

# KRISTI HOUSE

YEAR IN REVIEW FY 2020-21

**Kristi House is focused on healing all forms of child trauma, with a 26-year specialization in treating child sexual abuse and 14 years in sex trafficking.** We are dedicated to healing the victims, holding the perpetrators responsible, and integrating the systems of investigation, prosecution and treatment.

As the nationally accredited and State-designated Children's Advocacy Center for Miami-Dade County, we remain the only facility in Miami that co-locates and coordinates with community partners to ensure that all emotional, physical and legal needs for child victims of sexual abuse are provided. Our Project GOLD program operates the state's first specialized Drop-In Center for sex trafficked children.

All Miami-Dade children and youth are eligible for Kristi House services up to age 18 who disclose abuse, where abuse is suspected, and/or who are in the early stages of investigation and prosecution. Cases are referred to Kristi House by law enforcement, DCF, schools and from a network of service providers built over the years.

With most of the children we serve from socio-economically challenged households and many involved in child welfare, all services are free to clients and their families so that fees are never a barrier to help for a child. We operate with the goal to never turn away a child in need.

## SERVICES PROVIDED:

- Family Advocacy
- Therapy
- Transportation
- Emergency Client Assistance
- Prevention Education & Training
- Project GOLD for trafficking survivors

6

**LOCATIONS**  
plus telehealth

14

years specialization in treating  
**CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING**

26

years specialization in treating  
**CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE**

22,290

**CHILD-VICTIMS SERVED**  
since founding in 1995

143,000

**CHILDREN & ADULTS TRAINED**  
since founding in 1995

@KRISTIHUSECAC



# KRISTI HOUSE TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS FY 2020-21



A record **1,940 children and their families** were referred to Kristi House Children's Advocacy Center.

Completed research study finding Kristi House's **telehealth (remote) therapy services were equally effective** for children overcoming the trauma of sexual abuse.



Reached an **all-time-high number of participants** in our education and training programs—1,215 children and 11,771 adults—achieved through webinars and expanded mental well-being courses.

Project GOLD continued to serve teen **girls overcoming sex trafficking** both remotely and in person at the Drop-In Center, with **82 members receiving services** during the year. In addition to care coordination, therapy and enrichment programs of all types, the program helped girls catch up in school, obtain GEDs, and assisted in three members entering higher education. Despite the pandemic, an amazing **62 jobs have been secured** by Project GOLD members since the "Bridges to the Future" career planning program began in January 2019.



**Opened a second Project GOLD Drop-In Center** in southern Miami-Dade County in June 2021, located in the heart of the Redlands of Homestead, an area of great need with limited services. The new site is helping to overcome space limitations at the main Drop-In Center, which is at capacity. Like the main Drop-In Center, this location is based in a comfortable home on a large corner lot, ideal for delivery of restorative services and healing. Girls are attending groups, getting counseling and receiving education support and career coaching sessions at the new location.

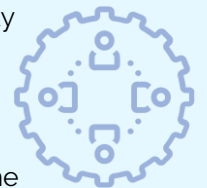


Helped secure with State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle a major Department of Justice **grant for minor sex trafficking services**.

Saw the **publication of four research articles** on Kristi House's programs in peer-reviewed scholarly journals in 2020 and 2021 including in *Child Abuse & Neglect* and *Journal of Human Trafficking*.



Conducted **yearlong learning collaborative in the evidence-based intervention** to treat trauma and risky behaviors/substance abuse, Risk Reduction through Family Therapy. Our therapy and human trafficking staff members and staff from three other organizations participated in the training with the goal of increasing capacity to treat child trauma.



Granted an Affiliate Agreement from Miami-Dade County Public Schools **providing for Kristi House services and programs in all schools**, superseding the usual school-by-school agreement process.



Hosted "Sky's the Limit" Gala at 20 socially distanced locations, **surpassing recent years' fundraising proceeds** and winning the "Best Virtual Event of 2021" award from the Greater Miami Festivals & Events Association.



Invited and presented sessions at several **national conferences and forums**, via webinars, reaching thousands of participants.