2018 ANNUAL REPORT



NEW BEGINNINGS

planting seeds of hope for children in crisis

the tree house

CAC of Montgomery County, MD

A New Beginning

for

THE TREE HOUSE CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

Every child who suffers from the traumatic effects of abuse and neglect can find hope and healing at The Tree House. We are proud of the medical care, psychological support and court assistance we offer to the most vulnerable members of our community. With a supportive team, we believe that children can recover from the impact of abuse and return to a more healthy, happy life — a new beginning if you will.

We all need people who can help us make the important changes in our lives. Even organizations must make changes to remain responsive to the people who need them. And this year, thanks to the many supporters we have in Montgomery County, The Tree House made an important change — one that will enable us to sustain our mission to combat child sexual abuse, physical abuse and neglect for many years to come.

In 2002, Montgomery County first realized the need for a Child Advocacy Center, but had limited funds for the project. The Tree House was created as a public-private partnership when the Primary Care Coalition of Montgomery County, MD graciously agreed to serve temporarily as the center's non-profit partner.

(continued, next page)

In 2013, we realized that the time had come to find a dedicated partner for The Tree House, and a group of committed community members worked on the creation of a new non-profit. With the encouragement of the Montgomery County Executive and County Council, the plan moved forward. Two years later, on June 24, 2016, The Tree House Child Advocacy Center of Montgomery County, MD, Inc. was incorporated, and in March 2017, the organization received tax-exempt status as a charitable non-profit.

The transition became complete on October 1, 2017, when total responsibility for The Tree House transferred — our new beginning! This major milestone was the result of much hard work on the part of our new Board of Directors. During this first year, our services have remained uninterrupted and seamless to the children and families who rely on The Tree House.

Just recently, The Tree House Child Advocacy Center of Montgomery County, MD, Inc. completed its first financial audit, determining the new organization puts 89% of all funds raised into direct services for children and families. We are proud of this fact and intend to remain child focused with the dollars we receive from the community.

We believe our new partnership will strengthen our ability to meet the mission, and we intend to work harder than ever to engage the community in our effort. Our goal is to improve the life of every child who needs help recovering from the trauma of abuse and neglect. We may have changed, but our commitment remains the same. For every child who needs us, we will offer hope and healing — a chance at a new beginning.

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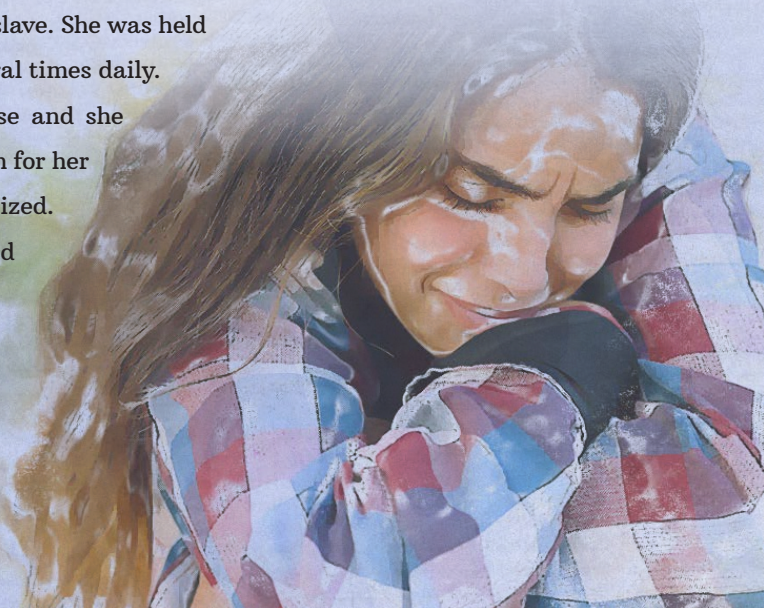
Overcoming Adversity to Move to a New Beginning

For most children a coyote is an animal, an exotic creature to be marveled at during a family visit to the zoo. Not for Luisa. For Luisa, a coyote is a human — a man whom she has never met, a man who is entrusted with her life. His job? To rustle her through the dark of night and the heat of the day to a promise to be reunited with her mother in the United States. It is that promise that nearly cost Luisa her life.

Today, Luisa is fourteen years old, a young woman born during a time when violence overran her community in Guatemala. Her mother took a chance — a chance to escape a violent place that she knew would end in demise for her daughter. When Luisa was only four, her mother made the sacrificial choice to leave Luisa with her grandparents and to make her way to the United States. It was her hope that through this journey Luisa's life could be saved.

