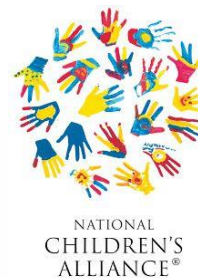


Safe Harbor Child Advocacy Center

Annual Report 2022



2445 Darwin Rd. Ste. 20 Madison, WI 53704 • info@safeharborhelpskids.org • 608-661-9787

For Safe Harbor staff contact information, visit our website!

<https://www.safeharborhelpskids.org/>

A Message from Leadership

Dear Friends,

As you know, Safe Harbor sees children and families in what is often their darkest hour. The abuse of a child is gut-wrenching: for the child who trusts someone who hurt them; for the non-offending parent/caregiver who wasn't able to protect them; and for our staff, who is a rock among the waves, offering them advocacy, forensic interviews, crisis intervention, and support.

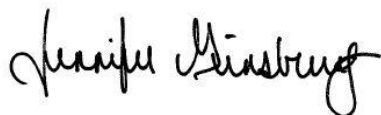
Sometimes people ask why we do these difficult jobs. And the answer is always the same: we are called to make a difference. Our dedicated, expert staff is steadfast in their dedication to help the child and family get on the road to safety and healing. These families are often isolated from friends and family- abuse is not something people readily share with even those closest to them. Our unflinching presence tells them they can share anything with us, and we are here to help.

In 2022 we served 428 children and 426 caregivers. That is a 6% increase from the previous year and continues our trajectory of growth. In the past 5 years we have seen a 27% increase.

We are always looking for how we can best serve the children and families in our community. In the Fall of 2022, Safe Harbor staff and Board of Directors engaged in a facilitated strategic planning process to create goals and objectives for the next 5 years. A few key themes emerged: provide more trauma treatment on site (most of our families are referred to community partners for ongoing mental health services); build stronger partnerships with neighboring counties to better serve those children; improve engagement with communities of color in order to build stronger partnerships and better serve children who may be underserved. I look forward to reporting progress on those goals in the next annual report.

The critical services that Safe Harbor provides couldn't happen without the support of our all-volunteer Board of Directors, and the generosity of private donors, foundations, and government funders. We are grateful to our community for ensuring that Safe Harbor is here to serve for years to come.

In peace,



Jennifer Ginsburg, MSSW, LCSW
Executive Director



Our Mission & Services

OUR HISTORY

Safe Harbor Child Advocacy Center opened in 1999. We are the only Child Advocacy Center in Dane County. There are 16 Child Advocacy Centers in Wisconsin and over 900 nationwide. Law enforcement, child protection, prosecutors, and medical providers come together to this single location to collaborate and ultimately reduce the number of times the child has to share and relive their story. Since opening our doors, we have served more than over 5,000 children and their families free of charge.

OUR MISSION

Safe Harbor seeks to reduce the trauma to children who are victims of abuse or neglect or witnesses to crimes, by promoting the coordination of multidisciplinary investigations, conducting forensic interviews in a child-friendly environment, and providing ongoing advocacy to affected children and families.

OUR SERVICES

Our services are engaged through referral from law enforcement or child protective services.

Forensic Interviews in a Child-Friendly Environment

Safe Harbor provides a safe and friendly place for a child to talk about what has happened to them. Safe Harbor forensic interviewers are highly trained in best practice interviewing methods and child development. The forensic interview is video recorded, so that the statement can be considered for use in court.

Ongoing Advocacy to Affected Children & Families

Safe Harbor provides family advocacy services to non-offending caregivers of children who are interviewed at Safe Harbor. Family Advocates provide support for caregivers both at the time of the interview and on an ongoing basis. In addition, Family Advocates can voice concerns of the caregiver to the investigative team.

Family Advocates provide families with **quick access to mental health services** through referral to immediate crisis counseling and/or longer term treatment. Family Advocates assist the team and the family in **considering and scheduling important medical exams** at Meriter's Forensic Nurse Examiners Program or the UWHealth Child Protection Program at American Family Children's Hospital. Many families who attend Safe Harbor are in need of basic resources. Family Advocates connect families with **Emergency Assistance funds** such as gas and grocery gift cards, rental assistance, energy bill assistance, and more.

