

THE PINWHEEL



CAC Celebrates its 10th Annual Pinwheels Family Fun Day on Sept. 24 at Cole Park Amphitheater

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When Pinwheels Family Fun Day returns on September 24, it will be hard to believe that it has been on a three-year hiatus due to COVID-19. And not only will we be celebrating the return of Pinwheels, but its 10th anniversary, too!

The Center's 2019 Pinwheels event attracted nearly 400 attendees and 25 community agencies, and this year, event organizers say plans are in the works to make this free community event even better.

SPONSORSHIPS STILL AVAILABLE FOR SEPT. 15TH GALA

WHAT: Inaugural Garden of Hope Gala
WHEN: Thursday, Sept. 15, at 6 p.m.
WHERE: Solomon Ortiz Center, 402 Harbor Dr, Corpus Christi, TX 78401
COST: Table sponsorships available from \$1,500 to \$10,000. Individual tickets \$250. VIP tickets also available.
INFO: (361) 855-9058



CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

Inaugural Garden of Hope Gala

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

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| <p>PLATINUM \$10,000 Premium seating for ten 6 VIP tickets to meet Spurs Legend, Sean Elliott - picture included 2 basketballs autographed by Sean Elliott 20 drink tickets Recognition on CAC social media & in newsletter</p> <p>GOLD \$5,000 Seating for ten 4 VIP tickets to meet Spurs Legend, Sean Elliott - picture included 10 drink tickets Recognition on CAC social media & in newsletter</p> <p>SILVER \$2,500 Seating for ten 2 VIP tickets to meet Spurs Legend, Sean Elliott - picture included Recognition on CAC social media</p> <p>BRONZE \$1,500 Seating for ten Recognition on CAC social media</p> | <p>INDIVIDUAL TICKET \$250</p> <p>VIP ONLY \$500</p> |
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The Center has sold more than half of our tables for our Inaugural Garden of Hope Gala on September 15 featuring San Antonio Spurs Legend Sean Elliot (#32). But we still need your help to make this a sell-out event that will help bring in much needed funds! In order for us to account for three years with no annual fundraiser held due to the pandemic, we need to raise \$100,000.

The Gala will also include live and silent auctions with many great items for both men and women to bid on. Tickets and sponsorships may be purchased through our website at coastalbendcac.org (go to the the Fundraisers tab); or by calling the office at (361) 855-9058.

PINWHEELS 2022 RETURNS SEPT. 24TH CON'T



"We have already received many vendor forms from participating organizations, and much public interest," said Emma Sais, Program Director. "I feel families have really missed this event, and we are so glad to be able to bring it back to the community."

For those who have not attended Pinwheels, this event brings together children, families, community partner agencies, youth performers and volunteers in a fun and relaxed setting. There will be entertainment, free food, community resources and giveaways, and of course, our display of 1,588 pinwheels, each to represent a child who was forensically-interviewed at the Center in 2021.

If you would like to make a donation toward this event, please contact Emma or Cassandra at (361) 855-9058.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Clarissa Mora

I want to sincerely thank all of you who have rallied around the Center these last few years. Because of you, we have been able to overcome hurdles to achieve amazing accomplishments and we are moving full steam ahead for the second half of 2022.

We are excited to add the finishing touches for our first in-person fundraiser since 2019, the Inaugural Garden of Hope Gala on Sept. 15. Then on Sept. 24, we will celebrate in the sunshine with the return of Pinwheels Family Fun Day at Cole Park.

Right now, we are planning for the 2022 Coastal Bend Day of Giving on Nov. 8. Please give in any way you can. This is the one time of the year where all donations are matched and doubled. As a reminder, the cost to provide one forensic interview is \$300, and all of our therapy services are free. Also, we never charge the city, county or health department.

Last year, we brought in nearly \$53,000 and this year, we challenge our friends and partners to help us meet our \$65,000 goal. How about \$70,000?

Not only will this help us provide free services for years to come, but will also help us meet upcoming objectives like community awareness and prevention, increased focus on secondary trauma and self care for staff and partners, and increased access to mental health services for the children we serve. Remember, we are your CAC, and we truly rely on your support to carry out our life changing mission.

PARTNER PROFILE: CECILIA MOSQUEDA



Cecilia (Cissi) Mosqueda, Child Protective Investigation Specialist IV, believes those who work with child abuse victims should be passionate about their jobs.

