



# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



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# Mission

Founded in 1993, the Friends exist to support child victims of crime served at the CJC through program support funds and awareness. Our event, grant writing, and fundraising efforts help to ensure the Children's Justice Center programs are fully funded.

The CJC is an award-winning program which provides the following services:

1. Critical support services and forensic interviewing in a soothing, child-friendly setting;
2. Medical examination services by expert medical staff who are able to help reassure children and families of their health and ability to recover physically from abuse;
3. Client Emergency Funds are provided on an as-needed basis to families requiring immediate stabilization so they are able to access food, clothing, shelter, and safety;
4. Connection to trauma-informed therapists and victim reparation funds to ensure accessing essential mental health services does not become a financial strain on the family;
5. Case management teams provide support throughout the criminal justice process to ensure justice is being sought for the victim and the child and family members are adjusting.

Through our partnerships with foundations, we have provided the CJC with direct-service staff, client emergency funds, toys, furnishings, language translation services, training, office supplies, essential equipment, capital project support, and support for Camp Hope – a program which helps children from abusive and traumatic situations gain hope, resiliency, and break the cycle of abuse.



# Organization Update


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*Fundraising:* 2021 was a year of transition for the Friends of the Salt Lake County Children's Justice Center. In 2020 and 2021, all fundraising events were cancelled due to COVID-19. This led to a significant decrease in individual funding in 2020. To fill this gap in funding last year, the Friends increased our individual fundraising and grant writing efforts. In doing so, the Friends created partnerships with new foundations and corporations and many relationships were strengthened.

The Friends were generously supported through events held by other organizations in our community. Over the summer, the Wheels of Justice group held their annual 5 Canyons cycling event where cyclists from across Salt Lake County came to attempt to ride all 5 canyons in one day. The proceeds of this event supported a handful of children's justice-focused organizations, including the Friends of the Salt Lake County Children's Justice Center. Through this event, Wheels of Justice contributed \$10,000 to support the CJC program. Additionally, EDGEhomes held their annual Pumpkin Bash event where people from our community could come and pick out pumpkins for Halloween and the Friends nonprofit was fortunate enough to be the beneficiary. We were shocked and honored to find that, through their event, they were able to raise \$22,000 for the CJC program!

*Board of Directors:* Our former Board President stepped down after many years of dedication and support to the Friends. Having served as a member of the Board of Directors for nearly a year helping to clarify and guide the Friend's marketing efforts, Colby Wilcock recently stepped into this important leadership role for the Friends. In his short time as President of the Board, he has already set in motion great opportunities for growth in 2022. Additionally, the Friends split the historically one-person Vice President role into two roles: VP of External Affairs and VP of Internal Affairs. This transition will ensure that both internal and external efforts are sophisticated, outcome-driven, and providing the greatest impact for the organization.





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Filling the VP of External Affairs role is Kalab Cox, who will be helping coordinate with our amazing supporters to ensure we are acknowledging and communicating with our partners in a way that is meaningful to them. The VP of Internal Affairs role has recently been vacated and the Friends are seeking an outstanding community member to fill this role. Finally, there have been transitions in the marketing and fundraising chair roles which has led to new energy and ideas. The Friends are poised to have our most impactful year yet.

*2022 Plans and Goals:* In 2022, the Friends will be shifting the organization's goals and priorities. Historically, the Friends have helped support a portion of the CJC program's operational costs through our fundraising, grant writing, and awareness efforts. However, in 2021, the CJC program became a standard item on the Salt Lake County District Attorney's budget. This means that the CJC program's general operations will be covered. This change opens opportunities for the Friends to identify impactful ways in which it can support the children the CJC program serves through a transformative process, rather than only covering operations.



# Program Update

The Children's Justice Center program continued full operations during the COVID pandemic. Health and safety precautions were bolstered with the purchase of new furnishings that could be sanitized including high-power air purifiers added to each room where people congregate. The Avenues CJC location was closed due to chronic building repair issues and the location was no longer ideal for the client population. This office operation was relocated to the first floor of the District Attorney Office with better accessibility and increased security benefits and closer collaboration with partner agencies. The Friends of the Salt Lake County Children's Justice Center (Friends nonprofit) funded most of the renovation of the new space through our grant writing efforts which included: extensive soundproofing panels to cover glass walls, a new digital recording system for capturing child victim interview statements, and new furnishings and décor. The renovations created a delay in opening the building and cases were diverted to our South location for services. The south location also received new recording equipment via federal grant support and a new security system and fencing for the playground is in progress for install funded via the Friends grant writing efforts.

