



JULY - SEPTEMBER 2025

# PRCAC CONNECTION

Official Newsletter of the Paluxy River Children's Advocacy Center



## BECAUSE THE SMALL THINGS YOU DO MATTER MOST



At Paluxy River Children's Advocacy Center, we support children who have experienced abuse and their non-offending families with services that promote healing and hope. Through forensic interviews, advocacy, therapy, and education, we guide families towards recovery and connect them to vital resources.

Our Education team works with schools and the community to raise awareness and prevent abuse. Every service builds trust, safety, and a stronger future—one child at a time.

Child abuse often happens in silence and in isolation. Breaking that silence requires consistent care and compassion. These small gestures help create a community where families feel supported and empowered, reducing the risk of abuse.

Our volunteers and supporters play an essential role. Your time, resources, and advocacy strengthen our mission and expand our reach. The small things you do protect and uplift children every day. Whether you're a professional, caregiver, volunteer, or neighbor, your role in preventing child abuse is critical. You don't have to do everything; often, just being present and offering support can change a life.

The work here at the PRCAC isn't always easy, but gratitude fuels us. Recognizing one another's efforts builds resilience and renews our shared commitment to this cause.

Thank you for all the small things you do. Your dedication and kindness create a safer, brighter future for children and families—because the small things you do matter most.

## OUR MISSION

The mission of the organization is to promote the healing of child abuse victims—one child at a time. Bearing in mind the best interests of each child, the organization will work to reduce the trauma to child abuse victims and their non-offending family members. Further, by uniting the efforts of public agencies and enlisting community support, the organization will strive to improve the justice system's response to stop child abuse.

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# MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MARGARET COHENOUR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we wrap up another impactful fiscal year, I'm filled with gratitude, pride, and renewed hope for what lies ahead. Every day, we witness the strength and resilience of children who have experienced unimaginable trauma and have the privilege of walking alongside them on their journey towards healing.

## [A New Home on the Horizon](#)

One of the most exciting developments this year has been the continued progress on our new building. This project has long been a dream: a permanent home where children can find safety, where multidisciplinary teams can collaborate effectively, and where our community can come together in support of healing. Seeing this vision take shape has been nothing short of inspiring. We are well on our way to creating a space that truly reflects the strength and resilience of the children we serve.

## [A Season of Growth and Learning](#)

This summer has been a busy one. Several staff sharpened their skills to better serve the children and families who walk through our doors through a multitude of training opportunities including play therapy, EMDR (Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing), Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy (TFCBT), attending case studies, peer reviews, the annual Dallas Crimes Against Children Conference. We believe that investing in our team is an investment in the children we serve.

## [Helping Children Heal](#)

Our mission remains at the heart of everything we do: to provide hope and healing to children who have experienced abuse and trauma. With every forensic interview, every therapy session, and every collaborative investigation, we strive to ensure that no child walks this difficult path alone. The courage of the children and families we serve reminds us every day why this work matters. Your continued support enables us to provide trauma-informed care that truly changes lives.

## [Looking Ahead](#)

We are not slowing down. We are increasing our education and prevention programs to address online solicitation, child sex trafficking, parent awareness to what their children are exposed to. We are taking the upstream approach, educating to prevent abuse from happening to begin with. The statistics are alarming. The more information we can share, the hope is more children will be protected from the dangers lurking online.

We are also gearing up for one of our most exciting chapters yet. With the construction close to beginning for our new permanent home on the horizon, we look forward to deepening our impact, strengthening partnerships, and continuing to be a beacon of hope for children in our community.

Your belief in our mission sustains and inspires us every single day. I'm thankful for the unwavering support of our donors and community partners, for the tireless efforts of our staff and volunteers, and most of all for the courage of the children and families who remind us every day why this work matters.

Together, we are building more than a physical building, we are building a future filled with safety, justice and hope. Thank you for walking alongside us.

With Heartfelt Gratitude,

Margaret Cohenour, Executive Director



**COMING SOON**



**PALUXY RIVER**  
CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

## Building Hope: A New Home for Healing

### Our Mission

At Paluxy River Children's Advocacy Center (PRCAC), our mission is to promote the healing of child abuse victims—one child at a time.

