

VSACT Meeting Notes January 20,2021

The presenter: Children's Advocacy Center of Central Texas; Michelle **Carter Executive Director**

Services provided A safe place that offers a child friendly, comfortable environment where specialized forensic interviewers talk to children and to help investigators determine whether or not abuse has occurred. An environment where law enforcement, prosecutors and child protective service workers can investigate abuse allegations in a manner sensitive to the needs of young victims. A safe place where law enforcement, child protective services, prosecution, medical and mental health professionals can collaborate, share information and develop effective coordinated strategies sensitive to the needs of each unique case. A safe place where child abuse victims and their families receive counseling, sexual assault exams, and family advocacy services that provide hope, healing and gives them back their childhood.

The Children's Advocacy Center of Central Texas also provides community outreach, education and awareness to the community about the issues of child abuse we face.

For additional information visit the website

- Multi-disciplinary team approach working with children that have been abuse.
- Collaborative effort with local Law Enforcement, Medical Personnel
- and CPS Workers to ensure the children are cared in a timely manner and protected against any and all future abuse
- Mental health therapist- trauma specialist
- Outreach and education programs Promote healing, justice and safety through outreach.

St. Gabriel Pregnancy and Parenting- **Angelica Reyes** presented the new Family Guidance Plan.

Catholic Charities expanded services that includes a focus on mentorship and advocacy to ensure the families they serve are stronger now and in the future. This re-imagined program is called the St. Gabriel's Pregnancy and Parenting Program. Services are available for expectant mothers or parents of a child 0-36 months of age. All services are offered in English and Spanish and are confidential. Once you have enrolled in the program you will meet with a Parent Advocate to develop a plan to assist you and the family achieve your life goals.

Office hours are Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

How to Enroll

- Call us at 512-651-6116 or send an email to Tino-Salinas@ccctx.org
- Provide your name, phone number, email address, information on pregnancy or your child's age.
- Visit website for additional information: ccctx.org/st-gabriels-pregnancy-and-parenting

