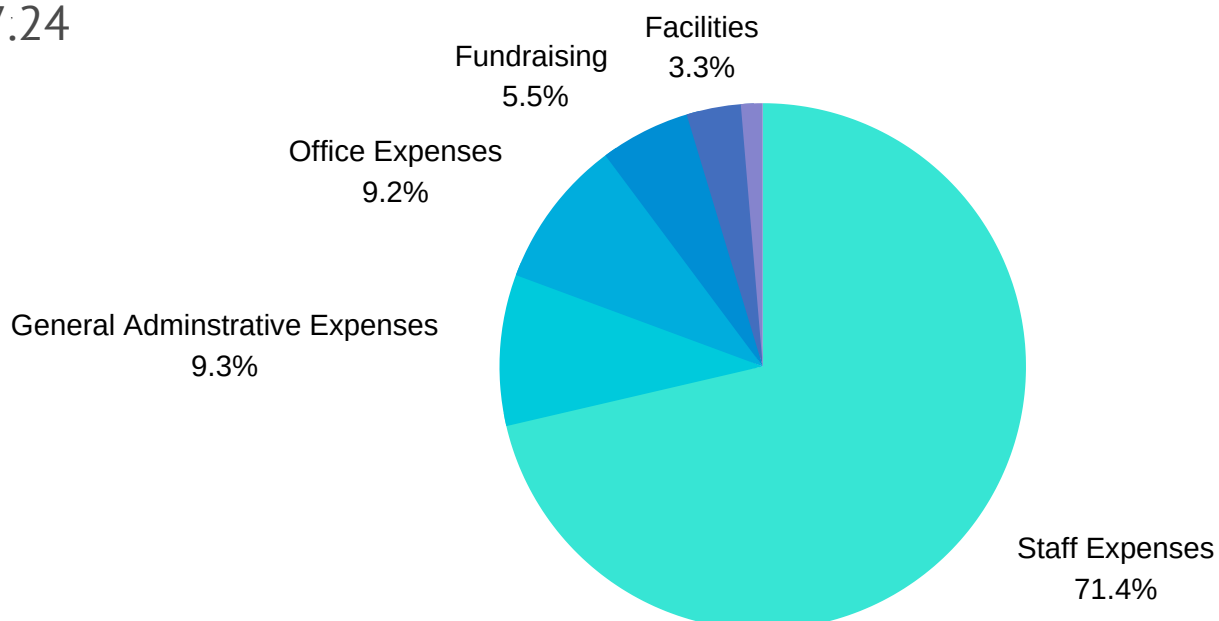
General Administrative Expenses \$105,454.52

Office Expenses \$104,088.04

Fundraising Exp \$62,871.61

Facilities Exp \$37,948.95

Other \$15,157.24



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Paul Haering
Dr. Dan & Barbara O'Dea
Stephen O'Shea
John O'Shea
Jon & Jen Selander
David Silver
Felicita Thorness
Roseanne & Teddy
Vanikiotis



for being a **leader** in reducing Child Abuse;
a **beacon** of hope for families in crisis;
a **light** that shines for children in their darkest hour.

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