Impact Report

2022-2023







About Kristi House

MISSION

Kristi House is dedicated to treating and preventing child sexual abuse, trafficking and other childhood trauma, working closely with community partners, parents and providers.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Kristi House provided services to 1,570 children and their families during CY 2023 at its main center and satellite locations in Miami-Dade County. A staff of 73 full-time and eight part-time members provided advocacy, therapy, transportation, education and other supportive services to help children and their families heal from the trauma of sexual abuse, sex trafficking and other child trauma.

PARTNERS KEY TO SUCCESSFUL APPROACH

Eight agency-partners worked collaboratively to help children and families overcome the abuse, and hold the perpetrators responsible. These partners address the victim and family's medical, legal, emotional and concrete needs. We salute our **Multidisciplinary Team** working together for more than two decades:

- State Attorney's Office
- Florida Department of Children & Families
- University of Miami Child Protection Team
- Jackson Hospital Roxcy Bolton Rape Treatment Center
- · Guardian ad Litem
- · City of Miami Police
- Miami-Dade Police

A COMMUNITY OF SUPPORT

Kristi House is fortunate to have support from individuals, corporations, foundations, public officials and public entities to enable us to serve children with trauma throughout Miami-Dade. This report highlights Kristi House activities in 2023.

Donations from the community for our emergency food pantry help ease some worries for Kristi House families, and enable them to focus on healing the hurt of abuse. Thanks to all involved in providing vital assistance to families served at Kristi House.





Message from CEO Amanda G. Altman, Esq.



T HAS BEEN A PRIVILEGE to serve as Kristi House CEO for the past four years. Despite the many challenges we have all faced, and thanks to a community of support, Kristi House has continued to grow, serving more children than ever before, making them whole again, fortifying families and preventing more victims.

KRISTI HOUSE knows what it takes to heal children, and does 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.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT CHILDREN who experience abuse and other forms of trauma get help from experienced

professionals. Most victims left untreated 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 the 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.

KRISTI HOUSE IS A BEACON OF HOPE for families, fortified by our dedicated Multi-disciplinary Team partners and the tremendous support we receive from the community.

WITH THE CONTINUED SUPPORT of a caring community and committed board, staff and volunteers, we pledge to continue our work to eradicate child sexual abuse and sex trafficking, and to heal the future. ■



"The staff always was always available for my child and me.

They were supportive about our situation. I am very thankful
for the services and the help for my daughter. Her outlook and
attitude are so much better."



Highlights of Community Impact

CORE SERVICES

Kristi House continued providing its specialized services for treating child sexual abuse as well as other child traumas wrought by abuse, grief, family and community violence. At the Children's Advocacy Center, eight agency partners worked to heal the victims and hold the perpetrators responsible. Kristi House **services remained 100% free to children and families** and included Therapy, Family Advocacy, Transportation, Emergency Support and Prevention Education and Training.



Kristi House and its partners in southernmost Miami-Dade County gather to outreach to migrant farm workers to provide support and linkages to service providers as well as awareness of human trafficking.

PREVENTION EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Kristi House reached **13,242** service providers, parents, youth and other community members with education and training courses presented by our team of multilingual education specialists.

- We continued expanding our programs in mental wellbeing thanks to continued support from from Florida Blue Foundation, the Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation and Heckscher Foundation for Children.
- Kristi House educators and Project GOLD leaders presented their third annual Human
 Trafficking Symposium in January 2023 with 815 participants logging in from South Florida and around the country.
- We added safety and prevention geared for **K-3**, social & emotional health reading circles for small children at local libraries, and trainings on **community violence and trauma**.
- We introduced new evidence-based curricula including from the One Love organization that covers intimate **healthy and unhealthy relationships** for teens.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR STAFF AND THE FIELD

- Trainings provided for Kristi House staff and community partners included a six-month learning
 collaborative on Motivational Interviewing, a program on the impact of family violence on
 children, a day-long symposium on fostering teen resiliency, and a two-day workshop on
 secondary trauma for direct service workers and clinicians and a day learning about trauma
 and risky behaviors.
- Kristi House continued sharing what we learn with the field with the help of our distinguished research partners at Florida International University and University of Miami who guide this work and enable dissemination of our findings in scholary, peer-reviewed journals.
- Staff presented five sessions at major statewide and national conferences.
- Began year-long community based learning collaborative training and practice program on Trauma-Focused
 Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for 60 clinicians and care coordinators from throughout Miami as part of our C-START project.