"We need to listen to them, have patience, treat them with respect, show compassion and most of all, believe in them and provide them with the support and protection they deserve," said Mosqueda, who has been a CAC partner for more than three years.

Mosqueda often tells

people who are unfamiliar with the CACCB about the "awesome team" of forensic interviewers whose work helps to prosecute child abuse cases and provide resources and support to children and families to aide in their healing process.

"CACCB not only provides support for these children, they provide them with a safe platform to speak out against their abuser," she said. "This allows Child Protective Services and Law Enforcement agencies to do their jobs ...without re-traumatizing the children."

Mosqueda is proud to be part of a team that positively impacts children's lives.

"Everyone there has a warm and inviting attitude," she said. "(They) also care about their community partners and always share positive words of support and encouragement. They are a wonderful group of people to work with."

FAMILY ADVOCATE SELECTED FOR CACTX TRAINING TEAM



Beginning in FY 2023, Karen Emero will help train new advocates across the state in her role as a CACTX Family Advocacy Faculty Member. She was selected for one of two CACTX positions, each with a minimum three-year commitment, to provide new advocates with course instruction that makes up the CACTX Family Advocacy Core Curriculum.

"I'm very excited to begin this new role and I'm thankful for the support that I've received from both my Executive Director and Program Director while I was pursuing this position," said Emero, who starts orientation this month. "I have been with the CACCB for just over six years, and I feel like in that time, I've learned a lot from working with the families that may be helpful for the new advocates as they begin their career with CACTX."

Emero, who will provide both in-person and virtual training and lead curriculum development activities, says she is grateful for the opportunity to work with the CACTX team while serving families right here in the Coastal Bend.

DAY OF GIVING RETURNS ON NOVEMBER 8TH

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, Nov. 8th, for the 2022 Coastal Bend Day of Giving! The Children's Advocacy Center of the Coastal Bend is one of 54 participating charities who will each receive a match of up to \$24,000 during the 24-hour online matching event. The total matching funds this year is \$1.3 million. All donations received on this day from midnight to 11:59 p.m. will be matched and at doubled at 100%. You also have the option to donate through Early Giving, which will be held Monday, Oct. 31, through Monday, Nov. 7. Here is how to give!



1. Go to CoastalBendDayofGiving.org on Nov. 8 or between Oct. 31 and Nov. 7
2. Search for "Children's Advocacy Center of the Coastal Bend"
3. Make your donation!

BOARD MEMBER RECRUITMENT IS UNDERWAY!



Do you want to play an important role in carrying out our mission to help the children we serve? Would you like to help lead fundraising efforts or other initiatives to help steer the direction of our Center to promote increased visibility? Perhaps, you have skills or resources that can assist the Center in areas of marketing, accounting and/or event planning? If so, we want to hear from you! We are currently seeking interested candidates who can begin their three-year term with us in 2023. Want to know more? Contact Executive Director Clarissa Mora at (361) 855-9058.

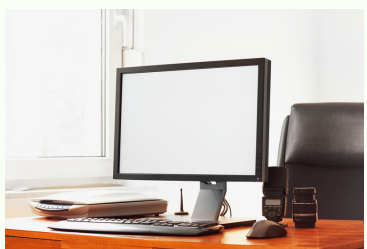
GRANTS MAKE A HUGE IMPACT ACROSS OUR CAC



A special thank you goes out to the following foundations for recent grants awarded to the Center. These funds provided make a huge impact across our organization and will be dedicated to our Teen Support Group; Education, Outreach and Prevention; and IT Upgrades.



- HEB Tournament of Champions \$10,000 (May)
- Dudley T. Dougherty \$5,000 (February)
- Grande Communications \$1,400 (Jan) Grande Cares Club \$2,900 (March)
- James R. Dougherty Foundation - \$2,500 (July)
- Behmann Brothers Foundation \$2,000 (June)



UPCOMING DATES

- Sept. 5: Labor Day - closed
- Sept. 15: Garden of Hope Gala
- Sept. 24: Pinwheels Family Fun Day, Cole Park
- Oct. 31-Nov.7: Day of Giving Early Giving
- Nov. 8: Coastal Bend Day of Giving
- For details, call (361) 855-9058, ext. 232.