

# Abused & Neglected Children in Texas Need Our Help!

On any given day, **30,000 children** are **in the Texas foster care system**

Compared to their non-foster peers, children in long-term foster care suffer disproportionately. They...

## Are shuffled at alarming rates

**9** Average number of placements (some as many as 20 placements)

**50%** of Dallas County foster children are placed outside their home county

## Face academic hurdles and failure

**3x** more likely to need special education services

Avg of **6** school changes

**< 50%** graduate high school

**2%** earn a 4 yr degree

## Are misdiagnosed and overmedicated

**80%** diagnosed with a mental disorder (compared to 20% of general pop.)

**5x** more likely to be prescribed psychotropic meds

## Face devastating outcomes after care

Nearly **50%** of females pregnant by age 19

**81%** of males arrested, 50% convicted before 23

**Nearly half** become homeless

## Fall victim to sex trafficking

**86%** of likely sex trafficking victims were in state care when they went missing

**25%** of children on the street are approached by traffickers **within 48 hours**

## National and Regional Awards

### Addressing Problems through Innovative Solutions

- In 2009, our Director, Barbara Elias-Perciful, received the American Bar Association's national Child Advocacy Award for her work in creating the Online Legal Resource & Communication Center and for its impact on the lives of children.
- In 2010, we received the Award for Excellence in Social Innovation, from the Dallas Center for Nonprofit Management, for our Online Center Program as **"a novel solution to a social problem that is more effective, efficient and sustainable... and demonstrates significant positive change around a specific social issue."**
- In 2014, we received a national award from the Foundation for Improvement of Justice for improving the justice system by **improving child protection, speeding up the court process, and as an innovative program that has been proven effective and can serve as a model for others.**
- In 2017, our Director received the 2017 Fairy Davenport Rutland Award for Distinguished Service to Children and Families, from the Texas State Bar Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect, for her tireless work for the children of Texas and elevation of the practice of child protection law through our program.
- In 2018, our Director was named the Legal Advocate of the Year by the National Association of Counsel for Children for our impact on improving the legal representation of children.

Please see reverse side for information about the components of our program.