

For families impacted by poverty,

# Your continued support allows ACH to offer vital services free of charge

For more than 100 years, ACH Child and Family Services has served our community with vital services and programs. Thanks to your support, these services are available at no charge. This is crucial, because when parents are unemployed or earn low wages, their access to resources to support their kids' development is more limited.

**Even more concerning is that poverty is a contributor to abuse and a barrier to kids being with their families.**

Texas ranks 39th out of 50 states in overall child well-being. Closer to home, in 2022, 14% of households in Tarrant County earned below the Federal Poverty Level of \$23,000 per year for a family of three. Another 30% earn more than the federal poverty level, but not enough to afford basic household necessities.



## With your support, ACH stands ready to serve all local children and families

Last year, 19% of our clients earned less than \$20,000 annually. Another 21% earned \$20,000 to \$30,000 (28% is unknown). This means at least 40% of our clients are financially challenged.

ACH understands that the well-being of our community, now and in the future, depends on our continued commitment to our mission of protecting children and preserving families (see back).

## Economic Well-Being in Texas

(Ranked 39th in the US)

	2019	2021
<b>Children in Poverty:</b> <b>1,441,000</b>	19%	20% WORSE
<b>Children whose parents lack secure employment:*</b> <b>2,111,000</b>	25%	28% WORSE
<b>Children living in households with a high housing cost burden:</b> <b>2,362,000</b>	30%	32% WORSE
<b>Teens (ages 16-19) not in school and not working:</b> <b>143,000</b>	8%	8% SAME

\*No full-time, year-round work.

Source: The 2023 Kids Count® Data Book, State Trends in Well-Being, published by the Annie E. Casey Foundation



# ACH has developed unique programs that provide critical support for income-challenged families.

## Assessment, Intervention and Referrals Service



Our 24/7 hotline is staffed by skilled, bilingual professionals who can determine the best course of action through ACH or through a referral to other community services. ***Last year, we answered 2,769 calls.***

## Pat O'Neal Youth Emergency Shelter



The county's only shelter offering 24/7 safety and care to youth ages 10-17 who are runaways, homeless or experiencing or at risk of sexual exploitation and/or trafficking. ACH works to quickly reunite them with their families or find alternative living arrangements. ***Last year, the Shelter provided temporary care for 158 youth.***

## Family Reunification



Our Kinship Connections program helps foster children who have been placed with relatives overcome the barriers of poverty and keeps families together. Similarly, Kinship Navigator provides support for the grandmother, aunt, uncle, or sibling who is raising a family member. Clothing, furniture, legal aid, food, training and counseling are some of the resources these programs can provide to those who were never expecting to be caring for children other than their own. ***Last year these programs helped 1,455 individuals in 506 homes.***

## Real Help for Real Life



Youth and Family Counseling and Skill-BUILDER Classes help with issues like anger management, bullying, reducing conflict and parenting wisely. ***Last year, these programs provided 4,894 hours of professional, bilingual counseling valued at \$1,500,000 — all free of charge.***

## Secure Assessment Facility



Opening in August 2023, this program will serve youth in the child welfare or mental health systems who find themselves in a crisis or in a transition between placements. It will provide a safe and secure temporary setting for ages 5-17 who may have a history of complex trauma. Staff can quickly stabilize crisis situations and offer the assessment and treatment needed to secure longer term placement.

## Your Continued Partnership Makes it Possible

State and government funding provides for basic support and services only. We believe our community deserves a level of care that isn't covered by this funding, and that is why we are so thankful for your support. The wonderful work you make possible brings new hope to thousands of deserving children and families.