SUSTAINING OUR WORK...

- Began second three-year U.S. Department of Justice grant to provide young women in **Project** GOLD with educational support, jobs training and career planning in our "Bridges to the Future" program.
- Began five-year grant from The Children's Trust to lead community-wide human trafficking work.
- Continued expansion of our social media reach.



Kristi House Therapists and Family Advocates at a training on children with trauma and risky behaivors.



SERVICE STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Calendar Year 2023



Total Children Served at the Kristi House Children's Advocacy Center

Referrals of Children	1,570
Average Age at Intake	11 years
Therapy Sessions	6,295
Family Advocacy Services	16,620
Education Program Hours	547
Education Program Participants	13,242
Transportation - Trips	2,127
Project GOLD Members	
Psychiatric Evaluations & Follow Ups	221



Programs



THERAPY

herapy is a critical component in helping children overcome the trauma of abuse. While child sexual abuse has been Kristi House's specialty since founding, its mental health unit has the proven treatment interventions for many types of childhood trauma including problematic sexual behavior, physical abuse, and substance abuse combined with trauma. Kristi House is one of very few agencies in Miami-Dade County providing specialized mental health services for child trauma regardless of families' ability to pay. Because untreated child trauma often manifests itself in health, sexual and social problems throughout life, it is vitally important that Kristi House provides abused children with mental health services.

FAMILY ADVOCACY

Because the legal system can be difficult to negotiate, and gaining access to supportive agencies and therapy can also be complicated, Kristi House Family Advocates work directly with families to facilitate these processes. They determine the needs of children and families, make referrals for needed services, and assist families in accessing those services. They also coordinate services with our partner-agencies in the Center and community to help reduce system trauma. Kristi House provides a vital support system to victims, encouraging them to pursue all avenues of treatment and all legal means to stop the abuse and ensure long-term recovery. ■



TRANSPORTATION

Providing transportation is critical to many of the families we serve, enabling access and improving client outcomes. Public transportation does not reach many of our families who are without vehicles. Kristi House added a fourth transportation route this year in the southern end of Miami-Dade to help ensure children can get to us in one of our five locations. Project GOLD drivers transport girls every afternoon for group programs, therapy and educational support at the Drop In Center. Transportation ensures all children and teens can get to Kristi House services safely. ■

PROYECTO BRAZOS ABIERTOS

Kristi House's *Proyecto Brazos Abiertos (Project Open Arms)* began in 2019 to provide free, evidence-based therapy and care coordination services to minors designated as unaccompanied minors immigrating to the U.S. who have experienced trauma. Many of these youth are in residence at shelters in South Florida while efforts are made to place them with relatives or other sponsors in the U.S.



A large portion of these youth, some of whom have been separated from their parents upon arrival, are suffering from separation trauma, anxiety and PTSD symptoms as a result of their journeys and their experiences in their home countries. Kristi House is continuing to provide services when needed for post-release youth who have been placed with families.



"You are great people with great hearts. My child went through some terrible things and you helped him out, and you even helped me too."

-KRISTI HOUSE PARENT

CLIENT SUPPORT & SPECIAL EVENTS

n addition to food drives, toy drives and back-to-school drives, the community never lets our Kristi House families down at the holidays with special events and parties for all the seasonal celebrations.









Education and Outreach

With national studies finding 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys will be sexually abused by the age of 18, and 1 out of 2 children suffering some type of trauma during their childhood, Kristi House is dedicated to child abuse prevention through training and education. We deliver best practice programs for schools, community groups, corporations and faith-based organizations, with different courses specifically geared for children,



parents and service providers. Since founding, Kristi House has provided classes, training and education programs to more than 157,400 participants. We continue to focus on ways to secure support to expand education and outreach to keep more kids safe.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS & SERVICE PROVIDERS

- What Every Adult Needs to Know
- Stewards of Children
- Children and Traumatic Stress
- Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC 101)
- Children with Problematic Sexual Behavior
- Project HeadSTRONG: Mental Health
- Escalation The Story of an Abusive Relationship
- Hurricanes: Supporting Families through Trauma
- How Mass Violence Impacts Youth

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN & TEENS

- Child Safety Matters™
- Teen Safety Matters™
- Commercial Sexual Exploitation Safety
- NetSmartz™ Online Safety
- Not a #Number™ Teen Sex Trafficking Prevention program
- Stay Safe Teen Dating
- Internet Safety
- One Love's Healthy Relationship series

MIAMI C-START PROJECT

risti House reached hundreds of Miami therapists an case workers with training in evidence-based interventions through its C-START project, carried out in 2012-2022 with major federal support.

