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Hundreds of pinwheels at The Parenting Center this week honor the Tarrant County children who have been abused.

Turn 5,598 To Zero

5,598: the staggering number of children who were abused in Tarrant County last year. That number suggests that between the time you wake up in the morning to the moment you arrive at work, another child in Tarrant County has been hurt.

And these are just the cases that Tarrant County investigators could prove.

However, that number has been steadily decreasing thanks to The Parenting Center's efforts and those of the community. Across the nation, community involvement has led to lower child abuse rates. April is honored as National Child Abuse Prevention Month so that you can help make the number 5,598 turn to zero.

Every person in the community has a role to play in keeping our children safe, secure, healthy and happy. Here are a few practical ways that you, your friends and family can honor the purpose of this month (partially adapted from Preventchildabuse.org):

- Help a friend, neighbor or relative - Being a parent isn't easy. Offer a helping hand to take care of their

price is donated to The Parenting Center.

The Parenting Advice Line

Finding it difficult to communicate with your distant teenager? Feeling like an outsider in your step-family?

Call the **FREE**, confidential PAL Line at **817-332-6399** for parenting advice.

Monday - Friday 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Volunteer!

Do you have a passion for strengthening family relationships and at least one hour a week to spare?

[Check out many of our volunteer opportunities.](#)



children, so the parent(s) can rest or spend time together

- Get involved - Ask your community leaders, clergy, library and schools to develop services to meet the needs of healthy children and families.
- Help to develop parenting resources at your local library - Find out whether your local library has parenting resources, and if it does not, offer to help obtain some.
- Improve your communication with your child - Actively listening and showing your deep concern builds trust with your children. Establish and keep a consistent daily time to talk with them, not 'at' them.
- Help yourself - when the big and little problems of your everyday life pile up to the point you feel overwhelmed and out of control, take time out. Don't take it out on your child.
- Volunteer and financially support organizations that fight the tragedy of child abuse.
- Ask that schools and organizations in your community establish child abuse prevention policies.
- Support legislation that protects children.

To report abuse or neglect, call 1-800-252-5400, or visit www.txabusehotline.org.

Children & Guns

Today, we are bombarded by controversy about guns. The issues we face relating to children and guns include their exposure to guns in the media and the presence of guns in their environment. Guns are not going to disappear. [So how do we handle this with our children?](#)

Featured Parenting Classes

FREE Nurturing Parenting Series



Research based and proven effective 11-week interactive program covering empathy,

discipline, communication and other family relationship enhancing skills. Unique to this curriculum is a children's session (for ages 5 - 11) that teaches a compatible component, so that the family is working together on the same skill. **Available to Fort Worth residents, only.**

Contact Suzanne Stevenson: 817-332-6348

**The Birds & The Bees Before Grade
Three(Online Self-Paced Class
Launching Monday, April 22nd)**

Answering young children's questions about sex is scary!

How much is too much information? Discover how to answer questions, teach healthy boundaries, and protect your child while building family values and creating a safe place to ask important questions in the future.



**Developing Family Morals,
Values and Rules**

Determine your family morals, values and rules. Learn how to engage the family in creating family rules and consequences.

Leave the classes with a clear list of "do's" and "don'ts" that reflect the values of your family. **FREE CLASS**

Thursday, May 9

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Cook Children's Medical Center

**TAPE Honors The Parenting Center
for Best Practices**

The Texas Association of Parent Educators (TAPE) has chosen The Parenting Center as the 2013 National Recognition of Best Practices Program Award Winner. The Parenting Center will be honored for this award at the 20th Annual International Conference on Parenting Education and Parenting at The University of North Texas on April 26th. At the conference, The Parenting Center will have the opportunity to host a full-day poster/table exhibit and present at a break-out session.

TAPE and UNT have co-sponsored this conference in order to present the latest in knowledge, research,

educational strategies, curriculum and parent education from scholars and practitioners around the globe. This is the seventh year that TAPE has recognized organizations that are leaders in establishing and implementing Best Practices in Parenting Education at the International Conference.

TAPE is a professional association hosted by UNT's Center for Parent Education and is dedicated to promoting the cause of parental education and family support. Its mission is to build a network of professionals and paraprofessionals involved in the fields of parent education, parent involvement and family support. For more information on TAPE or the 20th Annual International Conference, visit <http://parenteducation.unt.edu/>.

