

SAFETY · HEALING · JUSTICE



CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER  
OF COLLIN COUNTY

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# HOW DID WE GET HERE?



# WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

## Dallas Child Exploitation Unit

- Emphasis on high-risk victims
- Relationship building with at-risk youth to build trust and create a sense of safety
- Link between provision of wrap around services and disclosure

## Trafficking in Persons Symposium

- Challenges in working with this population
- Importance of focusing on at-risk youth instead of waiting for kids to come forward

# 2015

- CAC hosted leadership meeting for those working with trafficked youth.
  - Gaps in services identified
  - Lack of coordinated efforts identified
  - Disagreement on best way to identify high-risk youth

# 2016

- Formation of small Collin County CSEC Task Force
- Creation of definitions for high-risk youth
  - “Chronic Runaways”
  - Youth who have run away while in DFPS custody
- Meetings with Collin County Juvenile Detention Center
- Awareness of Governor’s office Child Sex Trafficking initiative.

# 2017

- Specialized CSEC training for Forensic Interviewers
- Meetings with Dallas and Tarrant county CAC staff to track protocol development
- Creation of GEMS Court
  - Designed to empower and support girls involved in the juvenile justice system who are “at risk”.

# 2018

- Meetings with New Friends New Life, Traffick 911, and Refuge City about services
- CAC officially added Juvenile Probation Services as part of the multi-disciplinary team
- CAC added an MDT Medical and Care Coordinator position on staff
- CACTX funded a Strategic Projects Coordinator position to partner with the Governor's office and assist CACs with addressing CSEC in their communities.
- Collin County DA's office created a specialized Child Exploitation and Human Trafficking unit
- Child Exploitation units in law enforcement
- Initial conversations with Governor's Office Child Sex Trafficking Team