

Denton County Friends of the Family Annual Report 2024

Partnering with our community to promote safety, hope, healing, justice, and prevention.



Denton County
Friends of the Family

Our Mission

Our mission at Denton County Friends of the Family (DCFOF) is to provide compassionate, comprehensive services to those impacted by rape, sexual abuse, and domestic violence, while partnering with our community to promote safety, hope, healing, justice, and prevention.



More Growth

Our clients consistently demonstrate meaningful personal and professional growth, building resilience and a strong sense of empowerment. Through our workshops, therapy sessions, the ADVANCE program, and a range of complimentary services, they are equipped to overcome challenges and realize their fullest potential.



New Events

In 2024, we launched two new signature events. Evening of Triumph, a modern game night held at EVA, drew 250 attendees and raised nearly \$50,000 in sponsorships, netting around \$30,000. In the fall, Handbags for Healing welcomed 225 guests and also netted about \$30,000. Both events were well received and brought in many new donors and supporters.



A Rise in Hope

Through our committed efforts, we deliver the support and solutions our clients need, fostering a renewed sense of hope and possibility. By consistently providing high-quality services and impactful results, we empower individuals to envision and pursue a brighter, more promising future.

✉ CommunityRelations@dcfof.org

🌐 www.DCFOF.org

📞 940-387-5131

#MoreThanAShelter

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A Message from our Executive Director

Toni Johnson-Simpson, MSW



Dear Friends,

2024 was a year of momentum. As Denton County passed one million residents, we stayed grounded in our mission: safety, hope, healing, justice, and prevention.

We marked meaningful milestones. Personally, I marked 20 years with DCFOF, grounded by the same mission that brought me here. We also welcomed the Explorium Denton Children's Museum, expanding prevention and education with engaging outreach for children and families.

Throughout the year, we strengthened and expanded services with a clear eye on sustainability and long-term impact. Our strategic priorities guided decisions so survivors can access the right support now and in the future.

Looking ahead, in 2025 we will celebrate 45 years of service to this community. And we are preparing to break ground on the Family Justice Center in October 2025. This trauma-informed space will bring coordinated services together under one roof to make help easier to find and faster to receive.

To everyone who stood with us in 2024, volunteers, donors, board members, staff, and partners, thank you. Your belief in this mission makes a profound difference. Together, we're creating a safer, more resilient Denton County.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Toni Johnson-Simpson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Toni Johnson-Simpson MSW
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



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Safety | Hope | Healing | Justice | Prevention

Leadership Team



**Toni Johnson-Simpson,
MSW**



**Katherine Flowers,
MBA**



**Brittony
McNaughton MA, LPC**



Donna Bloom, JD



Dr. Nicole Roberts, Ph.D



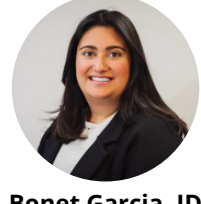
**Hillarye
Hightower, MA**



Lori Nelson



Heather Norris



Bonet Garcia, JD



Janna Bell



David Almager, MS



**Debra Mitchell-Ibe,
LCSW-S**



Mary Ecret

DCFOF STAFF

Toni Johnson-Simpson
Donna Bloom
Hillarye Hightower
Veronica Rodriguez
Mary Ecret
Katherine Flowers
Sarah Lehman
Kimberly Alexander
David Almager
Khadijah Benford
Cassandra Berry
Nicole Roberts
Kristina Sandoval
Yesica Noriega
Korbi Wilson
Taylor Gleitz
Brittony McNaughton
Sarah Morley
Abbi DeShazo-DeShazo
Lori Nelson
Bonet Garcia
Alicia Cabral

Staci Schwartz
LaKiena Baker
Luisa Feliz
Diana Hernandez
Jonathan Bade
Miranda Bon
Janna Bell
Justin Emerson
Trellony MAYFIELD
Sam Amphay
Myrna Castillo
Se'Jon McRoy-McRoy
Callie Stanford
Chris Butterworth
Brittany Jackson
Heather Norris
Tatom McFerren
Valerie Almanza
Lexi Wilkinson
Debra Mitchell-Ibe
Yvonne Ivonnet
Lulu Badillo-Maldonado
Rachel Pineda

MARY ARENA-Cardenas
Myesha Rodriguez
Belinda Orduna-Munoz
Emily Reid
Jessica Hernandez
Michelle Fox
Amanda Foltz
Renotta Hughes
Victoria Stucky
Caileigh Underwood
Bailey Benefield
Marlene Zamudio-Yanez
Katie Frizzell
Sierah Haines
Lily Isham
Riley Basil
Gabrielle Carr
Kimberly Schott
Janisha Romero-Rodriguez
Brenda Pena
Grace Jones
Maria Folkerth

2024 Board of Directors



To Our Partners in Hope,

Over the past year, DCFOF stayed focused on what matters most, meeting the full needs of survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. In 2024 we strengthened the bridge of support through residential shelter, counseling, outreach, legal advocacy, and prevention, so survivors and their families get comprehensive, coordinated care.

