



CENTER FOR THE RIGHTS
OF ABUSED CHILDREN

**Children can't
fight abuse.
We can.**

2023 ANNUAL REPORT





Letter from the CEO

Friends,

Welcome to our Annual Report, a showcase of our achievements, progress, and commitment to excellence throughout the year.

If you walk away with just one fact today, let it be this:

The generosity of friends like you helped 54,000 abused and neglected children in 2023.

- Children like 14-year-old Anna, who will receive her federal veteran survivor benefits to use for future opportunities like college. With our help, Arizona became the first state in the nation to ensure that children in foster care – like all other American children – will receive their federal social security, disability, or veteran survivor benefits.
- Children like sixteen-year-old Sophia who went missing from her group home and was brought to safety thanks to dedicated local police. With our help, Missouri implemented a comprehensive reform requiring an immediate search and find when a child goes missing from care. The prior year, federal investigators discovered that nearly 1,000 Missouri children had disappeared from the foster care system, and many were never searched for or found.
- Siblings like 3-year-old Macy and 4-year-old Max, who now are guaranteed the right to stay together, thanks to the passage of a powerful new law in Kansas. This law codifies the right of abused and neglected children to live with their siblings and to live with family and kin whenever possible.

Those are just three of the critical protections that we helped create and operationalize in 2023.

Our shared belief is simple but powerful: Every child deserves to be safe and loved.

I'm personally passionate about abandoned and abused children because I fostered ten boys and girls. [Read my story here.](#)

I thought I knew what to expect...broken bones, broken hearts, and broken spirits.

But what I did not expect was that these boys and girls would be at risk a second time: this time, in a broken system.

I learned that the futures of children in foster care depend on people like us to cheerfully and willingly stand in the gap time and time again.

Together, we have helped 650,000 children in six years at a cost of \$19.62 per child.

Thanks to the generosity of friends and supporters nationwide, more children than ever before have attorneys in their cases, the right to live with their siblings and relatives, and help with basic needs including access to special education, birth records, and federal survivors' benefits.

As we go to press, we're working nationwide to implement more of these reforms in more places.

We are establishing a national legal helpline so that more children will have an advocate in their corner, sooner.

And we remain in court, day in and day out, working to guarantee a constitutional jurisprudence protective of the basic rights to safety and family.

Thank you to our generous charitable supporters, my cherished colleagues, and to the countless people working daily, diligently, lovingly, and relentlessly, as lobbyists, legislators, staffers, social workers, advocates, family, kin, and foster parents to build a better future.

Children can't fight abuse. Together, we can.

We firmly believe that every girl and boy in America deserves to live in a safe and loving home. And with friends like you in their corner today, many more children today have that opportunity.

Please reach me anytime at CEO@thecenterforchildren.org.

Sincerely,

Darcy Olsen
Founder & CEO

Our Mission

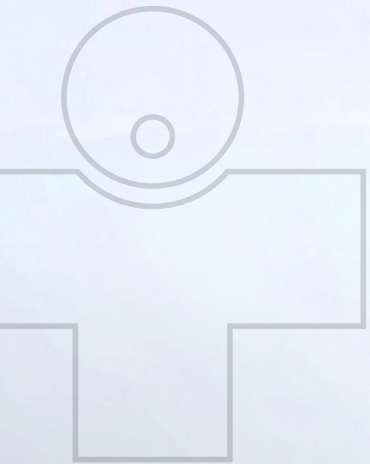
Our mission is to protect children, change laws and inspire people – to ensure every abused child has a bright future. We envision a day when all of America's children have the opportunity to live in safe and loving homes.



Every number has a name.

