

SAFE SHORES – The DC Children’s Advocacy Center

# #Protect Kids 365

## *Safe Shores Annual Report*

**FY 2018** | October 2017 – September 2018

**FY 2019** | October 2018 – September 2019



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## About **Safe Shores – The DC Children’s Advocacy Center**

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Since 1995, Safe Shores – The DC Children’s Advocacy Center has provided intervention, hope and healing to children and families affected by child abuse in D.C. We also work to prevent child sexual abuse through education and training.



# A Note from Our Executive Director

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Dear Friend of Safe Shores:

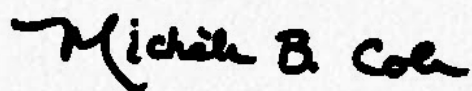
Safe Shores' twenty-four years of providing intervention, hope and healing for child victims have taught us that it's not enough to be there when a child first walks through our doors. Safe Shores needs to continue to support that child and family on their road to healing, and we must keep listening to them along the way.

Because we listen, we organized support groups for the caregivers of child victims—both in English and Spanish. Parents told us they needed to connect with others who'd had a similar experience. They didn't want to share what they were going through with family and friends; they feared being judged and the stigma associated with child sexual abuse.

So now we have a program for non-offending caregivers to come together to provide each other with a safe space for consolation, advice and encouragement to keep going in the face of tremendous anger, hurt, confusion and family upheaval.

Plus, parents get a short but needed break while we make sure their children—who are just two floors away—are well cared for and provided with good meals and fun, creative play and learning.

Helping children and families recover from the trauma of child abuse and educating adults on how to protect children is our life's work. Thank you for joining us in our mission through your support.



Michele Booth Cole, J.D.  
Executive Director

# FY 2018 Impact

## Family Advocacy

- 998** children received meals through Youth Assistance Program
- 335** Take-Care bags distributed to children
- 75** families received transportation assistance
- 60** families received emergency funds
- 371** non-offending caregivers received a needs assessment from a Family Advocate
- 19** Caregiver Support Group sessions held in English
- 15** Caregiver Support Group sessions held in Spanish

## Clinical Services

- 943** therapy sessions
- 1,101** consultation sessions with caregivers of therapy clients
- 125** referrals received
- 49** new clients enrolled

## Forensic Services

- 791** forensic interviews, of which:
  - 495** were for child sexual abuse allegations
  - 104** were for child physical abuse allegations
  - 81** were precautionary interviews of siblings for child sexual abuse
  - 34** were precautionary interviews of siblings for child physical abuse
  - 37** were precautionary interviews
  - 8** were for child witnesses to other crimes
  - 5** were adult competency interviews (*all allegations*)
  - 2** were for technology-assisted child exploitation allegations
  - 22** were for human trafficking of minors
  - 3** were for child victims of crime (*not abuse*)

## Prevention & Outreach

- 1,083** adults participated in Stewards of Children® child abuse prevention training
- 59** Stewards of Children® sessions (*in both English and Spanish*)

## Case Reviews

- 448** child sexual abuse cases reviewed
- 208** child physical abuse cases reviewed

## MDT Advancement & Support

- Held a joint training and awarded **4** scholarships for professional development

## Seasonal Drives

- 408** children received holiday gifts and school supplies from seasonal drives

## Social Media

- 1,735** Twitter followers
- 1,240** Facebook followers
- 774** Instagram followers

# FY 2019 Impact

## Family Advocacy

- 794** children received meals through Youth Assistance Program
- 331** Take-Care bags distributed to children
- 59** families received transportation assistance
- 61** families received emergency funds
- 364** non-offending caregivers received a needs assessment from a Family Advocate
- 14** Caregiver Support Group sessions held in English
- 14** Caregiver Support Group sessions held in Spanish

## Clinical Services

- 1,162** therapy sessions
- 1,172** consultation sessions with caregivers of therapy clients
- 94** referrals received
- 32** new clients enrolled

## Forensic Services

- 702** forensic interviews held, of which:
  - 452** were for child sexual abuse allegations
  - 98** were for child physical abuse allegations
  - 53** were precautionary interviews of siblings for child sexual abuse
  - 25** were precautionary interviews of siblings for child physical abuse
  - 36** were precautionary interviews
  - 18** were for child witnesses to other crimes
  - 5** were adult competency interviews (*all allegations*)
  - 2** were for technology-assisted child exploitation allegations
  - 10** were for human trafficking of minors
  - 3** were for child victims of crime (*not abuse*)

