



The Advocate

The Newsletter of

Kids' Advocacy Place

Ten Years of Service to the Texas Hill Country

Summer 2008

Make a Difference...Volunteer!

As Kids' Advocacy Place marks its first ten years, the Board of Directors is engaged in development of a new strategic plan and the staff has expanded to four persons (see page 3) as we continue to expand our services. The success of our new plan and expansion, however, will depend upon dedicated volunteers to help meet our goals.

With that in mind, KAP is seeking volunteers to assist in several areas as described below. If you are interested in becoming a Kids' Advocacy Place volunteer, you are invited to attend our Volunteer Open House on Wednesday, October 1, from 10-11:30 a.m. Please contact us at 830.895.4527 to sign up. We look forward to seeing you!

Volunteer Needs

- **Outreach/Education.** KAP delivers a nationally-recognized program known as P.S. It's My Body, a program designed to provide children from pre-K to 7th grade awareness training to avoid abuse. **Need:** Volunteers willing

to assist staff with classroom presentations in local schools near their homes.

- **Greeters/Sitters.** When children and their families arrive at the Center, we provide an orientation to our facility and watch over the children between interviews. **Need:** Volunteers willing to come to the center on short-notice to assist our children.
- **Meal Preparation.** KAP hosts a monthly, lunchtime meeting of our community partners to review abuse cases, generally attended by 15-20 team members. **Need:** Volunteers willing to prepare and deliver a lunch a month for 20 people for our Multi-disciplinary Team.
- **Fundraising/Events.** As a non-profit, KAP must raise a significant portion of its operating budget through the community at large. **Need:** Volunteers willing to help with special events, fundraisers and mailings.

What to do if You Suspect Child Abuse

There is no waiting to report child abuse. When you suspect abuse or it is reported to you, follow the steps below.

Report it immediately to:

1. Child Protective Services at 1.800.252.5400 or your local law enforcement agency.

DO NOT wait to report until further investigation!

DO NOT delegate responsibility for reporting!

2. Write down what you asked and what the child said (in exact words, if possible).
3. When appropriate, ask the child if s/he feels safe going home. If not or you are concerned for the child's safety, call Child Protection Services.
4. If you think a child may need an immediate medical examination for injury assessment, go to or call the Emergency Room at Sid Peterson Memorial Hospital.

Sterling-Turner Foundation Awards Grant to KAP

Kids' Advocacy Place is pleased to announce the receipt of a \$15,000 grant from the Sterling-Turner Foundation. This grant will provide KAP the opportunity to expand its services to include on-site counseling for children and families who have suffered through abuse, as well as provide funding for alternative counseling in the service area. Many thanks to the Sterling-Turner Foundation!



Breaking the Cycle of Abuse
One Child at a Time

The mission of Kids' Advocacy Place is to rebuild the lives of abused children by supporting them through the investigative process; partnering with local professional agencies on abuse issues; and educating the community on child abuse prevention.

From the Director

Judy Sullivan, Executive Director

In 1998, the efforts of a group of concerned, forward-thinking citizens culminated with beginning of a non-profit organization to serve abused and neglected children and their families in the Texas Hill Country. They became the founding Board of Kids' Advocacy Place, a children's advocacy center that today serves Kerr, Kendall, Kimble, Bandera and Gillespie counties.

Hats off to them and all the volunteers, board members, community partners and local citizens who helped Kids' Advocacy Place gets its footing and establish itself during the past ten years.

As we recognize our tenth anniversary we are proud to know we have served more than 1,950 child victims and 1,300 non-offending family members.

As we have grown the services we provide have expanded. Today we provide crisis counseling, crime victim's compensation assistance, referrals to mental health and other social services, case tracking and management, and court accompaniment. And, equally important, we work closely with law enforcement and child protective services, as well as other partner agencies, to pro-

vide a cohesive effort to help the most vulnerable members of society.

Our new facility is state of the art thanks to the generosity of local foundations and other agencies, as well as the general public. The staff is knowledgeable and dedicated to helping children and their families find healing and the services they need to put their lives back together. As long as there are children being abused, we will be here. Thank you all for your support! We ask that you help us with our efforts for the next ten years as we work to end child abuse...one child at a time.

KAP's New Home A Welcome Improvement

On January 25, 2008 Kids' Advocacy Place officially opened its new facility in Kerrville. The reception was attended by more than 40 people, including donors, professional community partners and other interested officials. As the photos show, our new facility is a great improvement for our children, families and partner agencies. Grants from the Floyd A. and Kathleen Cailloux Foundation (\$76,000) and the Hill Country Charity Ball (\$55,000) provided the funding for the renovations and new children's room known as the "Toy Box," respectively.

In addition to these generous gifts, a wonderful gift of \$20,000 in honor of Helen Hoppers (photo below) for Helen's long time work with children was made for the caregivers waiting room, which was named in her honor.