It took Luisa's mom ten years to save the money she thought was needed to reunite her with her daughter, but she did it! At fourteen, Luisa was on her way to the United States. The coyote was her only guide, and her grandfather was her only protection. None of this support proved enough. The Mexican Cartel kidnapped Luisa and her protector along the way, demanding money from her mother, money her mother did not have. Held captive for three months, Luisa was their slave. She was held at gunpoint and raped at the will of her captors several times daily. When her frail body ached from the repeated abuse and she begged for it to stop, the captors used threats of death for her grandfather as her punishment. Luisa was demoralized. Forced to cook and clean for those who enslaved and abused her, she saw no end. Her spirit was fading.

(continued, next page)



In a world where miracles seem few, Luisa experienced one of her own: She escaped. She journeyed to Maryland with the help of strangers who helped free her. Here, in Maryland, she was finally reunited with her mother, and she thought that life could begin again. Until…

Until intrusive thoughts and anxiety enveloped her mind. Until she realized that the nightmares she lived through had escaped with her. Until she believed that she was unable to fill the emptiness left within, even when her mother's love and "safety" surrounded her. She was not the same. There was no place she belonged. She had no will to live on and no "rescue" in sight.

With no will to live on and no "rescue" in sight, Luisa made an attempt at suicide in February 2018. She lived. Her cry for help was received when she was referred to The Tree House CAC for specialized mental health treatment.

Emotionally shut down, doubtful and lacking trust, Luisa was skeptical. She was full of fear and resistance. Thankfully, these areas are ones that Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) can address.

Nine TF-CBT sessions later, Luisa observes her trauma symptoms decreasing. The moments of paralyzing fear are diminishing. Luisa now finds sleep at night. She is functioning well at school, has friends and embraces the feelings of "love" that she receives from her mother. Although life is not perfect and much work still needs to be done, Luisa is now able to recognize that she belongs here and deserves to experience the fullness of life. She sees a new beginning emerging.



Staff & Partners

BEARERS OF NEW BEGINNINGS

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A. Thomas Grazio, LCSW-C,
Director

Tania Arostegui, LCSW-C,
Mental Health Therapist

Nina Blecher,
Director of Community Partnerships

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Victim Advocate

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Nurse

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Sara Kulow-Malavé, LCSW-C,
Forensic Interviewer

Lego,
Tree House Facility Dog

Sandra Merino,
Administrative Assistant

Yancy Padilla, LGSW,
Transitional Trauma Therapist/ Mental Health Therapist

Emily Picon, LGSW,
Mental Health Therapist

Ingrid Ponciano, LCMFT,
Mental Health Therapist

William Schlossenberg,
Development Consultant

Evelyn Shukat, MD,
Medical Director

Jessica Silbermann, LGSW,
Mental Health Therapist

Loretta St. John,
Director of Operations

Stephanie Wolf, J.D., Ph.D.,
Mental Health Director

MENTAL HEALTH EXTERN PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Robin Choi

Haley Meagher

Raquel Mack

Caitlin Williams

SPECIAL THANKS

Once again to Barbara Crews, Ellen Poltilove and Angel Beltran of Johns Hopkins University, Montgomery County Campus

and

Carl Peterson and the Rockville Bike Advisory Committee

Without you there would be no Tree House Tour de Cookie!

Sheena Saydam, for all the fundraising efforts made this year on behalf of The Tree House