### Building Hope Together

At Paluxy River Children's Advocacy Center, we believe in the Power of One—the impact one person, one act, or one gift can make. Thanks to your support, we continue to protect, heal, and empower children. Now, we begin a new chapter—Building Hope, together.

### Why It Matters

- Community Support helps us meet growing needs.
- A New Building means more space and more children served.
- Every Gift builds not just a place, but a future.

### Be Part of the Journey

Your support turns hope into action. Whether through giving, volunteering, or spreading the word, including stock donations, every act makes a difference.

Thank you for building a stronger future, one child at a time.

We have multiple partner opportunities that you can choose from on our website. From being a Legacy Partner to a Friend of the Center. Go to <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/paluxyriverchildrensadvocacycenter/event/buildinghopecampaign/> for more information and to donate. If you have any questions, please contact Lauren Murfin at [lauren@paluxyrivercac.org](mailto:lauren@paluxyrivercac.org).



Each of us is  
carving a stone,  
erecting a  
column, or  
cutting a piece  
of stained glass  
in the  
construction  
of something  
much bigger  
than ourselves.

ADRIENNE  
CLARKSON





## WHAT'S UP AT THE PRCAC

This summer, our team has been hard at work building connections, attending conferences, and providing valuable education to both children and adults. Here are a few highlights from the opportunities we've had.

### Education Team visits "HangTime Program"

On June 25, Cynthia Pigg from the PRCAC Education team visited Rancho Brazos Community Centers for their "HangTime" program. The kids had an amazing time learning about safety and prevention through a fun, hands-on science experiment.

### Knights of Columbus Dinner

On July 27, the Granbury Knights of Columbus Council 9748 held their annual nonprofit dinner, showing strong support for our mission and others in the community. We're grateful for their continued partnership and dedication to making a difference. Their generosity helps strengthen the work we all do together.

Congrats to our PRCAC board member Mike Waguespack on receiving a well-deserved award. His service and commitment truly inspire us!

### Crimes Against Children Conference

During the week of August 3-7, our staff and Multidisciplinary Teams attended the Crimes Against Children Conference in Dallas, TX. Those unable to be there in person took part through OnDemand workshops. The PRCAC is committed to protecting and empowering children. Conferences such as these help us stay informed, learn new strategies, and connect with others in the field.



### Operation School Supplies

On August 5th, we joined the Operation School Supplies event hosted by the Hood County Children's Charity Foundation. The PRCAC was proud to support organizations and local kids with the tools they need to have a successful school year.







### Meet the Teacher Night

On August 12, the Education Team attended “Meet the Teacher” Night at Baccus Elementary. Happy Bear had a great time visiting with families, students, and staff. We’re always thankful for opportunities to connect with our community and share how we’re here to help keep kids safe and supported.

### Women In Business Conference

On September 16, PRCAC attended the Women in Business Conference hosted by the Granbury Chamber. It was a powerful day of connection, inspiration, and celebration of women's impact in business and leadership. We're proud to be part of a community of women who are passionate about making a difference and we look forward to bringing that energy into our work with children and families.

### North Texas Giving Day

On September 18, we proudly took part in North Texas Giving Day, celebrating every gift that brings hope, healing, and justice to the children we serve. It was a powerful day filled with generosity, encouragement, and community spirit.

Thanks to your incredible support—and a generous \$3,000 donation match—your impact was doubled. Together, you helped us continue to provide vital services like forensic interviews, advocacy, therapy, and education to children and families across Erath, Hood, and Somervell counties.

Every donation, share, and kind word truly made a difference—and that impact continues every day.

A heartfelt thank you to the Rotary Club of Granbury for their generous \$850 donation, presented to Executive Director and fellow Rotarian Margaret Cohenour.

Thank you for standing with us to bring lasting hope, healing, and justice to children in our community.





# SERVICE - EDUCATION - OUTREACH NUMBERS

## 2025 JUNE - AUGUST NUMBERS

FORENSIC INTERVIEWS: 77

FAMILY ADVOCACY SERVICES: **249**

COUNSELING SESSIONS: **434**

PRESENTATIONS AND EVENTS: **72**

CHILD ATTENDEES: **913**

ADULT ATTENDEES: **3,918**



### Youth Survey Responses – “What did you like about the Center?”

“How nice the people here are.”

