“EVERYONE WAS VERY PROFESSIONAL, CARING AND FRIENDLY. BEING A CONFUSING AND EMOTIONAL SITUATION, I FELT THIS WAS VERY HELPFUL. I DID NOT FEEL AS THOUGH WE WERE TREATED LIKE CONDITIONS OF WORK. WE WERE TREATED LIKE PEOPLE BY CARING INDIVIDUALS.”
PREVENTION
✓ Prevention education programs reached nearly 3,200 children.
✓ Engaged in 42 hours of community outreach at 16 community events.

TREATMENT
✓ Provided 716 hours of therapy to children and families at no cost.
✓ Provided case management and mental health support services to 95 families.

DELWARE COUNTY CHILDREN’S ADVOCACY CENTER
✓ Served 510 children.
✓ Family Advocates provided individual advocacy, supportive services, and follow-ups over 6,000 times.
What a year we’ve had at Family Support Line! It was a year of great transition, growth, and innovation. We said goodbye to Patricia Kosinski at the end of 2019 after serving as Executive Director for 32 years. Her departure ended with the Lifetime Achievement award from the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce for her many years of exceptional service to Family Support Line.

COVID-19 hit soon after my transition as Executive Director. It presented many uncertainties and challenges for social service agencies like ours. Based on past events, we know that child sexual abuse increases substantially during uncertain times. With children isolated at home and away from social supports and mandated reporters, chances for disclosure are limited for children to get help. These concerns are very real. Referrals to ChildLine, the state hotline for child abuse reports, decreased by 50% when the state of emergency took effect across the state, and referrals to our center dipped as well. With increased screen time and most adults and children at home, child exploitation on the internet also increased with reports to the national CyberTipline rising 103%.

The Children’s Advocacy Center served 510 children and conducted 255 forensic interviews. We provided 164 programs to 3,187 preschool through high school age children through our Abuse Prevention and Education Program. We also conducted 42 hours of outreach participating in 16 community events between July and November of 2019.

Despite us having to cancel our signature fundraising event, Bids for Kids, in the Spring, we have been able to pivot and think creatively to advance our mission as we moved into the new “normal”. We could not have continued to provide services, kept our staff safe, and responded to the new way of delivering our programs remotely without the generous support of our donors and local foundations. In response to COVID-19, the Foundation for Delaware County and The Community’s Foundation-Project W granted us funding to train our staff on delivering mental health services remotely and funded technology support to deliver these services from home. Additionally, we received funding from the Independence Blue Cross Foundation to create our public awareness campaign, the first of its kind in Pennsylvania that directly targets tweens and teens through social media with child sexual abuse prevention and awareness messages.

We are also grateful for the continued partnerships and new community partnerships that were created and strengthened during this time of great turmoil. Much progress was made with all 4 victim service organizations—CASA Youth Advocates, Delaware County Women Against Rape, Domestic Abuse Project of Delaware County, and Family Support Line—formally committing to work together to deliver seamless services to victims in Delaware County.

With every challenge, is a silver lining. The best successes come from hard work, commitment, and dedication no matter the barriers. We are stronger together. Our staff never wavered. Protecting Delaware County’s most vulnerable children and families is what they do best. They are true heroes working on the front lines to ensure the safety of children during this pandemic.

Thank you for remaining dedicated to providing help, hope, and healing to the children and families we serve. We are here to care, listen, and act. Our future is bright, and we look forward to continuing our commitment to protecting Delaware County children with your support.

With Gratitude,

Sarah Gibbons, MSS, MLSP, LSW
Executive Director
FINANCIALS

REVENUE

- Government: $761,063
- Foundations: $49,880
- Fundraising: $10,877
- Donations: $38,774
- Other: $10,957
- TOTAL: $871,551

EXPENSE

- Advocacy Center: $506,084
- Administration & Fundraising: $310,004
- Treatment: $202,880
- Prevention Education: $68,782
- TOTAL: $1,087,730

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- Independence Blue Cross

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