

FY11 United Way Mid-Year Report 2/3/11

Program: Foothills Child Advocacy Center (Foothills)
Agency: FoothillsChildAdvocacyCenter
Submitted By: Jane T. Tirrell, Administrative Coordinator

- 1 For the current funding period, please highlight your program's goals, activities, and results, noting any changes to your original plan/proposal. Include any relevant budget and/or financial information. Limit your response to no more than one page.**

Foothills Child Advocacy Center (Foothills) provides a culturally sensitive, coordinated community response to allegations of child abuse in a dedicated, child friendly setting. Through the multidisciplinary team (MDT), Foothills coordinates the work of all of the agencies and organizations in the Charlottesville and Albemarle communities that are involved in child abuse allegations, investigation, and treatment. The process begins with a forensic interview by a trained professional and includes case management services for as long as the child and family are in need. We also provide community education and outreach. Our goal is to minimize trauma, promote healing, insure child safety, and hold perpetrators accountable.

For the first six months of FY11, 90 children and their families have been served through the MDT, and 75 forensic interviews have been conducted at FCAC. 11 cases have been accepted for prosecution and 14 previous prosecutions have come to a successful conclusion. Through a grant from BAMA Works, we continue to offer our space and forensic interviewer's service free of charge to outlying counties who do not have a CAC of their own. Two counties have brought eight cases to Foothills. Foothills has funded 77 hours of training for MDT and Foothills' staff members and has presented Darkness to Light's Stewards of Children Program 17 times with 184 adult participants. This program is a revolutionary evidenced-based sexual abuse prevention training program that educates adults to prevent, recognize, and to react responsibly to child sexual abuse, and motivates them to courageous action.

Through the first six months of this fiscal year, we were within budget with our expenses. We have re-adjusted our budget for the 2nd six months of FY11 to include a gift received in December from the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation and better than projected donations. This money should allow us to retain and hopefully add to the reserve fund established in FY10. We have increased our board membership from 9 to 12. The new members are working on an exciting spring event to increase awareness of Foothills and to raise funds in order to implement our long term strategic plan. We are on schedule to submit our application for full accreditation with the National Children's Alliance at the end of February, 2011.

2. Please share a success story from your program. We are especially interested in stories that show a long-term impact on a person or family, and stories that show collaborations or referrals with other community programs in meeting a client’s multiple needs.

A 10 year old told her mother that her 11 year old sister and the mother’s friend were in the bathroom together and wouldn’t open the door. The girls’ mother reported it to CPS. CPS referred it for an interview at Foothills. The PD referred the victim for a forensic medical exam which was done the night it happened. Both girls were interviewed at Foothills the next day by the Program Coordinator. The Foothills’ Program Coordinator referred the case to a victim advocate who was present for the interview appointment. The police detective, CPS social worker, forensic interviewer and victim advocate met with the mother to gather information about her daughters’ disclosure and other information about the alleged offender. The team also gave the mother information about the forensic interview, the investigation and the legal system. The victim disclosed the details of the abuse to the forensic interviewer and the sister/witness disclosed what she knew. The child was referred to a private therapist for counseling. The MDT discussed the case at case review. A time was coordinated for CPS and the PD to interview the alleged perpetrator. The case will continue to be reviewed for services and status of the investigation.

3. Complete the following Outcome Measurement update (based on your application for funding) for the fiscal year to date.

