

August 2021

# THANKFUL FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT

## DONOR SPOTLIGHT

In June, the GCCAC received a \$1,000 donation from the Starbucks Foundation after our local Starbucks nominated us for a Neighborhood Grant. Starbucks Seguin store manager Andrea Bryan came to personally present the donation to the Center. She chose the GCCAC because the work we do is very close to her heart. She feels that it is so important that children's voices are heard. We agree and are so thankful for the support from our local Starbucks! You can read the full story in the Seguin Gazette.



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## 11 1/2 ANNUAL BOWL-A-THON

After a year and half of waiting, we were finally able to hold our annual Knock-out Child Abuse Bowl-a-thon on July 30th! We had 17 teams come out to enjoy a fun night of bowling and raising funds for direct client aid. Thank you to the sponsors below for supporting this event! And thank you to all of the bowlers and spectators who made it a great night! Congratulations to this year's winners!

## BOWL-A-THON SPONSORS



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### 1st Place - The Stompers



### 2nd Place - Big E's Garage



### 3rd Place - Zorn Bowling Club



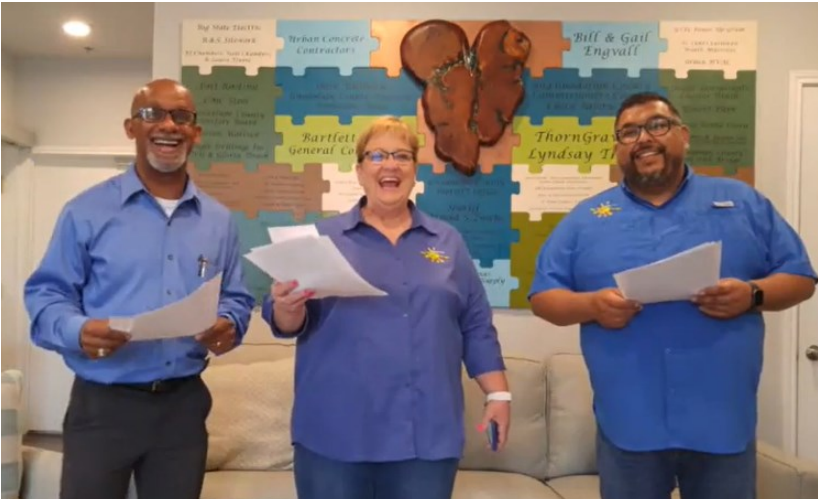
Guadalupe County Children's Advocacy Center

# Friends of Courage!



## ARE YOU A CHAMPION FOR COURAGEOUS CHILDREN?

The pandemic has created a multitude of hurdles for children, families, society, and the work of the GCCAC and multi-disciplinary team. Those hurdles include social isolation, stress, anxiety, and abuse. Our work has become even more important as we support those experiencing trauma during this time. In order to ensure that children's voices would still be heard and that they would receive seamless provision of services, we looked to you, our community, for help. We got creative with fundraising by launching our Champions for Courageous Children fundraiser during Child Abuse Prevention & Awareness Month. More than ever before, this fundraiser relied on



*Our wonderful emcees and board members, Ivory Freeman, Roxanne Heckmann, and James Reyes, leading the Champions for Courageous Children Celebration to thank all of our wonderful donors.*

you, our donors and supporters, to spread the word about the positive impact on children and families who receive support and services at the GCCAC. Through social media and our Champions of 16 teams and 48 individuals who created pages, we were able to reach people who had never heard of Children's Advocacy Centers before now! The Champions created awareness by sharing their pages on social media, sending out emails and texts, and having conversations about the GCCAC mission. We are so grateful for the outpouring of support from our generous community! We are beyond amazed by the fundraiser's success, and even though we didn't reach the very ambitious goal, the money we did raise has allowed us to

continue serving children and families in Guadalupe County. We have listed some of our Champions for Courageous Children (teams and individuals who promoted, donated, or both) to the right and pictured a few of the donations received below. **We love our Champions!** As of now, we have raised \$58,601 from 431 donors!

### Thank you everyone!

With funding cuts and decreased giving caused by the pandemic, your help is needed more than ever! There is still time to ensure every child has a voice by becoming a Champion for Courageous Children! Donate now on our website

[gccac.net](http://gccac.net) or text "GCCAC" to 44-321

for the link to the fundraiser! Thank you for supporting the children and families of Guadalupe County!



