

GARFIELD COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY COUNCIL



1002 E Broadway
Enid, OK 73701
580.242.1153
advocacycouncil@theCAREcampus.com



ANNUAL
REPORT
2020

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

2020 was an extraordinary year for us and other centers all across the nation. The COVID-19 pandemic changed many lives in many different ways. We struggled through lock-down periods and quarantines, however the staff remained resilient and continued to provide exceptional services. The number of child abuse reports saw a decline. Unfortunately, we know that was not due to children not being abused. In fact, we believe quarantine may have made it worse. COVID created the “perfect storm” for continuing abuse and creating new abusive situations. Due to children not being in school and being isolated at home, they were out of sight of teachers, friends and other mandatory reporters. Seeing these children in public is usually how suspected abuse is reported. The stressful environment that quarantine caused was a horrible recipe for parents, guardians, caretakers and others to more easily lose their patience. Now, in 2021, we are experiencing higher numbers of reports of abuse and children in need of our services. We have doubled the number of forensic interviews and tripled the number of SANE exams provided from the same period just last year.

The Garfield County Child Advocacy Council was founded in 1997. Co-founder and former Executive Director, Carole Wade dedicated 23 years of service to this organization. Her retirement in September 2020 left a legacy that Garfield County should be extremely proud of. I took on the role of Executive Director on September 8, 2020. This date is close to my heart, as I was hired by the Enid Police Department on the same date in 1997. Working as a juvenile detective in 2000, I saw the opening of the “Yellow House” at 1006 E. Broadway and also gave one of the very first forensic interviews at this location. I later served on the Board of Directors for GCCAC for 11 years while at the police department. I gave 23 years of dedicated service to the Enid Police Department. Wade and I started fighting child abuse at about the same time and spent many hours working together as colleagues. I spent seven years in the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Division at Enid PD. I was also an ICAC task force officer for the Oklahoma Bureau of Investigations (OSBI) and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI). I have been challenged with evolving times, reorganizing the staff and cuts in funding.

I have been able to utilize the experience of the organization's most tenured staff member, Shelia McHenry, who has been with GCCAC for approximately eight years. Our current team is comprised of Shelia McHenry, TaShanna Armstrong, Melanie Milacek, Heather Jones and Kendra O'Hern. McHenry is a forensic interviewer and a victim advocate. She was recently designated as the CASA Program Manager. She oversees the Fourth Judicial District CASA Program which is a program under GCCAC. Armstrong is a CASA supervisor and a victim advocate. She was also trained as a forensic interviewer in December and has hit the ground running. We are blessed to have two forensic interviewers because of the amount of secondary trauma that these interviewers face by hearing the stories they hear. Milacek is a CASA supervisor and a victim advocate. She was originally the Executive Assistant, but her heart was in providing victim services. I was able to move her to her current position and hire a new Executive Assistant. Jones is a CASA supervisor for Kingfisher and Blaine Counties. O'Hern was just recently hired as the new Executive Assistant. Michelle Baldwin is a Sexual Assault Examiner Nurse (SANE) and she volunteers her time to provide sexual assault exams to children when applicable.

I want to thank my staff and board for their hard work and dedication. They truly love what they do and I am very blessed to have them. We really consider ourselves to be a family which makes the difficult nature of the job easier to handle. Our community can be very proud of the staff and board at GCCAC. I would like to thank the Department of Human Services (DHS) for continuing to fight for children and for being great partners. I want to thank all of the CASA volunteers who give of their time to help provide security and justice for abused children. I would also like to thank the United Way for being such an amazing and gracious partner to our organization.



DUSTIN ALBRIGHT

Executive Director

MISSION STATEMENT:

To stop child abuse, neglect and exploitation as we strengthen our community by advocating for our children through prevention, education and intervention, using a collaborative, multi-disciplinary, child-friendly approach.

THOSE SERVED

Victim Advocate Services

Children Served	165
Adult Caregivers Served	248

Pediatric SANE

Children Served	29
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Forensic Interviews

Interviews Completed	154
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Court Appointed Special Advocate

Children Served	110
Number of Cases	40
Active Volunteers	63
Assigned Volunteers	49

Community Service Prevention

Community Presentations	14
Persons Attending	524
Community Volunteers	125
Volunteer Hours	3444

Multidisciplinary Child Abuse Response Team

Children Served	218
Cases Reviewed	87
Garfield Team Meetings	20
Blaine Team Meetings	0

Reunification Visits

Children Served	68
Families Served	205
Number of Visits	220

Participating Partner:



