



# The Branch

"Giving the children of Parker County a voice!"

## Christmas Party Success

This year's client Christmas party was one for the books! Our clients enjoyed pictures with Santa, cookie decorating, ornament making, hot chocolate and plenty of snacks! While as a center we love this time of year it is also a stark reminder to us of the things we should be thankful for. We are thankful for the opportunity to work in children's lives and bring them some joy, we are also thankful for the opportunity to give a voice to our most vulnerable people.

## A letter from the Director

As we come to the end of 2022, it is only natural to look back and reflect on the year that has passed. But I am more interested in looking forward! As the new executive director of the Children's Advocacy Center, I am delighted to join an organization that does so much to serve children and families in Parker County. Working together with our partner agencies, we are committed to making our world a safer place for children. We have big plans for 2023, and with your help, we will make those plans a reality. Join us, won't you? Follow us on social media, sign up to be a volunteer, and get involved with this life changing work. It's going to be a great year and I hope you'll be a part of it at CACPC!

Kathryn B. Thompson  
Executive Director

## CACPC Spotlight

### 2022 Donors

We have been so overwhelmed with such wonderful support this year, which made it difficult to pick a Spotlight person. CACPC would like to take this opportunity to shine a spotlight on all of those who have donated this year. We have received everything from gift cards, toys, monetary donations, stuffed animals, blankets, toiletries, diapers, furniture, and so much more! Each one of these items has or will touch the life of a child.

Gift cards are the main donation we ask for because we can do so much with them. We mainly use them as gas cards to help our clients get to their counseling appointments. One \$25 gift card can purchase 8 gallons of gas at \$2.99 a gallon. That is a huge relief to parents who may not be prepared for the extra mileage they will face with coming to appointments.

A single counseling appointment can change a child's life. If a child is having a hard day which has caused them to become dysregulated, a counseling appointment can mean the difference between a chaotic and emotional evening at home or a peaceful evening with effective communication. Our goal at the CACPC is to ensure that a little bit of gas will never come between a child and a peaceful evening.

Again, we would like to thank every individual person, club, business, school, and church that has donated this year.

### The Good Fight

We had a year of justice for our clients. Two of our cases that have been with us for a while without going to trial (COVID) finally went this year. Both of those cases resulted in life sentences for the perpetrators. We are honored and blessed to work with the outstanding agencies within Parker County, one of those being the District Attorney's office.

We were able to assist in court preparation for our clients along with providing counseling sessions before and after the trials. Our staff worked tirelessly to serve these clients while going through this very stressful time. The smiles and hugs at the end of everything make all the hard days' worth it.

### Volunteers

Going into 2023, our goal is to grow our volunteer base. Volunteering at CACPC can include sitting with children, doing handprints after a forensic interview, answering phones, office tasks, cleaning toys, and helping with events. Some days are very busy, and some days can be low key. If this sounds like something that interests you, please call Bayleigh at 682-615-1992. We hope to have at least one volunteer a day in the office.

### Ways to Help:

To donate directly to the CACPC – Visit [cacparkercounty.org](http://cacparkercounty.org) and use the donate button

Shop at [smile.amazon.com/](https://smile.amazon.com/) to donate to the CACPC through your Amazon purchases.

**GIFT CARDS NEEDED!!!**

"I finally feel safe after talking to you."

7-year-old female after talking to our forensic interviewer.

Please help us grow our social media following. Like and follow the CAC on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CACParkerCounty](https://www.facebook.com/CACParkerCounty)

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