



2024

ANNUAL REPORT



Children's
Bereavement
Center
OF SOUTH TEXAS

Children's
Bereavement
Center
OF SOUTH TEXAS

Our Mission

TO FOSTER HEALING FOR
GRIEVING CHILDREN AND
YOUTH, THEIR FAMILIES
AND THE COMMUNITY.





2024 at CBCST

In 2024, the Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas proudly served more than 2,700 grieving children and their caregivers, providing them with the necessary support for hope and healing after death loss. Our families come to us after the worst has happened - the death of a loved one - which can have devastating immediate and long-term impacts. We give our clients facing uncertainty, anxiety, and major disruptions to their day-to-day lives a chance to recover and grow after tragedy.

Our devoted team gives individualized care to clients with specialized therapeutic practices, allowing our clients to process their grief in ways best suited to their direct needs. We continue to work tirelessly to make our services accessible to all by being active in schools across San Antonio and continuing to serve communities in and around Uvalde.

We have the opportunity to walk side-by-side with our clients through their grief journey at no cost to families, which is made possible because of our supporters who believe in and champion our mission.



A Letter FROM OUR CEO



Dear Friends,

What a year! With your generous support, the Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas has grown in remarkable ways. In my first year as CEO, I've had the honor of witnessing our mission bloom through the dedication of our staff, the strength of our community partnerships, and most importantly, through the care we are able to give every grieving child who walks through our doors.

Because of your belief in our work, we eliminated our waitlist for services. That means all children and families facing death loss have access to free, trauma-informed grief support when they need it most. Your support has also helped us strengthen partnerships that expand our reach to even more children across South Texas.

And it is your steadfast commitment in our continued growth that has allowed us once again to hold space for our community as we grieve another tragedy. We are thankful for the unwavering support this past year that made it possible to respond to the immediate needs of our friends impacted by the devastating flood in the Hill Country.

Each year, we are reminded that the grief so many families face can feel overwhelming. But thanks to you, CBCST remains a place of hope and healing; a place where worries find peace; a place where children feel seen, supported, and safe. Your generosity helps make this possible.

We know this work is not easy. But it is vital, and it is the work of hope. And we are deeply grateful to you for walking alongside us.

Thank you for believing in our vision that no child should ever walk their journey of grief alone. Together, we shine with purpose, bringing light and love to those who need it most.

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "Kristina".

Kristina Hernandez, MNM, CEO



Unduplicated CLIENTS

Every one of our 2,736 individual clients have a unique journey through grief. We meet them at the darkest time in their life and walk them towards a brighter future with hope and healing. Each individual client has their own grief story that our staff approaches with respect and compassion, as we understand no two journeys are the same. This individualized care creates a safe environment where our clients can find comfort and be vulnerable, allowing for truly transformative healing.



TOTAL NUMBER OF
UNDUPLICATED CHILDREN
AND CAREGIVERS

2,736



Peer Support GROUPS

Grief is often so isolating - but finding strength through peer support offers a huge sense of belonging and validation as children navigate so many new emotions. Connecting with others who understand their journey amplifies the power of hope and healing we foster. The sense of community shows our clients they're not alone in their grief. Here they have a safe space to use their voice to express their feelings and heal.

4,841

PEER SUPPORT
GROUP VISITS





Individual COUNSELING

One-on-one counseling with trained clinicians who specialize in grief is vital to healing after loss, but we know these services are not always accessible. The Center proudly offers these services at no cost to families, giving them the support they need without any additional burden.

Each counseling session gives children more tools to understand and cope with the heavy emotions of grief. These services are personalized, which fosters understanding and creates a safe space for the children we serve.



INDIVIDUAL
COUNSELING
SESSIONS

5,236



School-Based PROGRAMS

With the goal of supporting every child's grief journey, we understand how crucial it is to meet youth where they are. Our school-based program allows our counselors to provide services to students across San Antonio and Uvalde, expanding our reach to support as many grieving youth as possible.

Grief and trauma can have profound impacts on a child's life, changing the way they behave at home and at school. By being present in schools, we can address these changes and provide needed counseling to ensure academic, social, and emotional success.

The work goes beyond meeting students in classrooms. Through community outreach programming, our experienced staff trains educators and professionals on trauma-informed, grief education so we can create a more understanding, supportive community.

School Districts We Serve

- Harlandale ISD
- San Antonio ISD
- Judson ISD
- South San ISD
- Northside ISD
- Uvalde ISD
- Northeast ISD

2,578

SCHOOL-BASED
PROGRAM
VISITS



Grief CAMPS



Our annual grief camps give special space for children and families facing tremendous loss. Across both San Antonio and Uvalde, we offer six distinct grief camps to clients. In San Antonio, our two Camp Heroes day camps provide support in March and November, giving children a space for healing when they're out of school for breaks. In Uvalde, children attend two different sessions of Camp U - a camp that is specialized to address their unique needs in a safe environment.