Collaborative Colleagues & Board of Directors



Leaders forging paths to new possibilities

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Community Pediatricians

Montgomery County Abused Persons Program

Montgomery County Child and Adolescent Mental Health Program

Montgomery County Child Welfare Services

Montgomery County Crisis Center

Montgomery County Department of Police, Special Victims Investigations Division

Montgomery County Office of the County Attorney

Montgomery County Sheriff's Office

Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office

National Children's Alliance

Maryland Children's Alliance

Shady Grove Adventist Hospital

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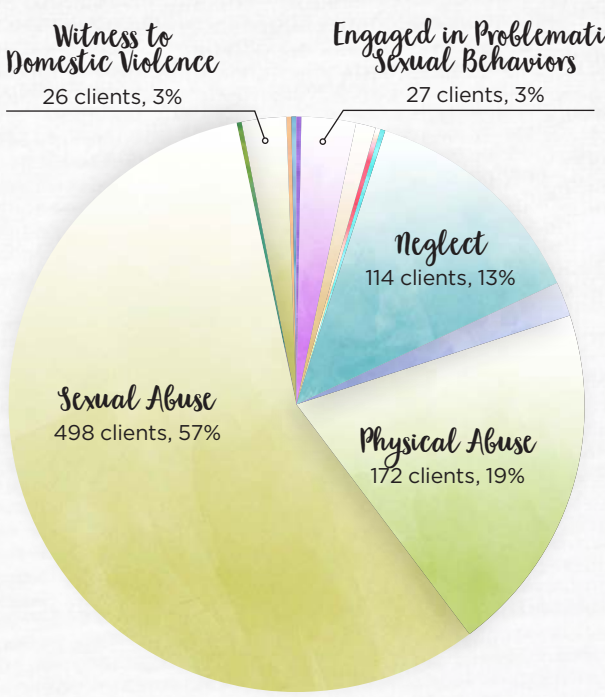
Carolyn Tamarkin

Services Provided

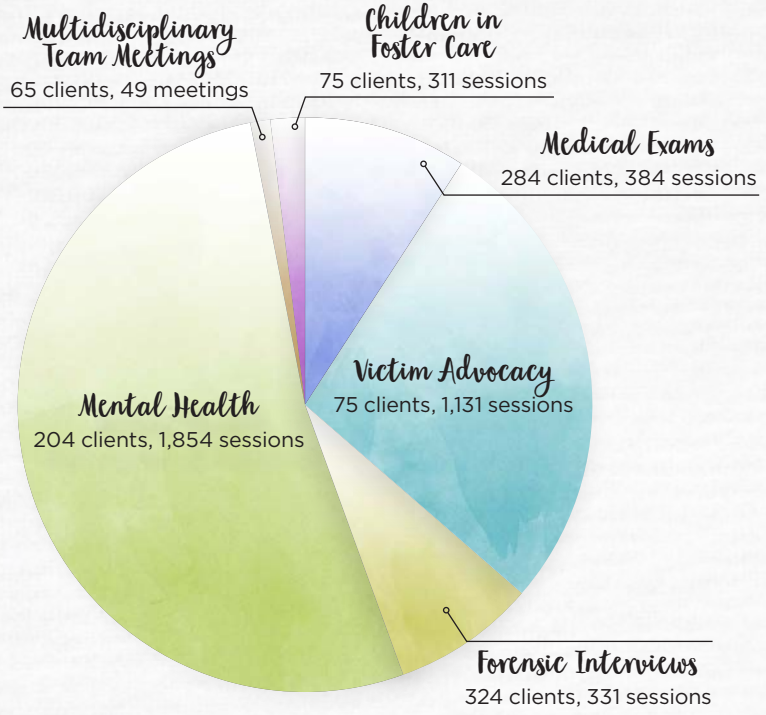
VICTIMIZATION AND SERVICES DATA

Charts and figures reflect data July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.
695 New Clients | 89 Ongoing Clients

Often, children experience more than one type of Victimization.



BY TYPE of ABUSE



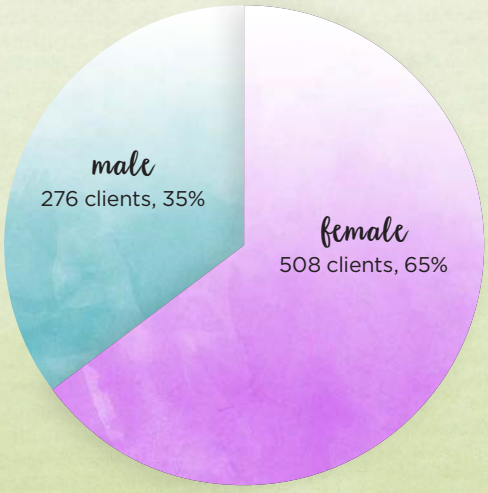
BY SERVICE PROVIDED

Child Fatality, 1 client, 0%
Child Fatality in Family, 2 clients, 0%
Internet Crimes, 14 clients, 2%
Mental Injury/Abuse 6 clients, 1%
Mental Injury/Neglect, 3 clients, 0%
Parental Concern of Abuse, 18 clients, 2%
Trafficking, 1 client, 0%
Witness to Homicide, 1 client, 0%
Witness to Sexual Abuse, 2 clients, 0%
Foster Child Exam, 1 client, 0%

