

# HEALING THE FUTURE

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



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.

## **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

## 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.



## 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-onone situations, you candramatically reduce the risk of abuse.

### **STEP 3: TALK ABOUT IT**

Children often keep abuse a secret, but talking openly about our bodies, sex, andboundaries 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 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.

## **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 generous 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

### MANDATED REPORTER AND WHAT IT MEANS

or visit our website.

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. **1.800.96ABUSE** 



# 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

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## **LOCATIONS**

All services begin at our main Kristi House Children's Advocacy



#### **KRISTI HOUSE MAIN LOCATION**

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

#### MIAMI GARDENS

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

#### **PALMETTO BAY**

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

#### PROJECT GOLD DROP IN CENTERS

305-547-6850

#### **HOMESTEAD**

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

#### **NARANJA**

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



