Kids' Advocacy Place Donors

We want to thank the following donors for their important financial support for the past year. Without your support the work we do for children would not be possible. *Thank You!!*

Benefactor (\$10,000+):

Helen Hoppess

Friend (\$5,000-\$9,999):

William Noel

Robert Porcher Fund

Leader (\$1,000-\$4,999):

Ruth McLean Bowers

First Presbyterian Church

Rick & Gloria Louk

Patron (\$500-\$999):

Woodmen of the World

Sustainer (\$100-\$499):

Voy & Elizabeth Althaus

Cecil & Vicki Arnold

Amos Barton

Billy Gene's Restaurant

Boerne Optimist Club

Dr. Michael Borchers

Gibson Discount Center

Molly & B. Lucas Harper

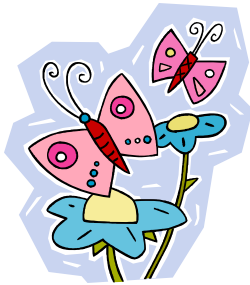
Johnny & Kathy Hawkins

James Avery Craftsman

Junction National Bank

Mr. & Mrs. Don Maltman

Ginger L. Mitchell



Sustainer (cont.)

Mr. & Mrs. Brad Risinger

Stanley & Winnie Walters

Keith & Dr. Andrea Wilson

John & Karen Young

Member (\$1-\$99):

John & Kathy Banik

Bank of the Hills

John W. Carlson, P.C.

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Eastland

Gamblin Electric Company

Jesse & Angelita Garza

Geraldine Hatchett

Huser Construction Co., Inc.

Mr. & Mrs. Hamp Johnston

K & J Control, Inc.

Jo Ann Krauskopf

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry M. Luckenbach

Bill & Tricia Mathews

Mr. & Mrs. Arthur L. Mudge

Dr. & Mrs. Donald J. Priour

Mrs. J. P. Rieck

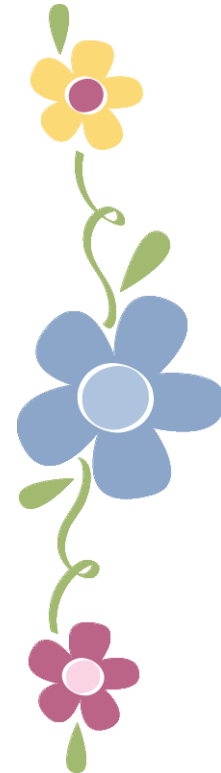
Major Robert & Janice Robson

Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Stech

Wagonmaster, Inc.

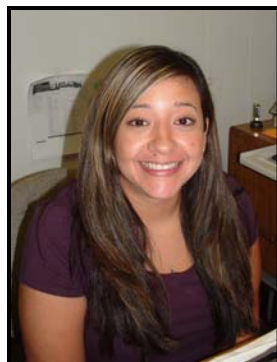
Nina & Bob Weinberg

William C. & Antoinette M. Childs Foundation



Meet Magda

Kids's Advocacy Place is pleased to have Magda Riveros-Valenzuela join its staff as our new Case Manager. Besides working with clients, Magda is also coordinating outreach programs for school children as well as training for teachers and parents. Magda received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology in May from Schreiner University. She completed internships with K-Star and Kerr County Juvenile Probation before joining the staff. She has just begun graduate studies at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio. Magda is married and has two children, ages one and four. We welcome Magda to our team!



To Learn More About KAP...

Kids' Advocacy Place offers a 20-30 minute presentation to civic, church and other groups interested in learning more about our organization. This presentation will highlight the work we do for children and their non-offending caregivers, how KAP works with other community organizations and show how individuals can become involved as volunteers or provide financial support.

The presentation will also share the realities of child abuse locally in a sensitive and caring manner. To schedule a presentation for your group, please call KAP at 830.895.4527. Please plan to give a one-month lead time for your presentation.

Give a Gift for a Child

The work performed by Kids' Advocacy Place is accomplished because of the financial support we receive through grants and donations. Without these monies, we would not be able to continue our work.

Please consider a donation of \$50, \$75 or more to Kids' Advocacy Place. Your donation is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law and you will know that it is going to an effort that is a critical first step in a child's recovery from one of the most heinous crimes committed against the youngest members of our society.

Thank You!

Name_____

Street Address_____

Town, State, ZIP_____

**Please make your check out to:
Kids' Advocacy Place**

Yes! I would like to make a donation to Kids' Advocacy Place in the amount of:

___\$25 ___\$50 ___\$75 ___\$100 ___\$250 ___\$500 ___Other

Please send this form and your generous donation to: Kid's Advocacy Place, P. O. Box 291722, Kerrville, TX 78029.

Kids' Advocacy Place
P. O. Box 291722
Kerrville, TX 78028



Breaking the Cycle of Abuse...One Child at a Time.