Parenting Journey

“Graduates often express that the help they received felt alone and more motivated to keep working toward reunification.”

Special Thanks

We are grateful to the following supporters who have made Annual Fund gifts of $1,000 or more since May 1, 2020 to support our work with NYC’s children.

The New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

31 East 8th Street, New York, NY 10003-2607

This February, The NYSPCC launched a new and improved website at the new and improved website at www.nyspcc.org.

The NYSPCC is proud to be able to make this life-changing education accessible to students not safe touch or feels scared or confused—which is a testament of how important this program is vitally important. At the start of the pandemic, reports to Child sexual abuse prevention education continues to be so important. Thanks to the Department of Education and the Zoom platform, Safe Touches facilitators can reach thousands of New York City students with little opportunity to seek help from trusted adults.

Our Safe Touches Program goes Virtual! The NYSPCC’s evidence-based, research-informed Safe Touches program would provide preventative education to NYC’s students each year, teaching them valuable safety tools and child sexual abuse prevention concepts using live pop-up talks. Today, these workshops are facilitated in-person by two facilitators in students’ classrooms, but in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, it became clear these did not work as well.

Child sexual abuse prevention education continues to be so important. Thanks to the Department of Education and the Zoom platform, Safe Touches facilitators can reach thousands of New York City students with little opportunity to seek help from trusted adults.

A number of modifications were made to ensure Safe Touches would be successful in a virtual format. New program protocols and themes of participation were written and implemented to measure students who disclose abuse or make concerning statements can be properly followed up with and connect to child protection services can be made. If necessary, All Safe Touches facilitators were trained in the new workshops model and best practices for virtual presentation.

By offering Safe Touches virtually, we have reached nearly 2,000 students for this school year alone. New Zoom classrooms are being created to offer students Safe Touches workshops that foster student and completed and evaluated as reported to their school’s Business Office to reach their potential for partnerships. We are so grateful and excited to have the opportunity to share Safe Touches with our students. After following up with a student, be that student develops a trusting relationship with the facilitator, they can then be referred to the appropriate school counselor or social worker.

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The NYSPCC is proud to be able to make this life-changing education accessible to students whether they are learning at home or at school.
Virtual Spring Luncheon

The New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NYSPCC) hosted its 9th Annual Spring Luncheon on May 17, 2021, to raise awareness and support for the organization’s programs. The event took place at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in New York City.

Virtual Wine Gala

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Helping Children Heal

Two long-time, devoted Board members, Karl Wellner and David Stack were honored at the Spring Luncheon for their many years of outstanding service. Karl is a partner at Davis Polk & Wardwell and has served on the NYSPCC Board in 2005 and has served as a member of our Children’s Council. David Stack is a partner at Davis Polk & Wardwell and has served as a member of our Children’s Council.

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Restoring Resilience Response

Child-protection agencies report high levels of fatigue among staff of all types. To help combat this, the Nebraska Department of Children and Family Services and the Quality Improvement Center for Workforce Development at the University of Nebraska partnered with The NYSPCC to develop and implement a Resilience Response Program (RRR©) designed to bolster the well-being of child-protection and front-line staff. The RRR© model is an evidence-based intervention that addresses secondary and tertiary stress reactions that hinder the ability to provide high-quality services to children and families across the state.

The program was developed by Dr. Mary L. Pulido based on research from various disciplines, including psychology, social work, and organizational behavior. The trainings are designed to help alleviate the stress and anxiety associated with secondary or tertiary stress issues caused by protection workers facing harassment, verbal abuse, physical violence, and threats from their clients.

In May 2020, Dr. Pulido led a full-day virtual training for administrators and staff from the Nebraska Department of Family and Social Services. The training focused on various aspects of the program, including resilience strategies, self-care techniques, and effective communication skills. The program helps participants develop the skills necessary to manage stress, support their colleagues, and improve the overall quality of care they provide to children and families.

Events With a Purpose

Virtual Spring Luncheon

The RRR© model was implemented in Nebraska in August 2021, following a virtual event hosted by Brad Edwards, a nationally recognized advocate who has dedicated his efforts to enhancing child protection. The event featured a keynote address by Dr. Mary L. Pulido, who shared insights on the importance of resilience in the face of critical incidents. The luncheon was attended by front-line child protection workers, including those from The NYSPCC. The event provided an opportunity for participants to connect, share experiences, and learn from each other.

Virtual Wine Gala

The NYSPCC’s Wine Gala was held on November 11, 2020, in virtual format. Brad Edwards, a prominent advocate in the field of child protection, was the keynote speaker. He shared personal stories of resilience and highlighted the importance of supporting those affected by critical incidents. The gala was a fundraising event that aimed to raise awareness and funds for The NYSPCC’s children’s services.