The program has maintained quality services during all these disruptions to ensure clients were served. An additional full-time Victim Services Coordinator position was funded through a federal grant and an existing federal grant was renewed to maintain 1 full-time Child and Family Specialist and 1 full-time Forensic Interviewer of children.



# Number Served

The CJC serves approximately 3,000 children and family members each year. In 2021 the CJC achieved the following outputs:



## 1415 Total Children Served

Ages 18 and under, victims and witnesses to the crime



## 1323 Victim Interviews

Private sessions to record statements for criminal investigation



## 35 Witness Interviews

Ages 18 and under, victims and witnesses to the crime

## Onsite Medical Exams

By specially trained Nurse Practitioner to assess injury, treat, and reassure child about health which is critical for emotional recovery from trauma



## 217 Team Staffings

Reviewing the investigation results with a team of professionals to assess the safety and needs of victims and if there is enough information to file criminal charges on the suspect.

# Outcomes

100% of children interviewed at the program received services from a skilled forensic interviewer. The program trains all detectives and caseworkers using a 3-day research-based training program designed to be sensitive to children. The program also has 3 specialized forensic interviewing staff who conducted 476 interviews with special needs child victims: young children with limited vocabulary skills, hearing, or speech limitations, highly traumatized, or mental health issues.

2. \$1,588 in short-term emergency funds were distributed to help over 30 families during a crisis. Parents were grateful to have immediate assistance with meals, medicine, or clothing for children. The program serves families from all socio-economic income levels and about 29% are low income
3. Goal: 90% of parent satisfaction surveys show high parent satisfaction with CJC services.

## Actual:



**Strongly Agree;** The Center staff made sure I understood the reason for our visit to the center.



**Strongly Agree;** My child and I were greeted and received attention in a timely manner.



**Strongly Agree;** I was given information about the services and programs provided by the center.



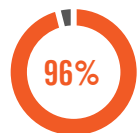
**Strongly Agree;** My questions were answered to my satisfaction.



**Strongly Agree;** The process for interviewing my child was clearly explained to me.



**Strongly Agree;** The staff was friendly and pleasant.



**Strongly Agree;** The staff provided me with resources to support my child and respond to his or her needs in the days and weeks ahead.



# Uplifting Victims for a Better Tomorrow

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## Parent:

“We just appreciate the bit of hope we have knowing she was heard. This is the place we have needed for 2 years.”

“The people were wonderful. We were treated with kindness, consideration, and support for our entire family.”

## CHILD:

“The nice people asking if I need anything. I felt cared about like they wanted to help me and make sure I am okay. I never feel safe but I felt safer and loved. They were kind and I felt loved, thx!”

“I liked how welcoming and friendly the staff were.”

“I liked how understanding and open the detective was.”

“I liked how they explained how everything was going to work before it happened to me.”

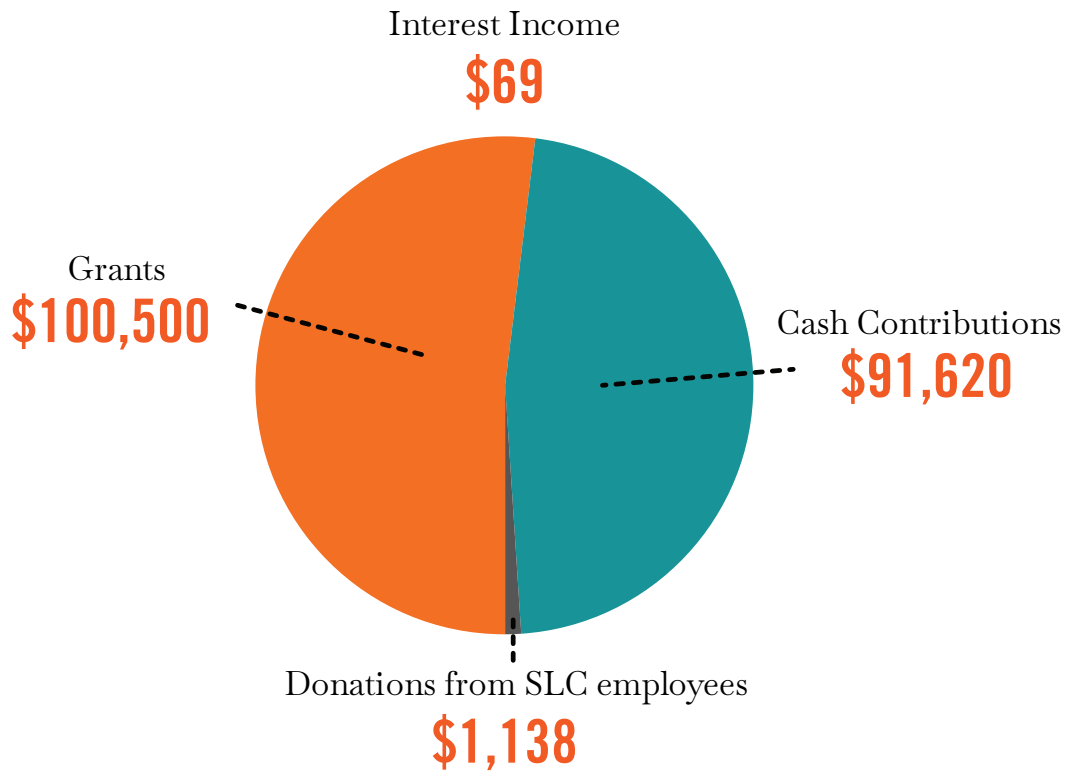
“I liked that it’s very homey.”