2012 Annual and Impact Reports

Read about our 2012 program numbers and impact:

[2012 Annual Report](#)

[2012 Impact Report](#)

The Parenting Center
2012 Annual Report

The Parenting Center
2008 By 10th St
Fort Worth, TX 76107
817-339-2484
TheParentingCenter.org

Nothing is more important than keeping our children safe and happy. As grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles, teachers, coaches, and neighbors, we're united in our desire to best solutions that will leave the kids we love safe.

This year alone, The Parenting Center helped 374 children and their parents and caregivers to heal from abuse and learn to build healthy relationships. Among those 374 children are incredible stories of courage, resilience and most importantly, hope. Hope for a better life...hope to end the harmful cycle of abuse...hope for happiness.

Here are a few examples of this hope in action at The Parenting Center in 2012:

- A mother came to The Parenting Center and wanted to sign up to be a volunteer. This wasn't her first visit to The Parenting Center as she was a recipient of services 12 years ago and now her family is thriving. As an expression of gratitude, she became a volunteer at The Parenting Center so that she can help other families who are experiencing similar situations that happens.
- A couple awaiting their first child came to The Parenting Center for help. The father-to-be grew up in an abusive family and wanted to learn successful parenting strategies to be successful towards the cycle of abuse. The parents welcomed their first baby into the world at the end of 2012.
- This couple whose parents were in a divorce dispute for eight years came to The Parenting Center for their first visit as a family. The Parenting Center met with the parents for a couple of hours and helped them reach an agreement to the divorce and end the family court battles.

With 374 children reaching milestones from The Parenting Center in 2012, each child has his or her own story of the impact The Parenting Center has had on them and their family. We know The Parenting Center is a critical part of the solution when it comes to keeping our kids safe.

It takes all of us working together to prevent child abuse in our community. As you read through the pages of this report, please think about how you can help The Parenting Center continue to bring hope to the families in our community who need our assistance the most. Who are you all about The Parenting Center? What time can you volunteer and what resources can you provide to help increase The Parenting Center's impact in our community? Everyone's contribution, no matter how small, helps make a difference in children's lives and the happiness of their families.

Sincerely,
Both Parents
2012 Board President

2012 Board of Directors

Both Parents
2012 Board President

2012 Board of Directors

Both Parents
2012 Board President

The Parenting Center
2012 Impact Report

The Parenting Center
2008 By 10th St
Fort Worth, TX 76107
817-339-2484
TheParentingCenter.org

Our Mission
The Parenting Center's mission is to provide family members and professionals with the tools, services and resources to build successful families.

Who We Serve
The families and individuals who come to us for help may have experienced trauma, abuse, neglect, poverty or other factors that inhibit their ability to build strong family relationships. Often, these families have little or no access to prevention and intervention resources.

Income

Less than \$10K	17%
\$10K - \$19,999	31%
\$20K - \$29,999	21%
\$30K - \$39,999	17%
\$40K - \$49,999	12%
\$50K - \$59,999	2%
\$60K - \$69,999	1%
\$70K - \$79,999	1%
\$80K - \$89,999	1%
\$90K - \$99,999	1%
\$100K+	1%

Ethnicities

Hispanic/Latino	57%
Black/African American	27%
White	12%
Asian	2%
Other	2%

Age

0-11	17%
12-17	31%
18-24	21%
25-34	17%
35-44	12%
45-54	2%
55-64	1%
65+	1%

6,574 children received the skills needed to heal from abuse and neglect, build healthy relationships and prevent the harmful generational cycle of abuse.

2,524 parents and caregivers received skills that empowered them to foster healthy child development and gain the confidence to use positive parenting practices.

1,116 standard counseling to help address marital (marriage or other life) difficulties. **627** couples and **774** adults achieved at least 80% of therapy goals.

1,032 received relationship enhancement skills offered by the Parenting Center Program. **607** of married couples reported an increase in marital satisfaction, increased communication and conflict resolution skills.

103 children in the 24 families of the Parenting Center program showed significant improvement in interpersonal strengths, resilience, self-control and attachment.



Support The Parenting Center
by
Attending Art in the Square

The Parenting Center is excited to be chosen as one of the Southlake Women's Club's 2013 Art in the Square

beneficiaries!

Ranked #8 out of the top 100 art festivals in the U.S., *Art in the Square* offers over 140 national and local unique artists, children's arts and activities, food and more! All festival proceeds benefit The Parenting Center and other local charities. For more information, go to:

<http://www.artinthesquare.com/>

Southlake Town Square
Fri., April 26th - Sun., April 28th
Free to the public!

The Parenting Center / 2928 W. 5th Street / Fort Worth, Texas 76107 / (817) 332-6348