

CRIME VICTIM ASSISTANCE CENTER & EASTLAND COUNTY CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

# **Awareness & Prevention in April**

April is just around the corner and the Eastland County Crisis Center is gearing up for two big awareness months full of education programs and community outreach & partnership events.

## Child Abuse Awareness Month- Every Kid Deserves a Hero

The Eastland County Children's Advocacy Center believes every child deserves a hero in his/her life– especially the estimated 175 children who will be victims of abuse today in Texas. Child abuse can take many forms, be perpetrated by males and female care givers, and be very difficult for children to talk about. If a child does make an outcry to you, it is best to listen to the child, thank him/her for sharing with you about the abuse, and avoid asking any investigative or probing questions. Adults who suspect abuse of a child or have been told of abuse by a child, are strongly encouraged to report the allegation to Child Protective Services (800-252-4500) and/or law enforcement. Learn more about how you can be an #ECSUPERHERO inside this newsletter.

## Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month– Consent Matters

According to studies conducted by the University of Texas (Austin), National Children's Alliance, and the Rape Incest National Network (RAINN), sexual assault impacts approximately 6.3 million Texans at some point in their lifetimes. This translates to 2 in 5 women and 1 in 5 men being victimized. Most often the perpetrators are known to the victims. This year, the Crime Victim Assistance Center is providing prevention and awareness education programs and materials with a focus on establishing consent and respecting boundaries in all types of relationships with the "Ask First" campaign. Be part of the conversation by sharing our #AskFirst and/or #ConsentMatters posts on social media or contact Desare or Gena to schedule a training event or program.



# Fly With Us!

- 8am– 11am Celebrity Chefs cooking up a free pancake & sausage breakfast
- 8am-12pm Airplane Rides: Limited number of spots with priority given to first time riders
- 8am– 11am Kids' Games and Activities



# **Calling all Superheroes**

Being an #ECSUPERHERO is about raising awareness, educating, and working together to prevent child abuse while providing support for victims and their families. Together we can show all children heroes do exist.

## 10 ways to be an #ECSUPERHERO

- 1. Talk with the kids in your life about personal safety.
- 2. Go Blue on April 5th with a blue shirt, pants, tie, etc.
- Follow and share our Facebook #CAAM19 and #ECSUPERHERO posts
- 4. Switch your Amazon account to an Amazon Smile and pick the ECCC as your Charity to raise funds for victims of abuse.
- 5. "Light up the Night" with a blue porch light
- Purchase an official CAAM shirt by March 18th by calling 254.629.8229. (pictured right) All youth and adult sizes available at \$15 a piece.
- 7. Become a Hope Sponsor with a one-time or monthly online donation of \$25 at www.eastlandcrisis.org.
- 8. Schedule a training for your staff or group about child abuse awareness, prevention, and response.
- 9. Donate gently used blankets to the CAC.
- 10. Set up a toiletry or diaper drive for victims of child abuse.

### Eastland Cub Scouts Coat Drive a Success

We would like to thank the Eastland County Cub Scouts Pack #23 for the very successful coat and blanket drive they hosted over the Christmas holiday. Enough items were received to assist clients this year and for years to come!



**T-SHIRT FRONT** 

#### THANK YOU TO OUR LOCAL HEROES

91st District Attorney's Office

**Child Protective Services** 

Eastland County Children's Advocacy Center

CASA for the Cross Timbers Area

Eastland Child Welfare Board

Law Enforcement

Public At Large

**T-SHIRT BACK** 

2018 Year in Review Aug. 2017- Sept. 2018

> 252 NEW VICTIMS SERVED

6,378 SERVICES PROVIDED

137 EDUCATION PROGRAMS

3,489 PROGRAM ATTENDEES

10 COMMUNITY EVENTS ATTENDED

9 VOLUNTEERS

4,238 VOLUNTEER HOURS

For more information about ECCC Services and Programs please call 254.629.3223.



ECCC Education Department at Ranger ISD for Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

# Happening Around the ECCC

To stay up to date with the latest news, updates, events, and more follow us on Facebook (@eastlandcvac and @@eastlandcountycac) or sign up on our website for news and invites delivered straight to your inbox!

### ECCC Partnership with Abilene S.A.N.E Program

The Eastland County Crisis Center is excited to welcome S.A.N.E. nurse, Ann Marie to our building for victim services and professional training. Part of the regional grant received by Hendricks Hospital to expand this crucial victim service to rural communities, Ann Marie will be able to conduct victim centered forensic interviews and exams for sexual assault, strangulation, and other types of abuse victims in Eastland County.

# We're Hiring!

The Eastland County Children's Advocacy Center has an opening for a Family Advocate. This position serves as the main point of contact and support for children and their impacted family members who receive services through the CAC. The complete job description and application process can be found on our website under the tab "About Us/Join Our Team".



Event Sponsorship Opportunities Available by calling: 254.629.8229

### Stay Connected:

#### @eastlandcvac

Crime Victim Assistance Center Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram

@eastlandcountycac

Children's Advocacy Center Facebook & Instagram

Want to save paper? Go paperless with an online newsletter by emailing your name & preferred email to: info@eastlandcrisis.org

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