Since 1980, DCFOF has been a steady source of hope and healing in Denton County. For more than 44 years, our mission has guided us to respond, adapt, and improve as our community changes.

Looking ahead, we're excited to establish the Family Justice Center, a trauma-informed hub that brings services together to deliver coordinated care, justice, and prevention. While we work toward a future free from violence, we remain dedicated to serving survivors and families today.

Thank you to our partners and supporters for standing with us and advancing safety, healing, justice, and prevention across Denton County.

Sincerely,
Lisa Stanley, PhD.
Board Chair, 2024

BOARD MEMBERS

Lisa Stanley, PhD. | Board Chair
NTX Collegiate Academy - Superintendent

Nancy Humphries | 1st Vice Chair
Denton Co. DA - Director of Administration

Sally Emerson | 2nd Vice Chair
Retired Attorney Family Law Mediator

Jamie Williams | Secretary

Cecilia Huff | Treasurer
KHA Accountants PLLC - CPA

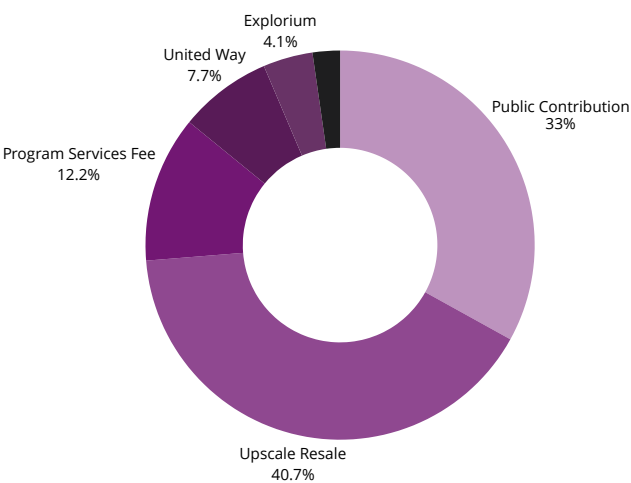
LaKebra Mahomes, MPA | Board Development
City of Dallas Crisis Intervention Team - Crisis Intervention Coordinator

Linda Marshall, PhD. Emmitt Jackson Ashley Adebogun, M.S. Jerry Pomposelli
Jackie Cox-Lawson Bailey Parish, M.S. Rodney D. Niemuth, CPA Brittney Verdell, LMSW
Ratonia C. Runnel, PhD Dale Yeatts, PhD.

2024 Financial Statements

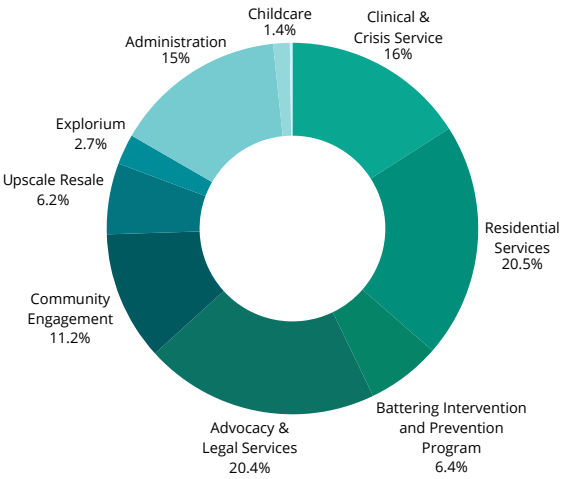


Revenues



	Government Grants - \$10,927,440
	Public Contribution - \$607,342 (Community Grants, Foundations, Corporate Support, Special Events, and Individual Gifts)
	Upscale Resale - \$747,762
	Program Services Fee - \$223,519
	United Way - \$141,690
	Explorium - \$75,905
	Miscellaneous - \$41,784 (Interest/Dividend Income and Insurance Proceeds)

Expenditures



	Clinical & Crisis Services - \$1,191,355
	Residential Services - \$1,527,904
	Battering Intervention and Prevention - \$480,828
	Advocacy & Legal Services - \$1,524,041
	Community Engagement - \$839,280
	Upscale Resale - \$462,277
	Explorium - \$197,929
	Administration - \$1,118,895
	Childcare - \$107,973
	Food Pantry - \$16,975

2024 By The Numbers



Counseling Services

197 children received **1,975** play and activity therapy services (1,554 hours)
372 children received **1,550** onsite childcare services
2,554 adult individual counseling services to **351** clients (2,342 hours)

Emergency Shelter

137 adults and **64** children stayed a total of **11,332** nights
Average of **54** shelter nights per client

Legal Services

13,395 services (6,354 hours) were provided by the legal team to **1,246** clients

