Child Sexual Abuse is a community problem. We must work together to find ways to protect and treat our children. Kristi House is doing just that. We are here for the children.

Child Sexual Abuse Statistics

- National studies find that 1 out of 10 children will be sexually abused by their 18th birthday.
- Ninety percent of sexually abused children are abused by family members or someone the family knows and trusts, and only 10% by strangers.
- 1 in 7 children are solicited on the Internet.
- Nearly 70% of all reported sexual assaults (including assaults on adults) occur to children ages 17 and under.
- An estimated 39 million survivors of sexual abuse exist in America today.
- The median age for reported sexual abuse is 9 years old.
- The majority of sexual assaults on juveniles occur in a residence, in the afternoon.
- Research suggests that in a quarter to a half of all cases of child sexual abuse the perpetrators are children acting out on other children.
- 40% of suspected child abuse cases also include a history of domestic violence.

We Need Your Help
Donations from individuals and community groups will ensure that Kristi House and the Orlowitz-Lee Children’s Advocacy Center will be able to continue providing quality services and programs to children in Miami-Dade County. We turn no child in need away and don’t charge families for our services so that cost is never a barrier to getting help.

All gifts to Kristi House are tax-deductible. A wide range of giving programs is available. Please call Kristi House for more information.

Other Ways to Help
In addition to financial contributions, the Center can use donated items such as new toys and books, non-perishable food for our client emergency food pantry, baby and toiletry supplies, gift cards and school supplies.

Volunteering is another way you can participate. Kristi House welcomes you to join the growing team of dedicated volunteers who give their time and talents to help children in need. Details on volunteer registration form online at www.kristihouse.org

Kristi House Education & Outreach is supported, in part, by:

www.kristihouse.org
The Tragedy of Child Sexual Abuse

There are more than 41,000 reports of child sexual abuse in Florida each year. In Miami–Dade County alone there are nearly 2,000. But these figures don’t tell the whole story. There are countless other children who are sexually abused every day who keep their secret locked away, sometimes for their entire lives. How do we reach these children? Who are they? What do we do if we suspect a child is being abused? Where do I turn if my child is sexually abused?

Kristi House is here to answer these questions.

Kristi House Serves the Children

Kristi House is a non-profit organization providing services for children and their families, who are victims of sexual abuse. Formed in 1996, Kristi House was named for a 9-year-old girl who was sexually abused and impregnated by her mother’s boyfriend, giving birth at age 10. Sadly, her case is not unique. Many of Kristi House’s clients find themselves in similar situations, but these children now have a safe place to go for help.

In 1997 Ellis K. Orlowitz and Enid Lee made a $1 million donation, and with $2 million raised from the private sector, the Kristi House, Orlowitz-Lee Children’s Advocacy Center was built. This child-centered facility opened its doors in 1999 and houses law enforcement, child protective, medical, legal and mental health agencies all under one roof.

Through the advocacy center, Kristi House serves sexually abused children by providing a community resource, a treatment center and a bridge to law enforcement. They combine all the services a victim and his/her family will need to help start the healing process.

What is Child Sexual Abuse?

Child sexual abuse is defined as any and all sexual contact between an adult and a child. This includes physical acts such as: fondling, inappropriate touching, rape or attempted rape, or using a child to create pornography. Sexual abuse acts can also be nonphysical such as, indecent exposure, talk about sex designed to shock a child, or allowing a child to watch or hear sexual acts or materials.

Sexual contact between two juveniles can also be abusive if there is a significant difference in age, size or development. Sexual abuse involves a sexual activity with a child where consent is not or cannot be given.

Under Florida law, health care professionals, teachers and school personnel, law enforcement, social workers and day care professionals must contact authorities when they suspect abuse. However, reporting is not limited to these professionals. Anyone who has knowledge or suspicion of child abuse should contact the Florida Department of Children and Families at 1-800-96-ABUSE (1-800-962-2873) or local law enforcement.

Healing the Hurt

Services Kristi House Offers

CASE COORDINATION – Kristi House case coordinators work directly with families to help them through the crisis, stabilize and connect them to an array of supportive services and agencies. We work in collaboration with the State Attorney’s Office, law enforcement and the Florida Department of Children and Families to provide wrap-around services during these difficult times for families.

THERAPY & REFERRAL SERVICES – Individual, group and family therapy services are provided at the Center and its three satellite locations in neighborhoods closer to clients. Evidence based treatment protocols with proven results for child sexual abuse victim are used.

PREVENTION & OUTREACH – Kristi House provides education and prevention programs in child sexual abuse and child sex trafficking specifically geared for Parents and Caregivers; Children from PreK to High School; Service Providers and other child-serving professionals.

TRANSPORTATION – Kristi House provides transportation for families in an effort to eliminate a potential major barrier to treatment. The Kristi House Vans transport victims and their families from their homes or schools to therapy and other appointments.

RESEARCH – University of Miami is partnering with Kristi House on research into mental health outcomes in an effort to continually provide the best possible services and interventions for children and families.

COMMERCIALY SEXUALLY EXPLOITED CHILDREN – Kristi House has played a leadership role in improving the community response to the commercial sexual exploitation of children. Often misidentified as criminals instead of victims, most of these children, typically girls and as young at 12 or 13, were sexually abused before becoming commercially sexually exploited. The Project GOLD Drop In Center provides case coordination, enrichment programs and mental health services.

State Attorney’s Office Services

The Children’s and Special Needs Unit of the State Attorney’s Office, is housed at the Orlowitz-Lee Children’s Advocacy Center and provides recorded forensic interviews that are used by the State Attorney to prosecute perpetrators of child abuse. These taped interviews limit the number of times a child must tell the story of his/her abuse, reducing the need to relive the trauma.

Other partner agencies include:

• University of Miami Child Protection Team
• Local Law Enforcement Agencies
• Florida Department of Children and Families
• Guardian Ad Litem Program
• Jackson Hospital Roxcy Bolton Rape Treatment Center