## Prevention & Outreach

- 2,268** adults participated in Stewards of Children® child abuse prevention training
- 137** Stewards of Children® sessions (*in both English and Spanish*)

## Case Reviews

- 448** child sexual abuse cases reviewed
- 209** child physical abuse cases reviewed

## MDT Advancement & Support

Held a joint training and awarded **3** scholarships for professional development

## Seasonal Drives

**487** children received holiday gifts and school supplies from seasonal drives



## Client Story

**Modesto**, 14, arrived in the United States from Guatemala to reunite with his mother, escaping a traumatic childhood marked by sexual and physical abuse and neglect. **Through therapy at Safe Shores**, Modesto developed the skills and strength to tell his story of abuse and neglect. In telling his story, Modesto was granted asylum to remain in the U.S. with his mother.

*Safe Shores is dedicated to working with and advocating for children and adolescents affected by trauma and violence.*



# Legislative Action

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## Advocating for Prevention

**Safe Shores** testified in support of the “*School Safety Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018.*” Effectively implemented, this legislation will safeguard the wellbeing of D.C. students by ensuring they are better protected from the crime of sexual abuse while in school, and by helping school faculty and staff to recognize and respond to young people experiencing abuse in or outside of school.

## Passing SAVRAA

**In November 2019**, the “*Sexual Assault Victims Rights Amendment Act of 2019 (SAVRAA)*” was passed after five years of work. Safe Shores served on a task force for the act, provided testimony to the DC Council and worked with partner organizations and agencies to educate, inform and provide recommendations on the legislation. This act added essential rights for victims of sexual assault, particularly for children and teens. SAVRAA added the right for children ages 13–17 to have access to a trauma-informed victim advocate at any hospital within D.C. One goal of the act was that victims, no matter their age, should have “*no wrong door*” to go through when getting help.

## Advocating for Mandatory Reporting Expansion

**Safe Shores** also testified in support of the “*Protecting Children Through Mandatory Reporting Act of 2019.*” If passed, this act would add clergy and religious institutions as mandatory reporters under DC law, strengthen the penalties that can be levied against mandatory reporters if they fail to report and create more robust training requirements. **This act would give children “safer places to learn, grow, worship, and play,” as stated during Executive Director Michele Booth Cole’s testimony to the DC Council.**



# Events & Public Engagement



2018's Cherishing Childhood luncheon.<sup>1</sup>

## Cherishing Childhood FY 2018

One in 10—the number of children abused by age 18—is not just a statistic to Safe Shores. It's the reason we exist. It's also the reason we hold an event each year to raise awareness, engagement and donations to end child abuse. Our 2018 Cherishing Childhood luncheon **achieved every benchmark of success** through the support of individual donors and a host of participants—including Shawn Yancy, DC Fox 5 anchor; Poet Taylor, Safe Shores board member and survivor; and The Urban Nation H.I.P.-H.O.P.



DC Fox 5 anchor Shawn Yancy reprised her role as emcee at our 2019 Cherishing Childhood luncheon.<sup>2</sup>

## Cherishing Childhood FY 2019

**The 2019 Cherishing Childhood event was equally successful.** Held in the sleek Dock5 venue, the luncheon was themed around the sense of security, warmth and magic a blanket can provide a child. Graphek Inc. created beautiful collateral and banners inspired by the theme, and staff member and talented quilter Jessica Lopez created a blanket using artwork made by the children Safe Shores serves. Attendees bid in a silent auction on the blanket to raise funds.

**Shawn Yancy** reprised her role as the emcee for the afternoon, and guests were able to delight in the musical talents of the Duke Ellington Show Choir. Window Catering Company provided the delicious entrees, and guests sampled sweets from long-time supporter Buttercream Bakeshop. The centerpieces and flower wall, where many attendees took photos, were curated by another ambassador of Safe Shores, Sweetroot Village.



Several Safe Shores' board members gather to celebrate a successful afternoon.

The highlight of the afternoon was hearing from the father of a Safe Shores client. The speaker (*whose name we have removed to protect our clients' privacy*) told of **the support he and his daughter received at Safe Shores** through the Clinical Services and Caregiver Support Group. He ended by giving the update that his daughter had completed therapy at Safe Shores and had a bright future in front of her. **Other speakers included Michele Booth Cole, Executive Director of Safe Shores**, who gave an update on what was happening within each Safe Shores program.