Transitional Housing

In 2023, **234** households received **1,551** services (832 hours)

Volunteer

1,400 volunteers donated **13,583** hours of service

24 HR Crisis Line

6,369 crisis calls and **152** texts answered
123 Survivors Advocacy Team calls answered

Battering Intervention and Prevention Program

521 clients received **9,608** hours of services

Advocacy

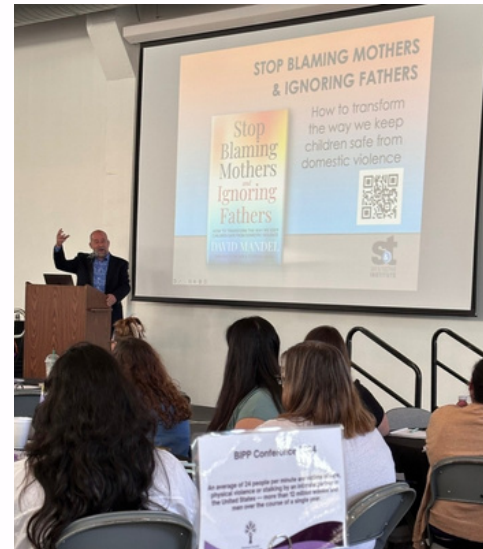
20,145 advocacy services (6,296 hours) to **2,132** clients
3,480 victim service intakes



Looking Back on SAAM & DVAM



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2024 Camp HOPE

Creating pathways to hope and healing for children exposed to domestic violence through year-round programing, including:

- a week of overnight camp
- monthly mentorship activities



evidence-based & trauma-informed

free camp & mentoring program





2024 Signature Events



Safety | Hope | Healing | Justice | Prevention

Looking Back on the 1st Quarter



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Looking Back on the 2nd Quarter



Looking Back on the 3rd Quarter



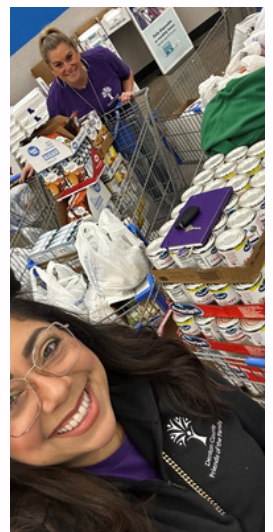
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Looking Back on the 4th Quarter



2024 CLIENT IMPACT STORY: DIANA'S STORY



Diana endured nearly 20 years of abuse at the hands of her husband, the father of her four children. He kept her isolated from the outside world — cutting her off from friends and family and refusing to let her work. Instead, he demanded she stay home, care for the children, and serve him.

Throughout their marriage, Diana experienced severe physical abuse, including strangulation, and years of trafficking. Her husband manipulated her into believing that selling herself was a way to support the family.

In 2024, Diana formed a friendship through her church — her first real connection outside the home in decades. As their bond grew, Diana finally felt safe enough to share the truth about her abusive marriage. Her friend encouraged her to contact the police, and in May 2024, Diana took that brave step.

She reported the abuse to The Colony Police Department. Her case was assigned to a detective who quickly reached out to Denton County Friends of the Family (DCFOF), requesting a mobile advocate to accompany Diana to her follow-up interview. The advocate helped Diana feel safe sharing her story, empowered her, and connected her with a full range of free services — including legal advocacy, trauma counseling for her and her children, and support navigating the criminal justice system.

That same day, Diana completed an intake with the mobile advocate and was connected to a long-term advocate and counseling. Just two weeks after her report, her husband was arrested on multiple felony-level family violence charges, and Diana and her children were granted an Emergency Protective Order for their safety.

Diana began weekly counseling with DCFOF and connected her three oldest children to play and activity therapy. With the help of her advocate, she applied for and was granted a lifetime Final Protective Order through the Denton County District Attorney's Office. She also received legal representation through Legal Aid of Northwest Texas and finalized her divorce in 2025.

During that time, her abuser violated the protective order on three separate occasions and was arrested again on additional felony charges. But Diana didn't stop fighting. She secured a part-time job, began earning her own income, continued her counseling, and got connected to further mental health support in Denton County.

Her children began to smile again. They said they felt happier and safer in a home without violence. Diana could finally sleep at night without fear.

In 2025, Diana's husband accepted a plea deal for multiple family violence offenses. When it came time for sentencing, Diana stood in the courtroom with her advocate and delivered her Victim Impact Statement. She told her abuser that what he did did not ruin her life — because her life with him was already broken. Now, she said, her real life was just beginning.

Diana had the courage not only to leave and hold her abuser accountable — but to look him in the eye and say, "You didn't break me."

Thanks to the incredible partnership between The Colony Police Department, the Denton County District Attorney's Office, and Denton County Friends of the Family, Diana and her children are now living lives free from abuse.