



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

**Texas Department of Family
and Protective Services**

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Contact a [DFPS media specialist](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, March 28, 2017

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Public education campaign takes aim at parent stress

The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) is stepping up prevention efforts through its *Help for Parents, Hope for Kids* campaign as well as participating in a broad range of community events during the month of April.

Child abuse is a big problem in Texas and across the nation. Child Protective Services (CPS) completed 166,753 investigations that confirmed 58,664 children were victims of abuse or neglect in Texas last year. More than two hundred children in Texas died due to abuse or neglect last year.

"We all have a responsibility to protect children," said DFPS Commissioner Henry "Hank" Whitman, Jr. "That includes parents, grandparents, teachers, doctors, police officers, neighbors, CPS, and many others in communities all across Texas. Reporting and responding to abuse is important, and so is helping parents deal with the many stresses they face."

That's why DFPS' Prevention and Early Intervention program is spending more than a million dollars on *Help for Parents, Hope for Kids* this year. That includes [television ads](#) in all Texas media markets throughout April as well as an online/mobile campaign that runs to the end of August. The campaign website ([HelpAndHope.org](#)) offers parents a number of fun videos, articles by experts, and other tips designed to help parents deal with some of the most challenging aspects of parenting – everything from bedtime battles and crying babies to conflict with teenagers. The site also connects parents and teens to state and local services in their communities. The campaign's Facebook page ([HelpAndHopeKids](#)) shares fun and helpful ideas and resources for families.

Meanwhile, CPS is joining with local governments, community groups, service organizations, activists, and other partners to put the spotlight on preventing, recognizing, and reporting child abuse. See more about prevention events in your area on the [Events Page](#) of [HelpAndHope.org](#).

Report Abuse or Neglect

Learn the [signs of abuse and neglect](#). If you suspect child abuse or neglect, contact the Texas Abuse Hotline at 800-252-5400 or report online at [TexasAbuseHotline.org](#)

DFPS Prevention Hotlines and Websites

- Child Abuse Prevention: HelpAndHope.org
- Infant Sleeping Death Prevention: BabyRoomToBreathe.org
- Texas Youth Hotline: TexasYouth.org

| Key Statistics

- 7,407,245 Children in Texas
- 166,753 Completed CPS investigations
- 58,664 Confirmed victims of child abuse or neglect
- 222 Child deaths related to abuse or neglect
- 44,527 Youth served by DFPS prevention programs
- 6,899 Families served by DFPS prevention programs
- 271,180 Users of HelpAndHope.org

| All statistics are by Texas fiscal year 2016 (Sept. 1, 2015--Aug. 31, 2016). Find more statistics in the [DFPS Data Book](#).