



## HEALING THE FUTURE

Kristi House Children's Advocacy Center is dedicated to helping children and families overcome trauma.

[WWW.KRISTIHOUSE.ORG](http://WWW.KRISTIHOUSE.ORG)



### STEPS ADULTS CAN TAKE TO PROTECT CHILDREN

These guidelines provide simple and practical actions you can take to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse.

#### STEP 1 LEARN THE FACTS

The facts about child sexual abuse can be staggering, but they can help us understand the risks children face.

#### STEP 2 MINIMIZE OPPORTUNITY

If you eliminate opportunities for children to be in isolated, one-on-one situations, you can dramatically reduce the risk of abuse.

#### STEP 3 TALK ABOUT IT

Children often keep abuse a secret, but talking openly about our bodies, sex, and boundaries can encourage children to share.

#### STEP 4 RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS

Don't expect obvious signs when a child is being abused. Signs are often there, but you have to know what to look for.

#### STEP 5 REACT RESPONSIBLY

Be prepared to react responsibly if a child discloses abuse to you, or if you suspect or see that boundaries have been violated.



### BRINGING A TEAM TOGETHER FOR EACH CHILD

Kristi House coordinates a team of agency partners dedicated to providing medical, legal, advocacy and support services children and families need to stabilize and heal. These partners have been working together for 20 years, intent on healing children and holding the perpetrators responsible. Partners include:

- FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
- GUARDIAN AD LITEM
- JACKSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL RAPE TREATMENT CENTER
- LAW ENFORCEMENT
- STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
- UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI CHILD PROTECTION TEAM

**KRISTI HOUSE** is here to help children and their families overcome traumatic events and avoid further suffering. We know what it takes to heal children, and do so every day.

We provide children and their families with proven, evidence-based mental health services which enable them to get past the trauma and go on with their lives. In most cases, children and youth who complete treatment with Kristi House are stronger than ever.

### CHILDHOOD TRAUMA CAN BE OVERCOME

**One in two** children will experience at least one type of the following childhood traumas:

- SEXUAL ABUSE
- PHYSICAL ABUSE
- BULLYING
- PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE
- COMMUNITY VIOLENCE
- NATURAL DISASTER
- BEREAVEMENT



Children who experience abuse and other forms of trauma face life-long serious emotional and social consequences — depression, anxiety, post traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, physical health problems, education and career challenges — to name a few.

To overcome potentially devastating, long-lasting effects, Kristi House coordinates all the services a victim and his/her family will need for the healing process. We provide treatment, link families to other needed community resources, and serve as a bridge to law enforcement.





### SERVICES AT NO COST TO FAMILIES

Kristi House does not charge for its services and never turns away a child in need. This is possible thanks to support from individuals, corporations and community groups, along with public grant funds, that ensure quality services and programs to children in Miami-Dade County. All gifts to Kristi House are tax-deductible. Please call us for more information or visit our website.

### MANDATED REPORTER AND WHAT IT MEANS

In Florida, any person who knows, or has reasonable cause to suspect, that a child is abused, neglected, or abandoned by a parent, legal custodian, caregiver, or other person responsible for the child's welfare shall immediately report such knowledge or suspicion to the Abuse Hotline of the Florida Department of Children and Families.

Reports can be made by phone or online:

**1.800.96ABUSE**

<https://ReportAbuse@dcf.state.fl.us>



### IN THE WORDS OF A CLIENT & PARENT

*"My experience at Kristi House was amazing. The entire staff was warm and welcoming. My therapist was such an enormous help for me, I always felt like I could confide in her and she'd help me with anything. The coping exercises and information sessions helped me understand my feelings. For all of this, I am forever thankful."*

-15-year-old girl

*"I appreciate from the bottom of my heart the assistance my son received, especially the help he got from his therapist. May God bless you all."*

-Mom of 8-year-old boy



### EDUCATION & TRAINING

Prevention education is key to keeping our community's children safe. These programs are available at no cost:

- STEWARDS OF CHILDREN
- CHILDREN & TRAUMATIC STRESS
- COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN (TRAFFICKING) – "CSEC 101"
- CHILDREN WITH PROBLEMATIC SEXUAL BEHAVIOR
- TEEN DATING SAFETY
- HURRICANE TRAUMA TRAINING FOR FAMILIES
- CHILD SAFETY MATTERS



### LOCATIONS

All services begin at our main Kristi House Children's Advocacy Center location where our agency partners are co-located. Thereafter, neighborhood locations are available for appointments with Therapists and Family Advocates.

#### MAIN

1265 NW 12 Avenue  
Miami, FL 33136  
305-547-6800

#### PROJECT GOLD DROP IN CENTER

305-547-6850

#### WWW.KRISTIHOUSE.ORG

This project was supported by Award #VOCA-2018-Kristi House-00044 awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs. Sponsored by Kristi House, Inc. and the State of Florida. Kristi House is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

#### MIAMI GARDENS

18425 NW 2nd Avenue  
Suite PH-9  
Miami, FL 33169  
305-547-6870

#### NARANJA

Naranja Community Center  
13955 SW 264 Street  
Naranja, FL 33032  
786-481-5885

#### PALMETTO BAY

8925 SW 148 Street  
Suite 213  
Miami, FL 33176  
305-547-6890

#### HOMESTEAD

Campbell Shoppes  
2008 NE 8 Street  
Homestead, FL 33033  
305-547-6810

