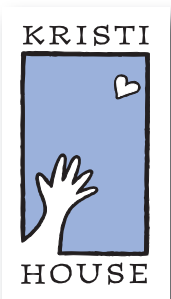


1995-  
2015



**KRISTI HOUSE, INC.**  
Orlowitz-Lee Children's Advocacy Center



*20 Years of Healing the Hurt of Childhood Sexual Abuse*

# Message from the Director



Claudia Kitchens  
Executive Director

Kristi House is celebrating a milestone year in 2015: 20 years of healing the hearts of children who have been sexually abused.

For two decades, Kristi House has been filling a critical need in Miami-Dade County for specialized and coordinated services for child sexual abuse victims, providing evidence-based treatment and services to 13,750 children and their families since we opened our doors. Last year, we opened 1,091 cases in Case Coordination, Therapy, Level of Care Assessments and Project GOLD.

## Coming Together for the Victims

Before Kristi House, children who were victims of sexual abuse were slipping through the cracks of the legal and social service systems and were not receiving the help they needed. Victims were undergoing multiple interviews in numerous locations, which only served to compound their trauma, being forced to relive it with every retelling. The system of care, rather than helping victims, was deterring families from seeking help. Kristi House was created to address this need, and remains the only organization in Miami-Dade dedicated exclusively to child sexual abuse.

## A Caring Community

Our work has only been possible with incredible community support from the private and public sectors. Local, state and federal elected leaders have recognized the deeply damaging impact of child sexual abuse and commercial sexual exploitation, and have put some resources in place to help victims and survivors.

A growing awareness among the general public of the debilitating effects of untreated child sexual abuse has resulted in individuals, corporations and community groups giving of their time, talent and treasure to help children who have been robbed of their innocence by sexual predators.

## Healing the Hurt

Although sexual abuse is pervasive throughout all races, classes and cultures, the families that make it to our doors at Kristi House usually do not have the resources to obtain services on their own, and find very few other agencies that offer free, evidence-based mental health services. Providing services at no cost to families is essential for clients who would probably not be able to access this level of care in a timely manner anywhere else.

The families served at Kristi House are typically struggling with multiple economic and social stressors, compounded by the turmoil and family upheaval wrought by allegations of sexual abuse. Kristi House provides a full continuum of wrap-around services and care for victims and their families to address the multiple family needs, including these services:

- Wrap-around Case Coordination and Case Management
- Evidence-based Therapy
- Transportation
- Prevention Education and Outreach
- Comprehensive Level of Care Assessments
- Client Emergency Assistance and Pantry
- Specialized services for youth who are Commercially Sexually Exploited provided through our Project GOLD Drop In Center, the only one of its kind in the state

The Children's Advocacy Center partners who make up the multidisciplinary team — police, prosecutors, guardians and medical professionals — work closely with case coordinators and therapists to help the children and families through the crisis and on to healing. They come together around cases every Friday to ensure that children receive the care and services they need and do not fall through the gaps in the system.

## Mental Health Expertise

Therapy is a critical component in helping children overcome the trauma of child sexual abuse. Kristi House's mental health unit is a leader in the country for evidence-based treatment for child sexual-related trauma and is one of a very few agencies in Miami-Dade County providing specialized mental health services regardless of families' ability to pay.

Untreated child sexual abuse often manifests itself in health, sexual and social problems throughout life, at a tremendous personal toll and with a lifetime cost to society upwards of \$210,000 per victim, according to the CDC. Kristi House has made providing therapy a priority, with its approach grounded in Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy, the only intervention with empirical data proving its effectiveness for child sexual abuse victims. We are fortunate to continue to have our preeminent child trauma expert Jon A. Shaw, MD, from University of Miami Miller School of Medicine on our team and providing psychiatric evaluations for any child in need during intake or at any point throughout the course of treatment.

In the past year Miami has continued to run its major federal SAMHSA grant, the Miami C-START Project, for strengthening the system of care for child sexual-related trauma in Miami, particularly in the foster care system. See details about the Program Snapshot on page 8.

## Leadership in Addressing Child Sex Trafficking

Kristi House's Project GOLD addresses the needs of children and youth who are victims of commercial sexual exploitation. The program operates the State's only Drop In Center dedicated to sex trafficking victims, based in a beautifully restored home on a large lot in an urban Miami neighborhood. The program provides girls counseling, enrichment programs and supportive services to help them escape dangerous lives under the control of perpetrators and traffickers.

Since launching Project GOLD in 2007, Kristi House has become a leader in the state and nation around the issue of child sex trafficking, receiving major fed-

eral grants from the U.S. Department of Justice and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation support for its groundbreaking work. Kristi House authored and advocated for Florida's Safe Harbor Act, which became law in 2013. Kristi House has added boys and LGBTQI youth to its program scope through partnerships with other specialist service providers.

### KRISTI HOUSE, Inc. Orlowitz-Lee Children's Advocacy Center

*Coming together for the benefit of child-victims, we salute our multidisciplinary partners:*

- State Attorney's Office
- Miami-Dade County Police
- City of Miami Police
- Department of Children and Families
- Guardian ad Litem
- Child Protection Team, University of Miami
- Rape Treatment Center, Jackson Hospital

## Hope for the Future

As heartrending and traumatic as child sexual abuse is, Kristi House has found through years of practice that with culturally sensitive, evidence-based intervention, children and families can heal from child sexual abuse. Documented outcomes by Kristi House in its nearly two decades of practice have repeatedly demonstrated that children and families who complete services at Kristi House function better across many domains. Families who have received services from us, and those who have taken preventative educational courses with us, have increased protective factors and decreased risk factors to better protect their children in the future. This is our goal for all children of Miami-Dade. We know there is much work to be done. Thank you for being there with us.

# Thank You to Kristi House Donors & Grantors

Kristi House gratefully acknowledges all those whose generous contributions help children and families in our community.\*

## Public & Private Grants

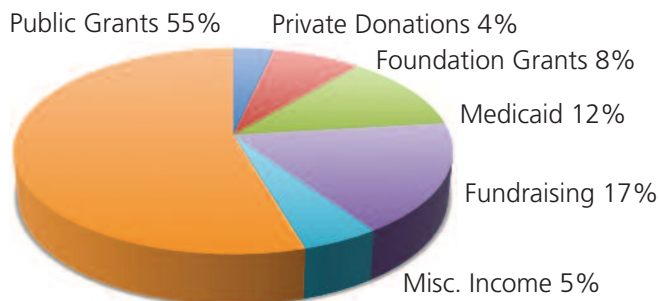
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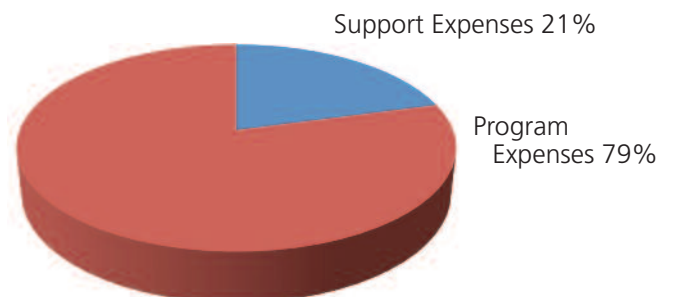
## Financial Snapshot

Through grants, special events and philanthropy, Kristi House raised \$3,062,290 in revenue in FY 2014-15 for program services and management.

### Revenues 2014-15



### Expenses 2014-15



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