

MISSION

The Mission of The Crisis Center is to create an environment where violence and abuse are not tolerated in the communities we serve by providing crisis intervention services to victims of family violence, sexual assault and child abuse, including providing awareness and prevention services to the community.

PURPOSE

Our Purpose is to encourage victims to seek crisis intervention services, promote awareness thereof, and to educate our communities regarding the dynamics of family violence, sexual assault, and child abuse.

VISION

The Vision of The Crisis Center is that victims of family violence, sexual assault and child abuse can achieve a life free from violence, to become self-sufficient, and that our community would actively participate and assist the Center in obtaining our goal of zero tolerance for family violence, sexual assault, and child abuse in our community, which includes holding perpetrators accountable for their acts of violence.

The Crisis Center is funded by Federal and state grants, city and county, foundations, businesses, United Way, and many generous supporting individuals.

FAST FACTS:

- 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys will be sexually abused before their 18th birthday.
- Only 1 in 10 children tell about their abuse.
- More than 90% of victims know and trust their abuser.
- Over 3.6 million referrals of child maltreatment are received by state and local agencies each year.
- In the United States alone, 4 children will die today from child abuse and neglect.
- 80% of 21-year-olds who reported childhood abuse met the criteria for at least one psychological disorder.

Without treatment or intervention, abused children are:

- 50 times more likely to abuse drugs and alcohol
- 59% more likely to be arrested as a juvenile.
- 6 times more likely to commit suicide

CONTACT US TODAY

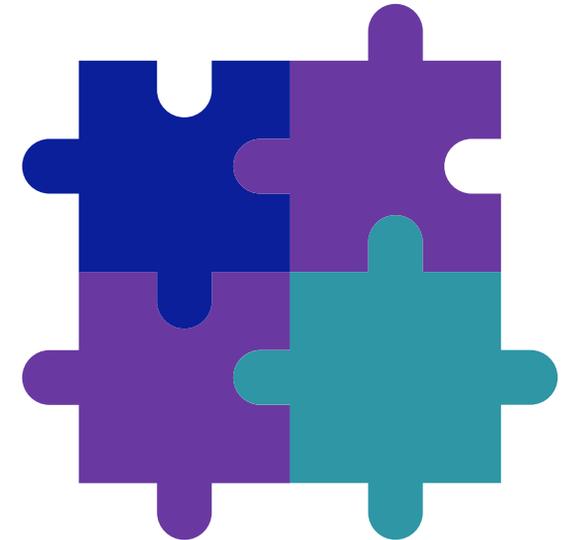
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COMMUNITY EDUCATION PREVENTION PROGRAM



**Serving Matagorda and
Wharton County**

CHILD EDUCATION

The Crisis Center offers a wide range of abuse prevention curricula for children located in the Wharton and Matagorda County areas. Our goal is to help children and adolescents recognize, react to, and report potentially abusive situations by educating them and giving them the necessary tools to be safe.

PLAY IT SAFE!

With the help of age appropriate movies and scripts, Play it Safe! teaches children how to reduce their risk of physical, sexual, and emotional abuse. This program addresses issues like "confusing" touch, bullying/cyberbullying, sexting, dating violence, abuses of power, and more.

NETSMARTZ

Created by the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC), NetSmartz provides age-appropriate presentations/resources to help teach children how to practice safer behaviors on and offline by recognizing and reacting to internet risks.

KIDSMARTZ

Also created by the NCMEC, KidSmartz is a safety program for children in grades K-5 that was designed to empower them to practice safer behaviors like checking with a guardian first before going anywhere, taking a friend so they're never alone, telling people "no" when necessary, and telling a trusted adult if someone ever does something to make them feel uncomfortable.

CHILD/TEEN SAFETY MATTERS

Educate and protect children and teens from all types of bullying, abuse, and victimization with these evidence based and evidence-informed prevention education programs. Delivered in multiple sessions.

IN THEIR SHOES

Become one of six teen characters based on the experiences of real teens including sexting, pregnancy, homophobia and stalking. You make choices about their relationships and move through the scenario by reading about interactions with their dating partner, family, friends, counselors, police and others.

BODIES ARE NOT COMMODITIES

This curriculum equips students with tools to combat human trafficking in the world around them. It is innovative, interactive, and designed to connect students to the reality of human trafficking and so they can be a part of the solution.

ADULT EDUCATION

Whether you have children of your own, are a professional that serves children daily, or just a concerned community member, adults play a big part in the prevention of child abuse. To ensure that they stay informed and up-to-date, The Crisis Center offers adult-age training on how to recognize and respond to child abuse within their community.

DARKNESS TO LIGHT

Aimed at preventing child sexual abuse, Darkness to Light is a nonprofit organization that has created numerous trainings for adults. *Stewards of Children*, which is approved for continuing education hours, is the only nationally available program that is scientifically proven to increase knowledge, improve attitudes, and change-child protective behaviors. In addition to *Stewards*, they provide trainings on the commercial sexual exploitation of children, healthy touch for children & youth, bystanders protecting children from boundary violations, and talking with children about safety from sexual abuse.

RECOGNIZING & REPORTING CHILD ABUSE

Created by the Dallas Children's Advocacy Center, this training is designed to raise awareness of child abuse and neglect and spur action from professionals and/or volunteers who work with children on a regular basis.

NETSMARTZ

In addition to children in grades K-12, the NCMEC has created a presentation for parents, caregivers, and community members that are concerned about their children's online safety. By taking this helpful training, adults will be better equipped to talk to children about positive and negative online behaviors, as well as set expectations/consequences for those types of behaviors.

R.E.P.O.R.T.

As a child-serving professional, it is not a question of IF you will encounter a child abuse situation, but rather WHEN. This training is the result of collaboration with the Dallas County District Attorney's Office, DCAC Chief of Investigations and DCAC Director of Education, offering practical guidance for professionals on how to best work with investigative parties in a way that protects the investigation, the organization, and most importantly, the child. Participants will leave with a robust reporting protocol and guidance for navigating these situations--before it is a problem.

IN HER SHOES: ECONOMIC JUSTICE EDITION

This activity gives participants a sense of what it is like to walk "in her shoes". It increases awareness of the additional struggles survivors of domestic violence face. The perspective of the abusive partner is also represented in this edition.