“How the people there are kind and understanding. Also, the handprints at the end, it made me smile.”

### Initial Caregiver Survey Responses – “What did you appreciate the most about the Center?”

“The kindness shown towards my children during this very tough time.”

“The kindness and help understanding the steps and how to best help our kiddo.”



# ADVOCACY SERVICES



Let's take a moment to recognize the vital role our family advocates play in each child's path to healing. When a child has experienced abuse, the aftermath can be overwhelming for both the child and their non-offending caregivers. Our advocates step in with compassion and expertise, helping families navigate complex systems with clarity and support.

Following a forensic interview, our advocates guide families through next steps, offering emotional support and connecting them to our in-house services that are therapy and education. They ensure families feel heard, informed, and supported—providing a sense of stability and hope during one of the most difficult times in their lives. Their work is not always visible, but it is essential to the healing process. That's why our Family Advocates are there from day one.

They listen.

They guide.

They connect families to services, resources, and hope.

When we fully support and empower family advocates; families feel seen, children feel safer, heard, and less alone in navigating complex situations, and healing becomes possible.

At PRCAC, we don't just care for the child. We care for the people who care for them too.

"Family advocates often serve as the central point of contact between the family and a wide network of professionals."

-PRCAC

Staff Member

## Did you Know?

Did you know the PRCAC offers a wide range of services all listed on our website. We offer forensic interviews, therapy, family advocacy, and prevention education. We are here to support children and families every step of the way.

Visit [paluxyrivercac.org](http://paluxyrivercac.org) to learn more about how we can help.



# STAFF SPOTLIGHT



## CASSIDY BULLOCK

FORENSIC INTERVIEWER/FAMILY ADVOCATE

**Years with the Center:** One year on January 21, 2025

**Job Responsibilities:** As a Family Advocate, we support child victims and non-offending family members by coordinating services, providing referrals, assisting with case management, and offering court accompaniment. As a Forensic Interviewer, we conduct neutral, developmentally appropriate interviews with alleged child abuse victims (ages 2-17) and vulnerable adults. We work closely with the multidisciplinary team (MDT), participate in case reviews, coordinate throughout the investigation process, and provide court testimony as needed.

**Why I am passionate about working at the PRCAC:** "Doing God's work by helping the least of these; giving a child a reason to trust adults again."

**Hobbies:** "Being a leader in the children's ministry at my church, being with my dog Punkin and spending time with my family."

# BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



## MIKE WAGUESPACK

**Office held on board and any committees you are on:** I currently serve as the Secretary of the Board. I also serve on the Finance Committee.

**Years with the Center:** Three years on the Board

**Favorite thing about working with the Center:** The interaction with other like-minded community members who care for the welfare and well-being of children in our community who suffer from abuse and neglect.

**Hobbies:** Gardening, genealogy, and music



# TOP TIPS

## HOW TO REPORT

If a child is in immediate danger call 911.

Anyone 18 or older is a mandated reporter in the State of Texas

To report suspected child abuse, call 1-800-252-5400.

To report suspected child abuse online go to [txabusehotline.org](http://txabusehotline.org).

To report suspected child sex trafficking call 1-888-373-7888.

## HOW TO VOLUNTEER

Our volunteers provide a variety of support for the PRCAC including staffing our agency information booth at health fairs, assisting with Child Abuse Prevention Month activities, and helping with fundraisers such as Heroes with Handbags. Events can be during the week, after hours, or on weekends depending on the specific activity. Interested individuals must submit a completed Volunteer Application Packet, and agree to and pass a criminal background check. If interested, please call one of the numbers listed on the back page (pg. 10).

## HOW TO DONATE

By making a financial contribution that is tax-deductible, you help provide safety, justice, and healing for abused and neglected children in your community. There are several ways to donate. You may make cash donations, donate items from our Wish List, or even donate stock. For further information, feel free to contact the Center at 817-573-0292 or go to our website at: <http://paluxyrivercac.org/donate/>



## A HUGE thank you to Operation Support a Hero!!

Because of their generous donation, our outdoor space has been refreshed and brightened up – giving the children and families we serve a more welcoming place to find comfort, play, and heal.