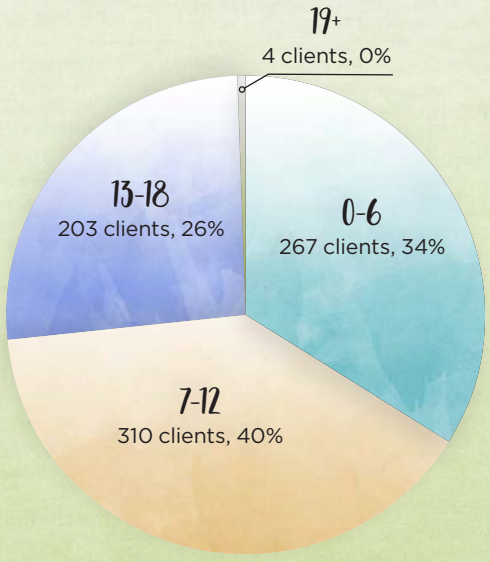
Clients Served

AGE, RACE, AND GENDER DATA (NEW CLIENTS)

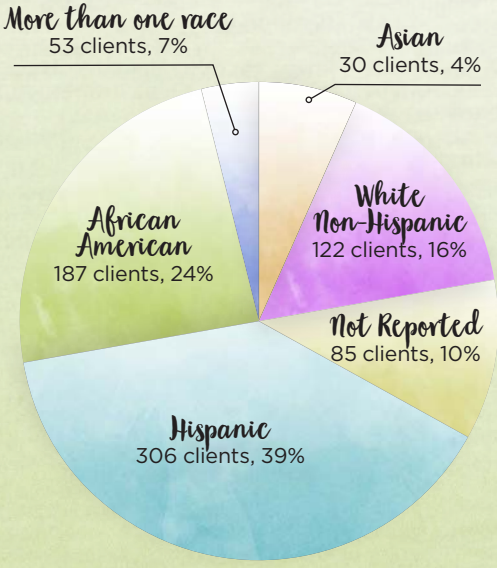
Charts and figures reflect data July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.
695 New Clients | 89 Ongoing Clients



BY GENDER



BY AGE



BY RACE

grants

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Sabina Gill
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Girl Scout Troop 362
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Timothy Grazio
Marcia Litman Greene
Mary Lauran Hall
Kristin Heggen
Robert Honor
Robert Kane
Anchal Khanna
Kourosh Kohanteb
Zoe Kowalski
Subramaniam Krishnan
William Leffler
Maureen Lefkoff
Wendy Levine
Angela & C. Michael Liberato
Leslie Liberato
Srini Mandalapu
Maureen Mann
Heather McCue
Jeanne Mendelson
Maureen Miller
Douglas Otte
Anish Pabbati
Robert Parkinson
Celia Ann Pfleckl
Debbie Reindollar
Laura Rice
Rex Roberts
Sheena Saydam
Rick & Valerie Sell
Wayne Setzer
Michael Sherman
Ally Springer
Michael Steinhardt
Karen & Ward Street
Barbara Stussman
Andrea Sumner
Christine Taylor
Tracey Thayer
Tracy Threefoot
Natalie Valentin
Ellen T. Van Valkenburgh
Betsy Vielhaber
Gina Walzer
Ryan Wattenschaidt
Gary Watts
Nikko Patten Weinstein
Mary Beth Williams
Corey Wittersheim
Britton Wood

VOLUNTEERS

Tania Arostegui
Amanda Baker
Sheila Beaman
Rodrigo Bender
Julia Benevides
Leo Benevides
Nina Blecher
Pam Bravo
Buc (Bike Copilots)
Anthony Bustillos
Tom Button
Jenna Calton
Robin Choi
Ed Choy

THE TREE HOUSE TOUR DE COOKIE DONORS, SUPPORTERS & VOLUNTEERS

Tanya Claude Braxton
Andrea Coleman
Hal Dubois
Deborah Flores
Sandy Gill
Matty Gladstone
Tom Grazio
Christian Grimes
Arlene Hale
Maritza Hernandez
Dolores Jenkins
Alison Kramer-Kuhn
Joseph Kuhn
Sara Kulow-Malave
Tanya Kulprasertrat
Lego
Leslie Liberato
Carol Litman
Alfredo Lopez
Brad Lugo
Dana McKay
Maureen Miller
Nancy Mixson
Jenny Osoria
Marcos Palma
Judy Phillips
Theresa Phillips
Jeff Phoenix
Brendan Regan
Jake Regan
Karen Riotto
Rockville Bike Hub
Eva Salins
Ellen Schaefer-Salins
Ann Schlossenberg
Will Schlossenberg
Cindy Schwartz
Bobbi Sherman
Ivette Sherman
Evelyn Shukat
Mark Shuster
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Joan Sinfuego
Vincent Sinfuego
Carson Smith
Steven Smugeresky
Lauren Sorensen
Loretta St. John
Pamela Stafford
Stewart Stout
Suzanne Stout
Karen Street
Cali Tamarkin
Michele Thomas
Linda Trinh
Ashley Vega-Iraheta
Alicia Veney
Alex Volat
Andrew Volat
Alana Whipp
Andrew Whipp
Caitlin Williams
Stephanie Wolf