54,000

CHILDREN HELPED IN 2023



\$19.62
HELPS ONE CHILD

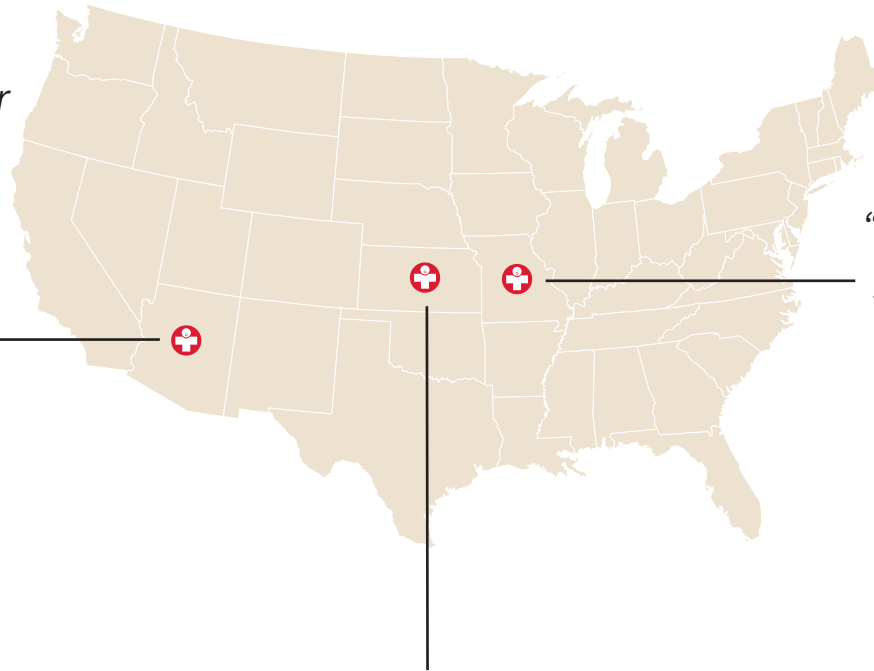
DONATE TODAY



2023 HIGHLIGHTS

*“**Arizona** becomes first state to stop agencies from taking foster children’s federal benefits.”*

Arizona Capitol Times, 2023



*“New **Missouri** law aims to improve searches for missing children.”*

Missouri ABC News, 2023

*“**Kansas** governor signs bill establishing more protections for foster care youths, foster families.”*

Kansas Reflector, 2023

A group of children are sitting in a row on a wooden bench, hugging each other from behind. The child on the far left is wearing a dark dress with colorful polka dots. The child next to them is wearing a light blue t-shirt with black stars. The child in the middle is wearing a pink shirt and denim overalls. The child on the far right is wearing a white t-shirt. The background is a dark, out-of-focus green area, possibly trees or bushes.

2023 RESULTS

54,000
CHILDREN HELPED



Real-time advocacy. Right now.

**PROVIDE
EMERGENCY PRO
BONO HELP**

**CREATE
COMMON-SENSE
REFORMS**

**UPHOLD
CONSTITUTIONAL
RIGHTS IN U.S.S.C.**

Working daily in court toward a constitutional jurisprudence of basic rights:

- Right to fair, impartial, and open court proceedings
- Right to be heard and to participate
- Right to an attorney in dependency proceedings
- Right to physical safety and bodily integrity
- Right to siblings, family, and kin
- Right to personal property

Pro bono, pro child.

**WE TAKE CASES WHEN CHILDREN IN FOSTER
CARE ARE FALLING THROUGH THE CRACKS**



*“For children in foster care
to live happy lives, we need
the help of others.”*

– Maya, age 14



2023 FINANCIALS

OPERATING REVENUES

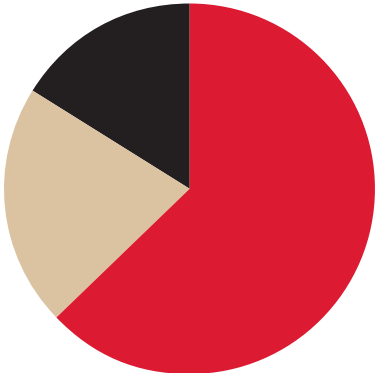
Individuals	\$1,147,129
In-Kind	\$ 898,687
Other	\$ 801,061
Foundations	\$ 761,938
Total	\$3,608,815



■ INDIVIDUALS ■ IN-KIND ■ OTHER ■ FOUNDATIONS

FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

Program	63%
Administration	21%
Fundraising	16%



■ PROGRAM ■ ADMINISTRATION ■ FUNDRAISING

RECOGNITION IN EXCELLENCE



ADOPTION EXCELLENCE AWARD



ANGEL IN ADOPTION AWARD

GUIDESTAR





**Every child deserves to
be safe and loved.**



STORIES
FROM THE STAGE

DARCY OLSEN



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thecenterforchildren.org