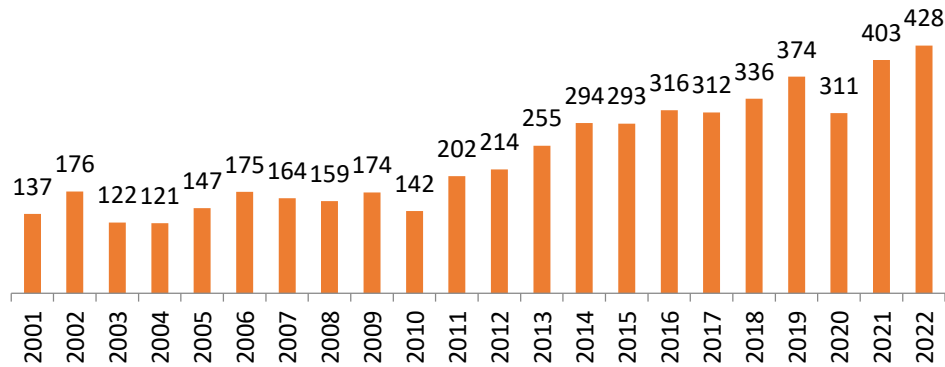
Promoting the Coordination of Multidisciplinary Investigations

Safe Harbor brings together a multidisciplinary team of professionals with the philosophy that collaboration is essential for an effective investigation and intervention process.

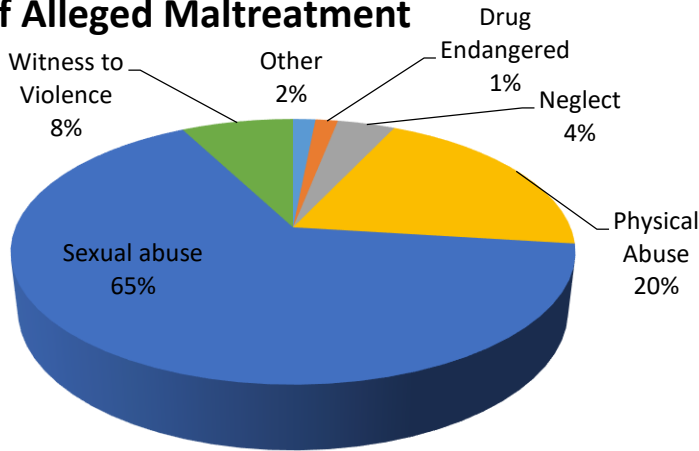
Forensic Interviews

Safe Harbor provided **428 child forensic interviews** in 2022. The chart below shows the number of interviews each year since Safe Harbor was founded.

Forensic Interviews of Children



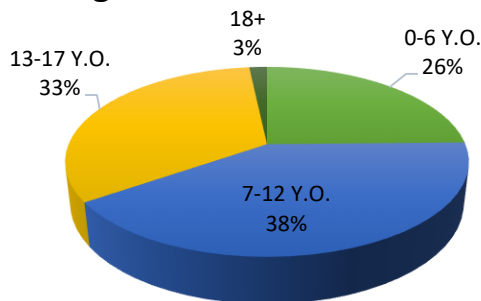
Types of Alleged Maltreatment



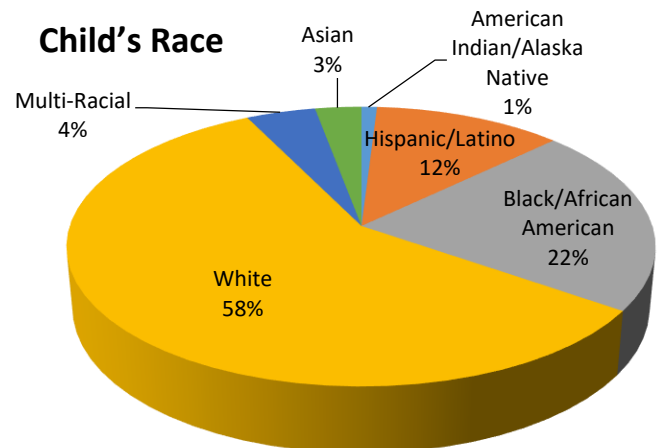
The chart to the left illustrates the breakdown of forensic interviews at Safe Harbor in 2022 by maltreatment type. The vast majority of cases involve allegations of sexual abuse, followed by physical abuse, witness to violence, neglect, and drug endangered children cases.

The pie charts to the right show clients by age and race in 2022. The majority of abuse victims are 12 years old or younger. Based on mental health referrals, we observed that ~75% of clients identify as female and ~25% identify as male.

Child's Age



Child's Race



Advocacy & the Team Response

Family Advocacy

Family Advocates provided services to 421 caregivers in 2022. This work entailed making **2,985 contacts** with caregivers and others on their behalf over the course of 2022.

Referral to Mental Health Treatment

A critical service to help traumatized children heal is trauma-focused mental health treatment. Safe Harbor facilitates and funds mental health assessments as well as crisis counseling for child abuse victims and their caregivers. In 2022 Safe Harbor was able to increase the services we could provide to families in need. These services are expedited, without barriers and geared specifically for traumatized children. **In 2022, Family Advocates made 164 referrals for mental health services.**

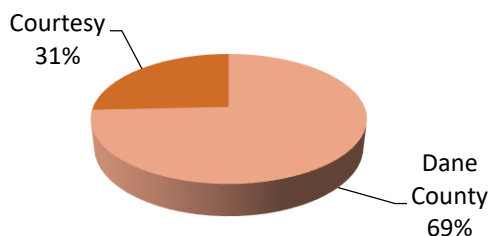


Protocol for the Multidisciplinary Team Response

In addition to providing services, Safe Harbor coordinates county-wide best practice protocols. An important goal is to institutionalize best practices, so that there are clear standards and expectations for all the systems that come into play when child abuse is exposed. These protocols include child abuse response, drug endangered children, and commercial sex trafficking. Safe Harbor also coordinates monthly case reviews, to ensure that the protocols are being followed and the team is working together effectively.