THE TREE HOUSE TOUR DE COOKIE DONORS, SUPPORTERS & VOLUNTEERS



ROCKVILLE BIKE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Steve Andruski

Dave Banks

Connie Bertka

Nancy Breen

Sophie Chan-Wood

Lynn Losert

Bill Michie

Michelle Minstrell

Stephanie Perri

Brenda Ruby

Beth Skarzynski

Jonathan Solomon

Gary Thompson

Tracy Threefoot

With a VERY VERY special thanks to Carl Peterson without whom our event just wouldn't be possible

COOKIE STANDS BROUGHT TO US BY

Booz Allen Hamilton

Child Welfare Services

District Kids Triathlon Club

Germantown Baptist Church

Girl Scout Troop 5029 of Clarksburg, MD

Lollipop Kids Foundation

Maryvale Girl Scouts, Troop 6924

Mom's Club North Potomac Muddy Branch

Olney Rotary Club

Potomac Rotary Club

Scientific Consulting Group

Shady Grove Medical Center, Forensic Medical Unit and The Bean Bag

Taylor Gourmet

The Rest, Lifestyle & Event Management, LLC

The Tree House Child Advocacy Center

Youth Group at Iglesia Senda de Justicia

COOKIE STAND VOLUNTEERS AND BAKERS

Nancy Arthur

Rick Arthur

Laurie Auerbach

Jen Auroux

Lindsey Beall

Pallavi Belur

Karen Berman

Ric Blackman

Nina Blecher

Ray Bowman

Pamela Bravo

Christina Brown

Erin Brown

Joy Bryant

Sarah Bryant

Jo Burgos

Tania Butler

Rowan Cade

Jenna Calton

Beverly Campbell

Sandy Carlin



THE TREE HOUSE TOUR DE COOKIE DONORS, SUPPORTERS & VOLUNTEERS

Andrea Carlos
Jamie Carlos
Lauren Carranza
Belinda Cervas
Patricia Cervas
Robin Choi
Julie Clark
Elly Cook
Marta Cookson
Cristina Cordova
Alex Correa
Alexis Correa
Vicki Courlang
Margaret Cristoph
Kathryn Davenport
Victoria Davis
Sima Dembo
9 Members of the District Kids Triathlon Club and their coaches
Diane Epperson
Patricia Faison
April Febrey
Shannon Feinman
Diana Foley
Veronica Gazzotti
Abegail Gill
Chris Good
Laura Goodman
Wendy Grier
Ingris Gutierrez-Gallo
Don Harrison
John Hawkins
Molly Hayward-Koert
Nanci Hemberger
Brooke Hinkle
Russ Inman
Sarah Inman
Tiffany Johnson
Patricia Joyner
Rachel Kavanagh
Andrea Kenny
Charlotte Kenny
Mike Kenny
Owen Kenny
Margaret Keyes
Nicole Little-Cook
Natalie Shuster Lugo
Raquel Mack
Teresa Martucci
The Girls of the Maryvale Girl Scouts, Troop 6924
Jena Mejia
Thomas Mejia
Sandra Merino
Lisa Merkin
Jen Moreno
Valerie Oliver
Ángel Orozco
Magdalena Orozco
Kelly Osborne
Nate Parks
Nancy Paz
Stacy Philipson
Judy Phillips
Jeannie Plew
Patty Powers

THE TREE HOUSE TOUR DE COOKIE DONORS, SUPPORTERS & VOLUNTEERS

Melanie Rabkin
Abigail Raines
Arpita Ramkaran
Ria Ramkaran
John Reid
Christine Rhodes
Bethany Roderer
Kristine Rodgers
Lauri Rodich
Alicia Rosov
Jeffery Saeling
Debbie Sahlin
Rajni Samavedam
Ashley Saucier
Suzanne Scheer
Michelle Sears
Anam Siddiqi
Dana Simms
Liz Slovenkay
Jim Smith
Olivia Smith
Tricia Smith
Katie Swift
Tommy Tavenner
Janay Taylor
Taylor Gourmet
Ann Thangada
Beth Thomas
Camille Thomas
Cindy Vargas
Jessica Volz
Carol Wagner
Kim Walker
Susie Warner
Katie Wells
Brad Wofford
Stephanie Wolf
Mitchell Wool
Robyn Wool Parks
Susannah Wybenga
The Youth Group at
Iglesia Senda de Justicia