Your support truly makes a difference in creating an environment of hope and safety right here at Paluxy River Children's Advocacy Center. We are so grateful for partners like you who believe in our mission and stand up for children!



# THINGS TO COME

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

## CHEERS TO 20 YEARS: A ROARING GALA



February 21, 2026 | 6 PM  
La Bella Luna  
7700 Glen Rose Hwy.,  
Granbury, TX 76048



Join us on February 21 at La Bella Luna for the Roaring '20s Gala. This will be a dazzling evening of celebration and impact! We're honoring 20 years of service by raising vital funds to prevent child abuse in our community. Get ready to step back in time for a night of glitz, glamour, and meaningful connection. For sponsorship opportunities or to purchase tables and tickets, please contact Lauren Murfin at [lauren@paluxyrivercac.org](mailto:lauren@paluxyrivercac.org), or scan the QR Code. We can't wait to celebrate with you!

SCAN ME



## Heroes with Handbags is Back!

Hood County Heroes with Handbags - June 18, 2026

Join us on June 18, for an evening of fun, fashion, and philanthropy; all to support the missions of Paluxy River Children's Advocacy Center and The Rainbow Room.

Enjoy designer handbags, raffles, dinner, and the chance to make a difference in the lives of children and families in our community.

Mark your calendar. We can't wait to see you there!

## Did you Know?

Our Education Outreach Team offers a variety of free training and presentations for both children and adults. We're always happy to speak at PTAs, schools, churches, civic groups, and more!

To schedule a presentation, call Ashton Martinez, Director of Community Engagement and Education, at 817-573-0292 or [ashton@paluxyrivercac.org](mailto:ashton@paluxyrivercac.org).



"At the end it's  
not about  
what you have  
or even what  
you've  
accomplished.  
It's about who  
you've lifted  
up, who you've  
made better.  
It's about  
what you've  
given back."

DENZEL  
WASHINGTON



# TO ALL OUR DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS

At Paluxy River Children's Advocacy Center, we provide compassionate support to children who have experienced abuse and their non-offending family members. Through forensic interviews, advocacy, therapy, and education, we help them begin the healing process and connect them with the critical resources they need for recovery.

These gestures may seem small, but they build a foundation of trust, safety, and hope. They break the silence of abuse and help create a stronger, more compassionate community.

To our incredible volunteers and supporters: THANK YOU. Your time, donations, and advocacy make this work possible. Every action, big or small, helps protect children and support families.

We are deeply grateful for your commitment. Together, we are making a difference... one small act at a time; because the small things you do matter most.

*Thank you*  
*The PRCAC Staff  
and Board members*

Prevention is education upstream!

"Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness.  
Kindness in giving creates love." - Lao Tzu



**YES! I want to support the Paluxy River Children's Advocacy Center**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes! I would like to make a donation. Amount of Donation: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Check ☐ Cash ☐ Credit

☐ I would like to make a donation in honor/memorial of someone or an event.

If writing a check, please make it payable to: PRCAC. If you would like to use a credit card, you can go online at [paluxyrivercac.org/donate/](https://paluxyrivercac.org/donate/), call our office, or scan the Venmo QR code ➡

Mail this form and your donation to: PRCAC, 1540 Southtown Dr; STE 103; Granbury, TX 76048  
The PRCAC is a 501c3 non-profit organization. All of your contributions are tax deductible.



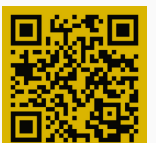
## HOW TO CONTACT THE PRCAC

### Granbury Location

- 1540 Southtown Drive STE 102
- Granbury, TX 76048
- [817-573-0292](tel:817-573-0292)
- 817-573-0430
- [margaret@paluxyrivercac.org](mailto:margaret@paluxyrivercac.org)

### Stephenville Location

- 1359 W South Loop STE B
- Stephenville, TX 76401
- [254-918-7452](tel:254-918-7452)
- [margaret@paluxyrivercac.org](mailto:margaret@paluxyrivercac.org)



VENMO