Kristi House's decade of success and its plan to further expand training garnered another five years of funding for C-START from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services – Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), The goal of C-START remains to increase community-wide capacity to treat child trauma.

Kristi House will bring master trainers to Miami to lead yearlong training and practice programs on screening, referring and delivering evidence-based interventions.



Learning collaboratives will focus on Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and its cultural modifications for Hispanic/Latino families; Problematic Sexual Behavior Cognitive Behavioral Therapy; and Risk Reduction through Family Therapy.

In 2023-28, Kristi House will also focus on trauma and underserved communities. ■

08 EDUCATION AND OUTREACH



Child Sex Trafficking

PROJECT GOLD

Project GOLD uses a strengths-based, survivor-led approach for commercially sexually exploited girls and those at risk. The Drop In Center — unique in South Florida — provides a home-like setting for engagement and delivery of restorative services, including care management, therapy, advocacy, transportation, education and recreational enrichment. It provides an alternative to a dangerous life of abuse and exploitation.

Project GOLD began its *Bridges to the Future* initiative after recognizing that in addition to wraparound services, positive adults, and a trauma-informed, survivor-focused approach, girls need vocational training, job skills and career planning to help them pursue productive futures. Launched in early 2019, *Bridges to the Future* is addressing this vital component with tutoring, financial counseling, job readiness assistance, and support for educational and professional certifications, internships and apprenticeships. The program

seeks to help girls identify their strengths to forge



linkages and routes out of trafficking. It is supported by a major grant from the U.S. Department of Justice-Office for Victims of Crime, and private funders. Corporate partners and community organizations provide internship opportunities.

During its first four years, despite the pandemic and all its challenges, young women in the *Bridges* program achieved tremendous outcomes:

- 109 participants
- 137 job placements
- 23 enrollments in post secondary education and vocational programs
- 15 returned to high school and graduated
- 8 internships
- 5 completed certification programs.



Staying Tough, Resilient and Optimistic when life's Not Great.

Fisti House began a mental well-being initiative in 2022 with a focus on helping Miamians cope with life's challenges.

Project HeadSTRONG features *Mental Health Mondays*, a series of four-part programs on six key topics: Anxiety, Grief, Depression, Anger, Shame & Guilt, and Self-esteem & Self-care. All are invited to join these community

programs to help cope with the trials life throws one's way. Sessions take place virtually on Mondays from 12 noon to 2 pm.

Other Project HeadSTRONG components are focused on delivering mental wellbeing programs to children and youth in schools and community settings, as well as to service providers who are serving children, youth and families.

All programs are free of charge thanks to the generous support of the Florida Blue

Foundation.

Foundation

CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING 09

"I'm deeply grateful for the support and education received during such a difficult time in our lives. It helped us cope and come together as a family. The counselors have been amazing."

-KRISTI HOUSE MOM

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 at 1-(800) g6ABUSE.

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.

Steps Adults Can Take to Protect Children from Sexual Abuse

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.



Summary of Financial Statements

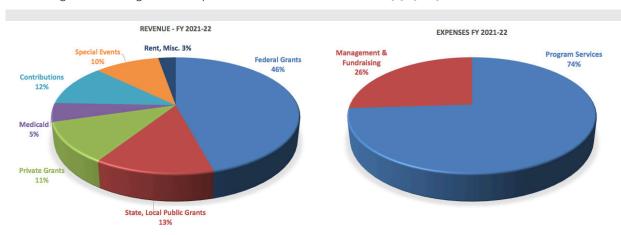


STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	2022	2021
Cash and equivalents	\$1,043,264	\$814,858
Investments, net	\$21,691	\$21,215
Grants and contributions receivable	\$874,307	\$1,132,899
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	\$37,953	\$32,266
Property and equipment, net	\$1,455,833	\$1,530,500
TOTAL ASSETS	\$3,433,048	\$3,531,738
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	2022	2021
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$209,080	\$126,923
Note payable (PPP Loan)		\$658,563
Deferred rent revenue	\$203,525	\$235,453
Deferred grant revenue	\$19,121	\$19,906
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$431,726	\$1,039,941
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions	\$2,741,008	\$2,326,807
With donor restrictions	\$260,314	\$164,990
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$3,001,322	\$2,491,797
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$3,433,048	\$3,531,738
EXPENSES	2022	2021
Program Services	\$4,227,424	\$4,187,927
Supporting Services	\$1,481,959	\$1,068,672
Total Expenses	\$5,709,383	\$5,256,599
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(\$244,360)	\$68,107