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

REVENUE

Grants

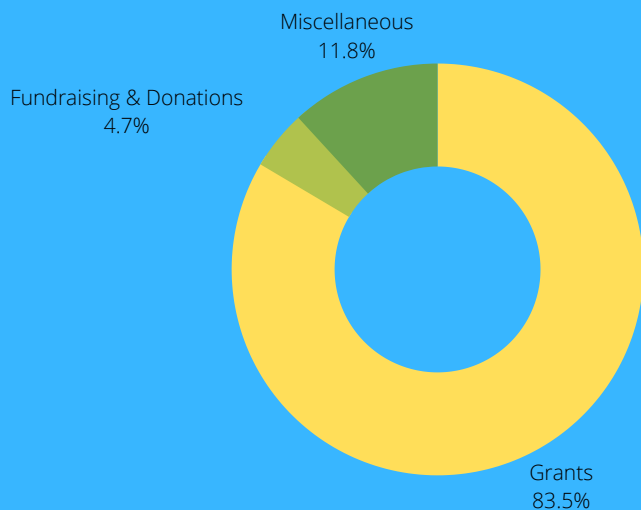
\$460,405.73

Fundraising & Donations

\$25,703.02

Miscellaneous

\$65,140.00



EXPENSES

Facility

\$45,477.19

Professional Staff

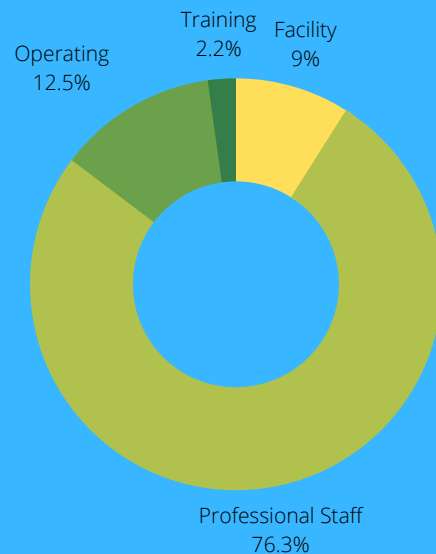
\$387,721.37

Operating

\$63,509.05

Training

\$11,147.75





THANK YOU

to the people who make it hapopen...

Court Appointed Special Advocates Rob Holtzinger- 2020 CASA of the Year

Rob was sworn in as a CASA volunteer on December 6, 2016. He has had three cases and helped two children reunify with their mother and one child is in the adoption process by grandmother. Rob goes above and beyond the call of duty. He attends continuing education trainings and fundraising events.

We know we can count on Rob to show up and talk at court, give recommendations that are in the best interest of the child, and even go against the grain when he feels it is needed. Disagreeing with partnering agencies is part of the job sometimes, and Rob always handles himself professionally. We are so grateful for everything Rob has done and continues to do for the children in our community. We want to thank Rob for his dedication and hard work. Rob always submits his paperwork on time, visits the children and parents monthly and stays in contact with the caseworker. Rob is a huge asset to GCCAC, CASA, our children and the entire community!

2020 Board of Directors

Randy Long - Chair
Beth Culver—First Vice Chair
Lori Leap—Second Vice Chair
Bill Word—Treasurer
 Aaron Abbott
 Dustin Albright
 Stacey Boyd
 Emily Cooper
 Jeff Crites
 Michael Fields
 Tina Frazer
 Juan Gonzalez
 William Hann
 Sarah Herrian
 Shane Jackson
 Maggie Jackson
 Jeff McGehee
 Jackie Melson
 Terry Mote
 Brian O'Rourke
 Roxanne Pollard
 Jade Powell
 Mike Roberts
 Carrie Sanders
 Dan Schiedel
 Polly Watkins

2020 CASA, Center & General Volunteers

Katherine Alexander	Cathy Howard	Pam Shields
Vicky Allen	Cindy Humphrey	Carley Smith
Maleah Ashcraft	Jackson's Employees	Gene Spillman
Michelle Baldwin	Janna Jackson	Sally Spillman
Evan Bergdall	Riley Jantzen	Coral Stadler
Timothy Bergdall	Ashley Kiper	Abbey Stallings
Monique Bristol	DeDee Krueger	Mary Steicklein
Vicki Brown	Joyce Markes	Patricia Stevenson
Alyson Burrow	Deborah May	Sherry Stewart
Mark Burrow	Crystal McKee	William Toay
Edward Bylotas	Carole Nelson	Nubia Torres
Kendall Conger	Tom Newby	Nancy Truman
Megan Curtis	Cassandra Oaks	Vecky Vogt
Chisholm High -	Loretta Ore	Kenneth Wade
Student Council	Nicole Painter	Ginny Wagner
Don Chambers	Kandra Patterson	Terri Walters
Drew Classen	Tracy Pettus	Steven Weber
Glenda Crow	Melissa Pogue	Norma Woods
Kristen Duran	Cindy Rauh	
Kallie Elder	Matthew Reiber	
Janine Espy	Mike Riddle	
Rachel Geiser	Lori Runser	
Heidi Glasgow	OG&E Employees	
Jennifer Grimes	McKenzie Schuermann	
Tallena Hart	Kevin Sadowsky	
Rob Holtzinger	Cyndy Shepherd	