Summer Camp Heroes and Camp Cardinal are two overnight camps in July and August which will provide an immersive environment surrounded by counselors and peers. Camp Cardinal is special – we invite whole families to navigate their shared grief together in a way that is uniquely theirs. Families are given space for bonding through expressive arts activities and outdoor recreation – like swimming, fishing, and archery. Aside from the incredible healing that happens at our camps, they also give opportunities for our clients to just be themselves.

Camps foster a safe and healing environment that allows children of all ages to explore and express their emotions. Youth are placed in age-specific groups to receive support from counselors according to their developmental stage while leaning on the peers who can understand and share with them best. They learn new coping skills and language for their emotions to help them with hope and healing beyond their time in camp.



634

CHILDREN AND
CAREGIVERS
SERVED



Grief Education INSTITUTE

To best support children and families navigating death loss, we know that grief education can make waves of impact throughout the community. Through staff-led trainings across South Texas, we are able to equip healthcare professionals, educators, and other members of the community with the knowledge and skills to support those around them navigating grief.



800

PROFESSIONALS TRAINED

Uvalde

Our work in Uvalde is a testament to our goal of providing access to services to grieving children across South Texas. We offer specialized therapy to meet our client's unique support needs as individuals and as a community. 2024 saw an expansion of our services, with our school-based program planting itself within Uvalde ISD to provide much needed resources to more children shouldering the heavy feelings of grief in the year to come.

INDIVIDUALS SERVED
THROUGH COUNSELING
& SUPPORT GROUPS

174

Uvalde



Volunteers

So much of the support and community building that happens at our center is because of our dedicated volunteers who show up selflessly for our clients. Just one example is when our clients come in for peer support groups, they're met with a warm welcome from one of our greeters. Our families sit down to dinner - a meal provided by our Potluck Partners. They share a moment together and build community. Our facilitators lead them through their support groups and foster the communities we build through our shared experiences.

546

TOTAL SUPPORT GROUP
VOLUNTEER HOURS



Friends of the CHILDREN'S BEREAVEMENT CENTER

The Friends of the Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas is a membership-based group of dedicated, compassionate individuals committed to advocacy and support of our mission. The work of our Friends on events throughout the year is vital to the success and sustainability of our mission. Their passion for our cause is truly inspirational.

Our annual Hearts in Harmony Gala would not be possible without them and we are especially grateful for their dedication to its success. Our work is possible because our Friends champion the Center and bring the community together for the benefit of all those facing unimaginable loss.



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MEMBERS OF
FRIENDS OF THE
BEREAVEMENT
CENTER

Leave a LEGACY

Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas serves as a dedicated source of comfort and care, committed to guiding grieving children toward hope and healing for years to come.

Legacy giving through the Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas Foundation allows donors to have the opportunity to leave a lasting impact on our community. The Monarch Society, a group of founding members of the Foundation, champions and sustains the Children's Bereavement Center mission. Including the Center in your estate plans allows you to join this esteemed group and help uplift our community for generations to come.

To learn more on how you can make a lasting impact on the Center, we invite you to reach out to our Chief Development Officer, Catie White, at **210-736-4847**. Together, we will ensure that no child has to walk the painful journey of grief alone.



MONARCH SOCIETY

A LEGACY CIRCLE OF THE CHILDREN'S BEREAVEMENT CENTER



CBCST FINANCIALS



Fundraising → 5%

Program & General → 11%

Program Services → 84%

\$4,039,044

**TOTAL
EXPENSES**



In-Kind Contributions → 6%

Uvalde → 8%

Event Income → 11%

Government Grants → 17%

Other Income → 18%

Grants & Foundations → 19%

Individual & Corporate
Contributions → 21%

\$4,097,181

**TOTAL
REVENUE**

Thank You

4L Oilfield Services, LLC
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2024 Leadership

Kristina Hernandez, MNM - *Chief Executive Officer*

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Sylvia Montemayor, CPA - *Chief Financial Officer*

Catie White, CFRE - *Chief Development Officer*



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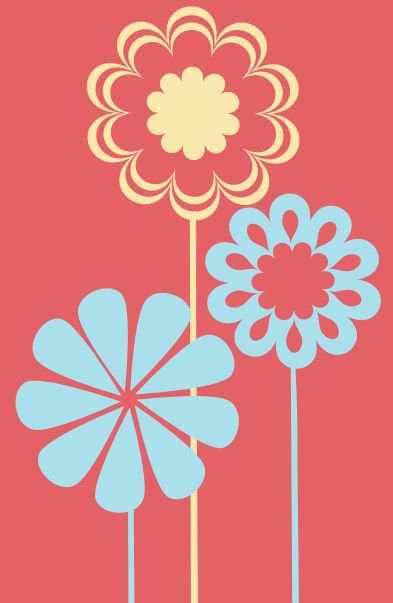
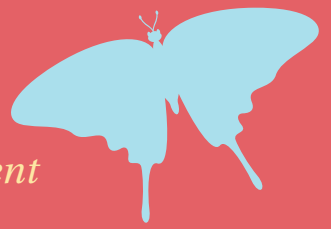
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Children's Bereavement Center

OF SOUTH TEXAS

cbcst.org



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(210) 736-4847 (HUGS)

Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas - Uvalde
319 N. Getty Street, Uvalde, TX 78801
(830) 333-9833

