

2024



Impact Report



Dickerson Children's Advocacy Center
a place where healing begins...

Our year in numbers

Together with our board members, staff, donors, partners, and FUN(d)raisers we...



\$898,340

received in grants and community donations

\$213,313

raised by sponsors and FUN(d)raisers

96

dedicated sponsors and volunteers

1,065

children received services

8,741

distinct services provided for victims & families

facilitated

788

training & professional development opportunities

And this is just the beginning!

A note from our Executive Director...

“For almost 30 years, Dickerson Children’s Advocacy Center has been a place of **healing, hope, and unwavering compassion**. Every day, our dedicated team shows up with passion and empathy, helping children and families navigate the painful realities of abuse and neglect.

This is more than a mission—it’s **heart work**. It’s the quiet strength behind every forensic interview, every counseling session, every family advocacy, and every step toward healing. It’s the relentless dedication to giving every child a chance to feel safe, seen, and heard.

What happens here *changes lives*.

As we prepare to celebrate three decades of service, we honor the resilience of the children we serve and the fierce commitment of those who walk beside them—board members, staff, community partners, fundraisers, volunteers, and donors.

Thank you for being part of this life-changing journey. Together, we are breaking cycles, restoring hope, and building a future where every child can thrive.”

— *Flavia West, Executive Director*



Our “heart work” and why it matters...



The term "**heart work**" — a play on hard work — speaks to the kind of effort rooted in compassion, purpose, and deep emotional investment. For those working in **Children’s Advocacy Centers (CACs)**, heart work isn’t just a value — it’s a daily commitment. It’s in every interview, every supportive conversation, and every coordinated service that helps a child begin to heal.

Heart work at Dickerson CAC reflects a commitment to justice, protection, and healing for children. This isn’t just a job — it’s a calling rooted in empathy and a fierce belief that every child deserves to be heard, believed, and supported. While outcomes and data are important, the real meaning in our work comes from knowing that a child felt safe, a family found hope, or a survivor took a step toward healing. That meaning sustains us through the most difficult moments.

Every act of advocacy — every coordinated response, every trauma-informed interview — sends ripples outward. Children carry the care they receive into adulthood. Families learn they are not alone. Communities become safer, more aware, and more compassionate.

Working in a CAC can be emotionally intense. But heart work gives us strength. It reminds us why we show up — to be a voice for the voiceless, to stand beside the vulnerable, and to help turn pain into healing. We bring together law enforcement, medical professionals, social workers, therapists, and advocates — all working as one team. That collaboration, driven by heart, creates a powerful safety net for children. It’s a model of what community care can look like.

Heart work matters because it’s where justice meets compassion. At Dickerson Children’s Advocacy Center, it’s how we protect children, support families, and remind the world that healing is possible.



Our Partners



Looking Ahead...

At Dickerson Children's Advocacy Center, we are dedicated to serving the children and families in our communities with compassion, professionalism, and unwavering commitment. We believe every child deserves the opportunity to grow up in a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment. That's why we provide a comprehensive range of services, including education, community awareness, and specialized care.

Through forensic interviews, we ensure children are heard in a safe and child-friendly setting; our therapy programs support healing and resilience in the face of trauma; and our family advocacy services guide caregivers through complex and often overwhelming systems. We are also proud to introduce the Safe Babies Court program—an innovative initiative focused on meeting the mental health needs of infants and young children while minimizing trauma during their involvement with the child welfare system.

By prioritizing early intervention, stable placements, and nurturing relationships, this program lays the foundation for lifelong well-being. Through these integrated efforts, we strive to create a future where safe and happy childhoods are not just possible—they are expected!

“We will continue our dedication to education, awareness, services, and programs that help create safe and happy childhoods.”