“I liked the nice, safe feel.”

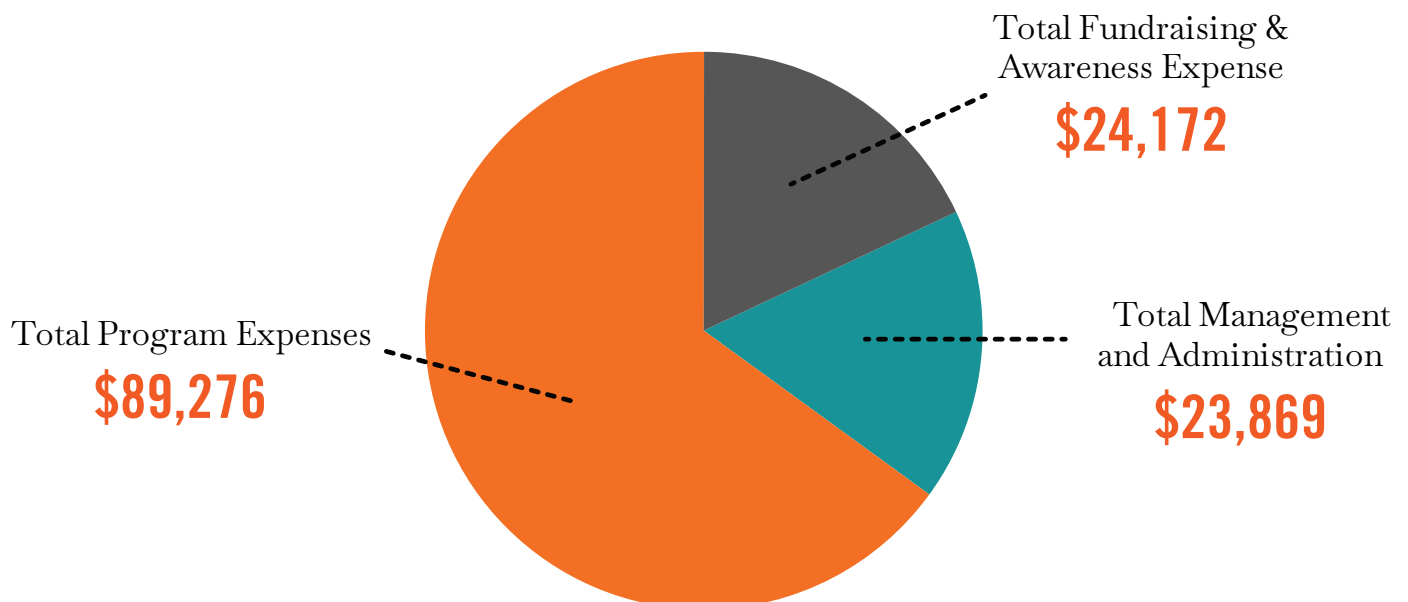
“It was very peaceful. It helped calm my anxiety a lot. I felt cared for, safe and loved.”

# Finances

## Revenue Versus Expenses: Contributions



## Expenses



# A Huge Thank You to our Major Donors

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Sunderland Foundation  
George & Dolores Eccles Foundation  
Edge Homes  
Sorenson Legacy Foundation  
Larry H. Miller  
Gotham Gargoyles  
Rocky Mountain Power Foundation  
Wheels of Justice  
Dee Foundation  
Watkins Foundation  
In-N-Out Burger Foundation  
Kendra Weyhrauch  
Nupetco  
Rodney & Jill Bergman  
B2 B.A.S.T.A.R.D.S.  
Scripps Howard Foundation  
Zions Bank

Network for Good  
Rocky Mountain Power Foundation  
MMT Productivity Inc  
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David Benson  
LEI Consulting Engineers  
Masonic Foundation  
Saul Komisar  
Candace Dee  
EVERSPIRE  
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Offender Trust Fund  
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