Revised Projected Number of Intended
FY11 Primary Beneficiaries: 495

YTD Actual Number of
Primary Beneficiaries: 274

Projected FY11 Outcomes	FY11 Indicators Tracked	FY11 Outcome Results
Child safety & protection from re-victimization enhanced through multidisciplinary investigations	# of MDT Investigations	90
	# of safety plans	90
	# of prosecutions	11
Adequate information received from single forensic interviews	# of forensic interviews	75
	# of repeated interviews	0
Children and non-offending families receive support through interagency communication and coordination	# of children receiving case management services	90
	# of cases reviewed at MDT meetings	90
	# of agencies represented consistently at MDT meetings	13
Professionals working with FCAC have improved knowledge of best practices and enhanced skills in providing services	# of MDT members who attended CAC sponsored trainings	6
	# of peer reviews	3
	# of trainings in MDT meetings	3

- 4. Impact Report: We are looking for issues and statistics specific to our local area; you are also welcome to include some general issues that set the framework for the local statistics. Under the Actual Results heading, we are looking for impact, especially long-term results, not just numbers served. For the Financial Impact section, have each example highlight a different thing.**

Community Need and Issues Your Program Addresses.

In calendar year 2009, there were a total of 837(1.7% increase from 2008) reported cases of child maltreatment to the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County Child Protective Services (CPS) and law enforcement agencies combined. For law enforcement, these cases included all “reports” of child victimization, defined as aggravated assault or a sex offense. For CPS, the numbers represent cases of child physical abuse, child sexual abuse, child psychological abuse, and child neglect. This figure includes all reported cases, whether or not the case was investigated or only referred for family assessments. 319 reports received family assessments and 518 were deferred or investigated, of which 125 were referred to the MDT (*2009 Foothills annual evaluation*). The discrepancy between all investigated cases and those reviewed by the MDT is primarily explained by the fact that the MDT accepts only cases that involve sexual abuse, physical abuse, and neglect with physical injury. Our overall goal is to make sure that every child in our community has access to an accredited Foothills Child Advocacy Center and the services and resources we offer. Foothills as an organization and as a space enhances the ability of our community to respond to child abuse allegations, reduces the trauma that the victims experience, and provides hope and healing to victims and their families.

Your Program’s Solutions that United Way Community Impact Funds Support

Our program supports the United Way impact area of “Successful Kids in Strong Families”. We believe that all children are entitled to be safe, healthy, nurtured and valued. Foothills Child Advocacy Center envisions a unified and just community whose members are knowledgeable about and invested in assuring that all child victims receive the benefit of a range of services available in the community. Foothills provides a system where intervention and prosecution in cases of child abuse/neglect and victimization are well-coordinated and effective in a child and family friendly environment which is as non-traumatic to children as possible and which contributes to prevention of child victimization and the safety of all children.

Actual Results

National data indicates that negative outcomes such as physical injury, psychological problems, academic failure, inappropriate behavior and interpersonal difficulties are a direct result of children's exposure to domestic violence, as well as other forms of child abuse. Fortunately, with the right kind of help, these children can recover completely and live normal and happy lives. Through 12/31/10, Foothills has served 90 children and their non-offending family members and has given them the crisis intervention and on-going support to begin this recovery. 75 child victims have not had to endure the trauma of multiple interviews and 11 perpetrators have been prosecuted. 184 adults have attended one of 17 Steward of Children prevention training programs. The Stewards of Children curriculum has been shown to increase knowledge as well as improve attitudes and positively change participant's protective behavior over the long term. After the training, participants have reported that they are more likely to: discuss issues of sexual abuse with a child or another adult, pay attention to potential signs of sexual abuse, and drop in unexpectedly to ensure that a child is safe in the care of another adult.

Financial Impact of Donations:

Every donation big or small will help us continue this needed work in our community:

- \$3/week (\$156 per year) ensures: that 15 adults will be able to attend a Stewards of Children workshop, a revolutionary sexual abuse prevention training program that educates adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse.
- \$5/week (\$260 per year) ensures: that a child victim of abuse in our community will have a single forensic interview by a trained professional in order to tell their story.
- \$10/week (\$520 per year) ensures: crisis intervention, support services, and case management for a child victim and his or her non-offending family member or guardian.
- \$20/week (\$1,040 per year) ensures: that for a period of 3 months Foothills will be able to provide a comfortable, private, child-friendly setting for child victims of abuse and assault to talk about what might have happened to them.