

# April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

More than three-quarters of all child abuse cases stem from neglectful supervision. The remaining cases range from physical and sexual abuse to medical and emotional abuse, and physical neglect.

## The long-term impact is appalling.

More than their peers, childhood victims of abuse and neglect are likely to:

- develop post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- to become homeless
- to end up in the criminal justice system

## None of these outcomes are acceptable.

One abused child is one too many. Yet beyond the mental anguish, the trauma, the physical injury, and the scars for life, there's a cold hard fact: The annual cost of lost worker productivity in America due to child abuse is estimated to exceed \$65-billion.

The cost of being denied a normal childhood is immeasurable. Add the cost to society, and child abuse and neglect is unacceptable. Until we end child abuse, ACH Child and Family Services will do everything possible to make a positive difference in a child's life. But we can't do it alone!

## It takes a community.

Thank you for being an advocate! To show your support, go to:  
[ACHservices.org/Child-Abuse-Prevention-Month](https://ACHservices.org/Child-Abuse-Prevention-Month)



In 2023  
**5,332** CHILDREN WERE  
CONFIRMED  
VICTIMS OF ABUSE  
OR NEGLECT IN  
TARRANT COUNTY



## Who is the abuser?

Almost 80% of the time, a parent is identified as the abuser. Because it's so hard to rationalize, we often say it's because the parents might be too young, or they might have a drug problem. The fact is, child abusers can come from ALL walks of life, and cross every socio- and demographic line.

All too often, it's a family member or relative, or a boyfriend or girlfriend.

## Who are the victims?

Nearly half are 3 years or younger (21% are under 1 year old). Nearly a third (32%) are between 4 and 9, and almost a quarter (23%) are between 10 and 17.

