

Organization: Shaken Baby Alliance

Federal ID number: 752758611

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Date established: 1998

MISSION AND HISTORY:

The Shaken Baby Alliance (SBA) mission is to provide support for victim families and professionals, prevention of child and elder abuse, and justice for the innocent victims. SBA has the goal of nationally ending Shaken Baby Syndrome, a subset of Abusive Head trauma (SBS/AHT) defined by the CDC as a “preventable and severe form of physical child abuse.

SBA was founded on a Fort Worth kitchen table by three mothers whose children were victims of Shaken Baby Syndrome and could find no resources. Over the past 22 years, SBA has supported victim families while developing into a nationally recognized forensic training and consulting agency for professionals in the child physical abuse field.

SBA offers three programs: Victim Family Services, Prevention Education, and Professional Support (Training and Case Consultations). Since 1998, we have supported 6,923 victim family members, trained 27,794 multi-disciplinary professionals, and provided 2,122 case consultations. We have educated over 12,378 students on how to cope with a crying baby, the #1 trigger of Shaken Baby Syndrome/Abusive Head Trauma (SBS/AHT). Victim Services and Prevention Education are free of charge. SBA is the only agency that directly counteracts the rising acts of physical violence against children.

THE NEED: Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) is a subset of Abusive Head Trauma (AHT), and a leading cause of child abuse death in children under 5 in the USA.¹ At least 1 of every 4 infants who are violently shaken dies.² The estimated rate of SBS is 30 cases per 100,000 children ages 1 year or younger.³ AHT accounts for approximately one-third of all child maltreatment deaths.⁴ The most common trigger for abusive head trauma is inconsolable crying.⁵ Babies less than one year old are at greatest risk of injury from AHT.

In 2020, Texas had 251 confirmed child abuse and neglect-related fatalities, an increase of 6% compared to 235 child abuse and neglect related fatalities in FY2019. Of those, 50 children (20.3%) died of Physical Abuse (Blunt Force Trauma and Intentional Homicide); 169 children (72%) were 3 years and younger. Tarrant County had 15 child abuse deaths, up from 14 in FY 2019, ranking third statewide. Harris was #1 with 48, followed by Dallas County with 24. (Source: TDPRS)

PROGRAMS: SBA offers three core programs.

1. Victim Family Services: We reach families left behind and not served by other programs, including those with a child who has died or a child abuse survivor with multiple disabilities. We help with everything from emotional and financial support to navigating education, health, and legal systems. We served 489 victim and families in 2021, free of charge.

SBS/AHT survivors have specialized long-term medical, therapeutic, and educational needs. With job loss, stay-at-home orders, and financial unknowns, pleas for basics (food, adult diapers, and special formula) are unprecedented. Since most children are shaken as infants, needs change over time. Families access SBA’s services for unlimited years.

2. Professional Support: Provides professionals with tools needed to effectively identify and prosecute abuse cases via:

a. Forensic Investigative Training for Multidisciplinary Professionals: Targets law enforcement, CPS, medical and legal staff, First Responders, and others. We trained 374 professionals in 2021.

b. Case Consultations: Targets lawyers and police. Services include case and crime scene analysis, investigation and interviewing; timelines or visual aids; and expert witness referrals. We provided consultations for 52 court cases in 2021.

3. Prevention Education: Reduce the incidence of SBS/AHT by equipping caregivers with the tools to deal with crying, the #1 trigger for SBS/AHT. Services are targeted to young parents, students, childcare staff, and those in high-risk areas. We trained 1229 students in 2021, free of charge. .

¹ Klevens J, Leeb, R, Child maltreatment fatalities in children under five: Findings from the National Violent Death Reporting System. 2010; 34(4): -266.

² Carbaugh S. Understanding shaken baby syndrome. *Adv Neonatal Care*. 2004;4(2):105-116.

³ Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Injury Prevention and Control: Division of Violence Prevention. Preventing abusive head trauma

⁴ Palusci VJ, Covington, TM. Child Maltreatment Deaths in the U.S. National Child Death Review Case Reporting System. *Child Abuse Negl*. 2014;.