Serving Surrounding Areas

County of Investigation



Safe Harbor serves Dane County. However, we also provide services to other counties as a courtesy if the child lives in Dane County or there is no Child Advocacy Center available in the county where the incident occurred. In 2022, Safe Harbor provided **157 courtesy interviews** for outside counties.

Financial Report

FY2022 (Oct 1 2021- Sep 30 2022)

Support & Revenue

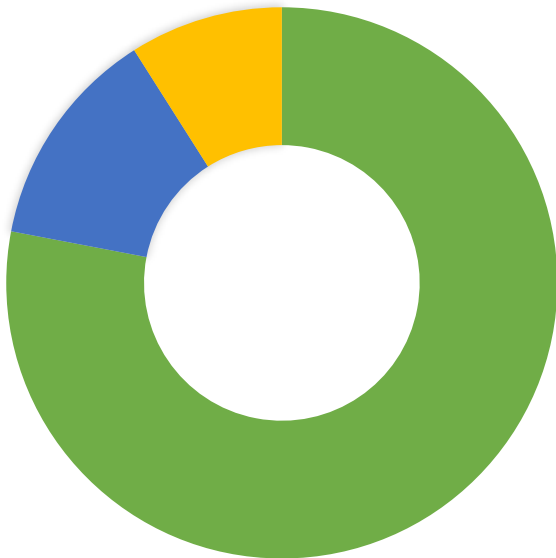
As a non-profit, Safe Harbor is reliant on the generosity of the community to fulfill our mission. The graph to the right shows we are funded through grants, fundraising, and our community partners.

Grant and contract Revenue: \$606,174 [59%]

Contributions: \$416,847 [41%]

Investment return, net: -\$116,897

Total Support & Revenue: \$906,124



Expenses

As you can see to the left, the vast majority of our expenses go towards direct services for the children and families we serve. This is vital to providing support and a trauma-informed, healing-focused environment.

Program Services: \$604,674 [78%]

Management and General: \$101,631 [13%]

Fundraising: \$70,091 [9%]

Total Expenses: \$776,396

FY2022 Financial Supporters

Government Contracts

Dane County Department of Human Services
State of Wisconsin Office of Crime Victim Services
Wisconsin Department of Justice

Event Sponsors

Business/Foundation/Organization Sponsors

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Group Health Cooperative of South Central Wisconsin
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Colony Brands Foundation, Inc.
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TASC Give Back Foundation
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Tim O'Brien Homes of Madison, LLC
Kendra Scott
UW Hospitals & Clinics
First Weber Foundation
Newcomb Construction
Madison Community Foundation
Madison Rotary Foundation
The George A. Fait Family 2001 Irrevocable Trust
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Madison Rotary Foundation
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Kristen Bernard	Regina and Bradley Endres
Dawn Berney	Christopher Engelke
Curtis Bjurlin	Carol Faynik
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Peggy Crooks-Mishacoff	Edward Gilkes

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Vicki Wells
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Peter Williams
Camille Zanon
Joseph & Mary Zwirlein



Thank you to our Safe Harbor Staff, Board of Directors Volunteers, and Funders!

Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Personnel

Jennifer Ginsburg, Executive Director
Mikel Domnitz, Development Director
Heidi Figueroa-Velez, Family Advocate/Bilingual Forensic Interviewer
Robyn Klaila, Forensic Interviewer/Forensic Interview Program Manager
Emily Oler, Child Life Specialist/Marketing Assistant
Meaghan Reindl, Family Advocate/Data Manager
Carrie Sachse, Family Advocate
Caitlin Scales, Family Advocate
Jenny Rusch, Multidisciplinary Team Coordinator
Kollath and Associates CPA
Spark, LLC - Human Resources

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James Butman, President and CEO, TDS Telecommunications, Inc.
Debie Evans, Anesis Center for Family and Marriage Therapy, Assistant Director
Mary Beth Keppel, Dane County Court Commissioner (Retired)
Meg McGrane, Human Resource Professional (Retired)
Peggy Crooks Mishacoff, Attorney, State Bar of Wisconsin
Wil Nichol, Director of Player Development, Las Vegas Golden Nights

Volunteers

Volunteers contribute to Safe Harbor in the following capacities: Board Members, Event Planning Committee Members, Day-of-Event Helpers, and Office/Childcare Assistants. We also host a yearly UW School of Social Work or Madison Area Technical College Intern.