**\$58,601** of \$100,000

431 Donors

**THANK YOU CHAMPIONS!!!**

**Diamond Champions**

GCCAC Staff

**Platinum Champions**

GCCAC Community of Champions

Christy Williams

Karen for Kids & Karen Wallock

Sheriff Arnold Zwicke

**Gold Champions**

Guadalupe County Sheriff's Office

Roxanne Heckmann

The Jones Team, Bryan & Brenda Jones

Lea Phelps & Keller Williams Heritage Realty

**Silver Champions**

Simplicity R.E.G.

Wuest Inc. - Pic-N-Pac

James Reyes

Dean Webb

MDT Leadership Team & Michele Meehan

Camp Gladiator

Alligator Dental

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Evelyn Arentz

Sarah Donhauser,

GCCAC Board President

Thin Blue Line LEMC - Seguin Ch.

ZDT's Amusement Park

Jonathan Fischer

Linda Jones

CMC Steel

Jan & Paul Quello

**Silver Champions (cont.)**

First United Bank

Beth Bauchman / Beta Eta Epsilon

Starbucks

KDJ Insurance / Hochheim Prairie Farm

Mutual Branch 37

**Bronze Champions**

Lilly Morales

Danna Salinas-Harrison

Stylin' Hair Salon & Spa and Friends

Kathy Nossaman

**Champions**

Sarah Donhauser

Seguin Study Club

Ivory M. Freeman

Hochheim Prairie Mutual Ins., #50

Mel & Patty Grones

Tara Sagebiel

Jane Marley

Leap Ahead Learning

Helen Lafitte

State Representative John Kuempel

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Knights of Columbus #6358, Charity Fund

Seguin Sunrise Lions

Thomas Warner

Fearfully and Wonderfully Made

## CHILD-PARENT RELATIONSHIP THERAPY (CPRT) GROUP LAUNCHED

In June, the GCCAC launched its first Child-Parent Relationship Therapy (CPRT) group. Led by GCCAC therapist Rachel Neal, this group of parents is learning about basic play therapy facilitation skills and parenting tools to be a therapeutic agent for their child. This is specifically helpful for children who have experienced trauma because it helps reestablish the parent as a safe person. Each family received a play therapy kit (an example of a few items pictured here) with supplies to assist them in facilitating supervised at home play sessions with their children. This method also gives parents tools to navigate parenting once therapy services are completed. The CPRT group is another opportunity for families who may not be able to find or attend in-person therapy sessions on a regular basis and has been especially beneficial during the pandemic since the CPRT group is able to meet virtually. The first CPRT group will be completing their curriculum in the next few weeks and we hope to continue offering this service to families!



## AN UPDATE ON THE GCCAC'S PANDEMIC RESPONSE

The GCCAC has been continuously serving children and families since 2004 and we did not let the pandemic change that! As of now, our staff is still split into teams, our family greeter volunteers are staying at home, and most of our team members are viewing forensic interviews virtually. Some therapy clients are seen in-person, but the majority are still utilizing distance therapy. We have not been able to go into the schools to assist in teaching radKIDS, but the coaches and counselors at some of the schools were able to teach it last year, with 388 children completing the program in Spring of 2021.

We are currently discussing plans to start coming back together, but with an ever-changing virus, there is no hurry. Some volunteers who feel comfortable returning may begin that process soon. Team members have now been given the option to view forensic interviews in-person, if they would prefer. We hope to soon offer more in-person therapy sessions for the families, when requested. We will also be going back into most, if not all, of the schools to help teach radKIDS this coming school year. Of course we will have health and safety protocols in place as we make these transitions. We have worked hard to host fundraisers that keep the health and safety of our community as a priority. We will continue to do so as long as needed.



Follow us on  
**Instagram**

@gccacinfo

If you would like to receive news and updates from the GCCAC electronically, please send an email to [gccacinfo@gccac.net](mailto:gccacinfo@gccac.net) with the following information:

First and Last Name, Physical Address, and Email Address



FOLLOW US ON  
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You shop. Amazon gives.

Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and choose Guadalupe County Children's Advocacy Center as your designated charity. Make sure Amazon Smile is ON if using the Amazon app.

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The mission of the Guadalupe County Children's Advocacy Center is to advocate for and provide services to children and families when there are allegations of abuse and neglect throughout the investigation, prosecution, treatment, and prevention of child abuse, and to reduce the trauma to children by coordinating a multi-disciplinary approach.