Through donations, grants and special events, Kristi House raised \$5,365,023 in revenue in FY 2021-22...



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Thank You!

to Kristi House Grantors

Kristi House gratefully acknowledges grant award funders and their help to restoring the lives of children and families in our community.*

FOUNDATION GRANTS

Airbnb Community Fund

Anthony R. Abraham Family Foundation

The Batchelor Foundation

The Alben F. Bates & Clara Bates Foundation

The Children's Trust

William J. & Isobel G. Clarke Foundation

Coral Gables Community Foundation

Dart Foundation

Florida Blue Foundation

Foundation for New Education Initiatives, Inc.

Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation

Joseph & Sherrie Garfield Charitable Foundation

The Healy Foundation

The Heckscher Foundation for Children

Kathleen Kennedy Foundation

Key Biscayne Foundation Women's Giving Circle

The Michael Klein Foundation

MARH Foundation

Miami-Dade Impact Collaborative

J.N. McArthur Foundation

The Miami Foundation

National Children's Alliance

Nicklaus Children's Hospital Foundation

Ocean Reef Community Foundation

Paul Palank Memorial Foundation

Peacock Foundation

Pledgeling Foundation

Polina and Pomp Foundation

Regions

Robert E. Rose Foundation

TSG Foundation Solis

United Way Miami Emergency Food & Shelter

Joseph Weintraub Family Foundation, Inc.

Weisfeld Family Foundation

PUBLIC GRANTS

City of Hialeah

City of Homestead

City of Miami

City of Miami Gardens

Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers

Miami-Dade County

State of Florida Office of Attorney General

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services-

Administration for Children & Families

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services— Substance Abuse Mental Health Services

Administration

U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime



Thank you National Supermarket
Association Florida for partnering with
Kristi House to raise awareness of sexual
abuse and trafficking, along with donations, through their member grocery
stores throughout South Florida.

Listing includes grants received as of 12/31/2023.

PARTNERS AND GRANTORS



Thank you to State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle for her partnership and support since Kristi House's founding. At her office with Natalie Snyder, Alan Potamkin, State Attorney Rundle and Amanda Altman.



Thank you to our partners at the Florida Network of Child Advocacy Centers for leading the charge on behalf of the 30 Centers around the state.



Thank you to Lauren Diamond, Volunteer Extraordinaire, awaiting children to entertain in the waiting area with Kristi House Mascot Mr. Blu.



Thank you to the City of Hialeah for supporting Kristi House and to the officers of Hialeah's Special Victims Unit and Homicide detectives shown here after a training with Kristi House on child traumatic stress.



Thank you Chef and Owner Brian Mullins for donating the "family supper" weekly for the members at Project GOLD, Kristi House's program for youth overcoming commercial sexual exploitation.

PARTNERS AND GRANTORS 13

Kristi House Staff*

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Amanda G. Altman, Esq., Chief Executive Officer Natalie Brown, Chief Strategy Officer Theresa Kennedy, Chief Operating Officer Vanessa Ramirez, Psy.D., Chief Program Officer Yvonne Chen, Chief Financial Officer

STAFF MEMBERS

Waleska Aguilar, Finance & Grants Assistant Yumak Alonso, Transportation Coordinator Stephanie Alvarez, Therapist Stephanie Arevalo, Family Advocate Sandra Banegas, Therapist Julie Basulto, Clinical Supervisor

Michelle Benhayon Rivas, Family Advocate

Jurmelle Bynoe, Family Advocate

Sheila Carrazana, Therapist

Lara Carter, Community Relations and Special Projects Manager

Adriana Castano, Family Advocate Denisa Causi, Development Specialist Josefina Costa, Clinical Director