## Events & Public Engagement

### Coffee for Kids

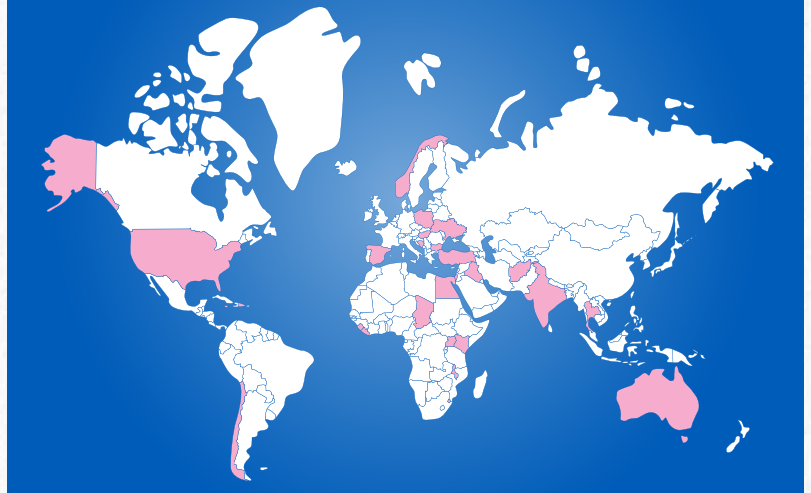
#### Coffee for Kids

**Every other Thursday morning**, Safe Shores takes visitors on a tour of our building to provide a close-up view of where and how we provide our services. We call the tour Coffee for Kids. In FY 2018, we conducted 24 tours, attended by a total of 216 guests. In FY 2019, we conducted 24 tours with 152 guests.

#### Visitors

As an accredited Children’s Advocacy Center representing the highest standards of the CAC model, Safe Shores attracts public officials worldwide who are seeking to adopt best practices for serving children and families affected by child abuse.

#### Safe Shores Welcomed Visitors from Across the Globe in 2018 and 2019



***In 2018, Safe Shores hosted tours for multinational and regional delegations from Hagerstown, MD all the way to Australia—and over 20 countries in between.***

# Audited Financials

## FY 2018

### Revenue

Government Grants	\$1,656,482
Foundation and Corporate Support	\$664,493
Contributions	\$243,146
Donated Services and Equipment	\$79,459
Investment and Other Income	\$79,532
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$2,723,112</b>

### Expenses

#### Program Services

Clinical Services Program	\$571,488
Family Advocacy Program	\$633,566
Forensic Services Program	\$392,591
Prevention & Outreach Program	\$366,028
MDT Advancement & Support Program	\$297,501
<b>Total Program Services Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,261,174</b>

#### Supporting Services

Fundraising	\$236,878
General & Administrative	\$258,296
<b>Total Support Services Expenses</b>	<b>\$495,174</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,756,348</b>

### Change In Net Assets

Net Assets, Beginning of the Year	\$2,261,242
Net Assets, End of Year	\$2,228,006

## FY 2019

### Revenue

Government Grants	\$1,830,955
Foundation and Corporate Support	\$730,233
Contributions	\$417,715
Donated Services and Equipment	\$69,493
Investment and Other Income	\$51,774
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$3,100,170</b>

### Expenses

#### Program Services

Clinical Services Program	\$589,444
Family Advocacy Program	\$686,740
Forensic Services Program	\$427,103
Prevention & Outreach Program	\$287,884
MDT Advancement & Support Program	\$230,294
<b>Total Program Services Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,318,850</b>

#### Supporting Services

Fundraising	\$287,009
General & Administrative	\$354,886
<b>Total Support Services Expenses</b>	<b>\$641,895</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,960,745</b>

### Change In Net Assets

Net Assets, Beginning of the Year	\$2,228,006
Net Assets, End of Year	\$2,367,431

## FY 2018 Executive Committee

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# Board of Directors

**Rachel S. Kronowitz**, Chair  
**Shana Glickfield**, Vice Chair  
**Joseph Geissenhainer**, Treasurer

**Lynn J. English**, Secretary  
**Rae Robinson Trotman**, At-large

### Members

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Henry Cashen II  
Tom Cicotello  
Melissa Hook  
Deborah Jospin  
Walter Kim  
Barbara Mullenex

Aruna Natarajan  
Maegan Scott  
Poet Taylor  
Michele Booth Cole, *ex officio*

## FY 2019 Executive Committee

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# Board of Directors

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**Walter Kim**, Vice Chair

**Aruna Natarajan**, Secretary  
**Maegan Scott**, At-large

### Members

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Michele Booth Cole, *ex officio*



# Safe Shores

THE DC CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

[www.safeshores.org](http://www.safeshores.org)