Financials

PROVIDING THE SEEDS OF FUNDING FOR OUR FUTURE

REVENUE		EXPENSES	
County Contracts	$1,075,726	Consultant Staff	$384,144
Foundation Grants	$82,000	Salaries and Benefits	$567,824
State Grants	$102,802	Program Overhead Expenses	$18,194
Event Income	$59,834	Office Supplies and Expenses	$33,384
Contributions	$54,608	Client Transportation	$19,549
Federal Grants	$79,568	Community Outreach	$20,638
Service Fees	$10,680	Training and Membership	$29,952
		Professional Fees	$18,811
TOTAL	**$1,465,218**	**TOTAL**	**$1,092,496**

EXCESS REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	**$372,722**

YOU CAN Make a Difference IN A CHILD'S LIFE

PREPARING THE SOIL FOR NEW GROWTH AHEAD

YOUR DONATION SERVES OUR LOCAL FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

$5 Pays for bubbles used in breathing exercises during therapy

$10 Provides snacks and drinks for 10 children waiting for services

$20 Allows us to buy new toys and books for our waiting room

$25 Provides first aid supplies for one month

$30 Allows our Victim Advocate to attend court with our children for one hour

$50 Provides one hour of Mental Health Therapy

$75 Provides round-trip transportation for a child in need

$100 Provides one hour of Physician care

$250 Pays for 14 days of HIV prophylaxis for one child

$500 Allows us to perform a full psychological assessment of a child

Allows us to perform a full medical exam including all lab work for a child

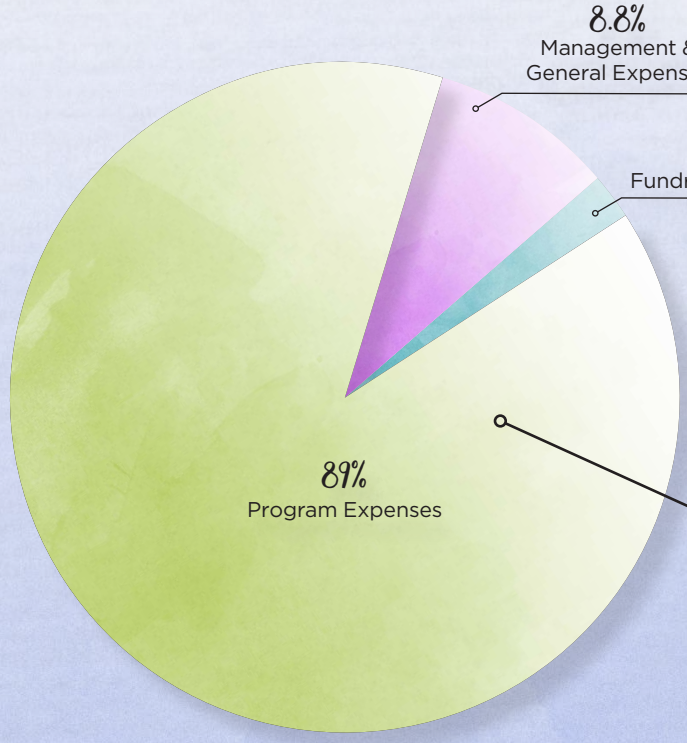
$1,000 Allows us to perform a complete forensic evaluation of a child

$5,000 Enables us to provide one family with a full course of medical, therapeutic, and victim assistance services

Tax-deductible donations can be made online at TreeHouseMD.org (click on "Donate Today") or by mail (please make check payable to The Tree House CAC) and send to: The Tree House CAC, 7300 Calhoun Place, Suite 700, Rockville, MD 20855

Functional Expenses

REMAINING CHILD FOCUSED AS WE HELP OUR YOUTH FLOURISH



89 CENTS

of every dollar you donate is spent directly on services for the abused and neglected children of Montgomery County, MD.

FY'18 FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES



NATIONAL
CHILDREN'S
ALLIANCE®

ACCREDITED
MEMBER

The Tree House CAC is an accredited member
of The National Children's Alliance.

Illustrations in this report are not depictions of actual clients to protect client privacy. The stories, however, are very real.