Maria Couch, Therapist

America Davila, Therapist

Diosa Del Valle, Administrative Assistant

Theresa Delgado, Therapy Support

Dermys Dominguez, Family Engagement Specialist

Thomas Fleischmann, Billing Specialist
Kassandra George, Victim Services Data
Management Specialist

Natalie Gomes, Data Specialist

Ashley Gomez, Volunteer Coordinator

Jasmine Guzman, Family Advocate

Maria Henao, Therapist

Natalie Herrera, Therapist

Celeste Koerhuis, Clinical Intake Therapist

Leidy Lantigua, Family Engagement Specialist

Nancy Loza, Therapist

Christina Ludovici, Development Director

Nathalie MacGuffie, Therapist

Kamila Maldonado, Therapist

Maria Marino, Prevention Education Specialist

Luz Marrero, Receptionist-Palmetto Bay

Julia Martinez, Clinical Intake Therapist

Stephanie Maydiz, Operations Manager

Alexis Medrano, Transportation Coordinator

Toshiba Mitchell, Prevention Education Director **Michelle Monroy,** Assistant Clinical Supervisor

Cecibell Montalban, Family Advocate

Kristi Morrison, Therapist

Cristina Nevarez, Prevention Education Specialist

Wilma Pichardo Silvestre, Family Advocate

Carolina Ramirez, Therapist

Xenia Ramos, Therapist

Helen Rodriguez, Therapist

Samuel Roque, Facilities Manager

Scarlett Saldana, Therapist

Robert Senn, Fiscal Consultant

Elizabeth Silva, Therapy Support

Viviana Smith, Family Advocate

Quethcia Toussaint, Clinical Supervisor

Evelyn Valdez, Therapist

Jennifer Valle, Receptionist

Veronica Vazquez, Therapy Support

Patricia Zedler, Prevention Education Specialist

PROJECT GOLD STAFF MEMBERS

Brenna Aiossa, Supervisor Bridges Program **Clarissa Bou-assi**, Youth Advocate-Academic and

Employment Specialist

Cassandra Bradshaw, Transportation Coordinator

Bradel Canfield, Program Manager

Miriam Cotton, Academic Specialist

Kali Fabal, Director

Camila Gallardo, Engagement Specialist

Desiree Gerald, Member Support Specialist

Cherelle Herbert, Mentor

Laura Hincapie Korgi, Therapist

Ashley Martell, Group Program Coordinator

Kelly Mayorga, Lead Youth Advocate

Ricardo Rubiales, Associate Director

Mara Salinas, Lead Youth Advocate Aisya Wilson,

Lead Therapist



*As of 11/1/2023

Kristi House Board of Directors*

OFFICERS

President: ALAN POTAMKIN, Potamkin Companies

Vice President: **JENNIFER LOVE**, Royal Caribbean Cruise Line (ret)

Treasurer: LIDIJA STEFANOVA, BDO USA, LLP

Secretary: FRAN FEINBERG, ESQ., Guardian ad Litem

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CAROLYN BATCHELOR, Compass Realty

SUSAN BONNER, OneSpa World

CHRIS CRUZPINO, Regions Bank

SUSAN K. DANDES, PH.D., University of Miami Child Protection Team

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AARON A. KARGER, ESQ., Law Office of Aaron A. Karger

CARRIE LEVINE, Royal Caribbean Group

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RICHARD POWERS, iPower Technologies

ANIA C. RODRIGUEZ, Journey Track

KIM SHECHTMAN, Bermont Gold

NATALIE SNYDER, ESQ., State Attorney's Office

LIBBY WITHERSPOON, Grove Bank & Trust

*As of 11/1/2023





HELPING KIDS TO THRIVE

The Power of Ten added a Little
Free Library in Kristi House's courtyard as part of their project to
improve literacy accessibility and
increase minority representation
in reading materials. Books for
children at Kristi House are always
available.



KRISTI HOUSE CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

Main Office

1265 NW 12th Avenue Miami, Florida 33136 Tel: (305) 547-6800

www.kristihouse.org

KRISTI HOUSE SATELLITE OFFICES

Miami Gardens

111 NW 183 Street, Suite 304 Miami, FL 33169 (305) 547-6870

Project GOLD Drop In Center

(305) 547-6850

Palmetto Bay

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

Homestead

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



















KRISTI

HEALING

Kristi House Children's Advocacy Center is dedicated to helping children and