⁵ Barr RG, Preventing abusive head trauma...between infants and their caregivers. *Proc Natl Acad Sci*. 2012; 109(Suppl2):17294-17301.

SOURCES OF FUNDING: 2022 PROJECTED

| The Shaken Baby Alliance Inc. | | |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Projected 2022 Sources of Funding | | |
| January - December | | |
| | 2022 Projected Budget | Per Cent |
| Income | | |
| 4000 Revenue from Direct Donations | 26,300.00 | 5% |
| 4200 Revenue from Non Government Grants | 294,500.00 | 51% |
| 4500 Revenue from Government Grants | 165,799.00 | 29% |
| 5100 Program Fees (e.g. Professional Support Training Registration Fees) | 18,000.00 | 3% |
| 5440 Sales of Program Related Inventory (e.g., "When Babies Cry, We COPE" DVD) | 6,000.00 | 1% |
| 5800 Fundraisers/Special Events | 65,000.00 | 11% |
| 5900 Case Consultation Fees | | |
| Total Income | \$ 575,599.00 | 100% |
| Note: This excludes approx. \$175,000 in inkind donated services. | | |

TARGET POPULATION:

SBA is based in Fort Worth with its primary office at One Safe Place, 1100 Hemphill St Suite #105, Fort Worth, TX 76104. Victim family services are offered at One Safe Place but may be provided anywhere that best serves the client. We offer prevention education in coordination with Fort Worth ISD with special emphasis on high crime districts 76104, 76105, 76109, 76116, and 76119. Professional training and case consultation is provided locally, statewide, and beyond. Ongoing training is provided to all FWPD units.

OTHER 2021 NOTES:

The pandemic exposed SBA's financial and program vulnerabilities. Rebuilding lost income from training and fundraisers remains challenging. The overwhelming demand for services as the only agency dedicated to the prevention of physical violence exposed broader client needs. Whether it be the mother without special formula for her brain damaged child, a police officer unable to safely investigate a child abuse report, or a delayed CPS meeting, SBA safely faced those risks.

1. SBA partnered in 2019 with One Safe Place (OSF) to share office space, counselors, training, and connection to 42 other family violence agencies. Most importantly, SBA families can receive immediate counseling with qualified staff. This visibility has inspired collaborations. Through active partnerships with CPS, law enforcement, Cook's CARE Team, CASA of Tarrant, Denton, and Dallas Counties, Justin's Place, prosecutors, and agencies, we identify child abuse victims and families who need Victim Family Support services. SBA coordinates with multiple agencies for needed victim materials, financial supports and training.

2. In 02.2021, SBA received a multiyear \$299,000 grant from the Fort Worth Crime Prevention & Control District to reduce violent crime, specifically Abusive Head Trauma (AHT), defined by CDC as a "preventable and severe form of physical child abuse" by providing: a.) SBA's COPE education to equip parents with skills to cope with a crying baby, the #1 trigger of AHT, b.) advanced child abuse forensic investigation training for law enforcement and other professionals to improve case outcomes. Our grant funded Educator teaches our evidence-based, prevention education program, When Babies Cry, We COPE to high-risk students and the community. From 10.15.21 to 12.31.21, 194 students in high crime areas were taught and signed a Crying Plan.

3. An unprecedented collaboration among the Senior Source Elder Financial Center, SBA, the Dallas Probate Courts, elder law attorneys and the Dallas Children's Advocacy Center (DCAC) produced the first "Crimes Against the Elderly and People with Disabilities" on 09.30 and 10.01.21 at DCAC. This was a natural progression for our forensic training since children, the elderly, and people with disabilities are all vulnerable victims. COVID enhanced that vulnerability

4. The Tarrant County Sheriff's Office set up a special office for SBA to consult on challenging child physical abuse cases. SBA staff/consultants provide in-depth help requested by Sheriff Bill Waybourn.

COVID-19 has reminded us of how interconnected we all are, and how grateful we are for your support. With your help, our fight continues for our babies, families, and professionals we serve.