Helping Children Heal

Thank You!

Two long-time, devoted Board members, Karl Weimer and David Suchow, were honored at the 2020 Annual Gala for their 20 years of outstanding service. Karl joined The NYSPCC Board in 2005 and has served as President and President. David’s leadership and has served in various roles, including Vice President and President. Their dedication and steadfast allegiance to fulfilling our mission has been instrumental in shaping the organization.

In 2022, The NYSPCC marked its 110th anniversary and board member David Suchow, who had recently stepped down from his role as President, accepted an award for his exceptional contributions to the organization. The award was presented during the Annual Gala, where he was recognized for his continued dedication to the NYSPCC’s mission.

Brad Edwards, a nationally recognized advocate who has dedicated his efforts to enhancing child protection, was the keynote speaker. He shared personal stories of resilience and highlighted the importance of supporting those affected by critical incidents. The gala was a fundraising event that aimed to raise awareness and funds for The NYSPCC’s children’s services.

At the gala, The NYSPCC also recognized Rachel, a child who previously suffered from severe neglect and trauma. Rachel’s story was shared as an example of the organization’s impact in helping children heal.

“Thank you for the work you do,” Rachel said during her acceptance speech. “I am grateful for the support and care I received. I now have a strong foundation to build upon, and I am looking forward to my future.”
Virtual Spring Luncheon

The NYSPCC hosted its Annual Virtual Spring Luncheon on May 13, 2020, to raise funds to help support the Trauma Recovery and Safety nonprofit. The luncheon raised over $265,000 to help support the Trauma Recovery and Safety Programs.

Restoring Resilience Response

Child protection systems experience high levels of turnover among their staff. To help combat this, the Nebraska Department of Children and Family Services’ Quality Improvement Program recently introduced a Restoring Resilience Response (RRR©) model designed to bolster the mental health and emotional well-being of frontline child welfare workers. The model is currently being adopted by child welfare agencies across the state.

Theoid theory developed by Dr. Mary Daly, RRR© builds on research focusing on personal and professional resilience, and includes strategies for coping with the stressors of child welfare work. The model has been adopted nationally and has been adopted and used nationally.

In May 2020, Dr. Paula led a half-day virtual training for administrators and staff from the Nebraska Department of Children and Family Services and the University of Nebraska for the background of the RRR© model and implementation procedures. On April 23, 2020, the first virtual sessions of the RRR© model were held with the Nebraska Children’s Trust Fund, the Nebraska Quality Improvement Collaborative, and the Nebraska Department of Health. The RRR© model will be used in multiple settings in the state, including the Nebraska Department of Health.

Events With a Purpose

Virtual Wine Gala

The NYSPCC hosted its Annual Virtual Wine Gala on November 19, 2020, to raise funds to help support the Trauma Recovery and Safety nonprofit. The gala raised over $265,000 to help support the Trauma Recovery and Safety Programs.

Thank You!

Two long-time, devoted Board members, Karl Wellner and David Stack were lauded for their remarkable 30 years of outstanding service. Karl joined The NYSPCC Board in 1989 and served as Vice and President, and has served in various roles, including Vice President and President. David joined the Board in 1989 and served as President and President. David’s leadership and steadfast allegiance to fulfilling our mission and unremitting commitment to the mission of helping children heal and recover will be missed by all. Although Karl is stepping down from his role on the Board, we have his pledge to help children heal and recover and art music helped Rachel process and talk about her feelings, memories, and thoughts.

Rachel started to draw and art, which is helping her to heal and understand what happened to her. Rachel has been expressing herself through art, and is helping her feel less shame. The therapist counseled Rachel’s mother, as she better understands how her feelings are connected to her daughter’s feelings and to spend more time listening. During these therapy sessions, the therapist facilitate listening. In this way, the therapist facilitated Rachel’s healing and recovery. Art and music helped Rachel process and talk about her feelings, memories, and thoughts. The therapist counseled Rachel’s mother, as she better understands how her feelings are connected to her daughter’s feelings and to spend more time listening. In this way, the therapist facilitated Rachel’s healing and recovery.

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The New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

161 William Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10038-2437

Happy Anniversary!

December 29, 2020 marked our first year of operating a new custody database which the Department built and tested over the past three years to improve data quality and program outcomes tracking.

Children First

The impact of supervised visitation on children with trauma is well established. In 2020, a new survey was implemented to assess children’s feelings of safety during participation in court-ordered supervised visitation with non-custodial parent. This information is critical to understanding children’s experiences, responding to their needs, and informing the field’s broader supervised visitation research.

Leading the Way

Similar to the limited study of children in mandated visitation, research and resources for court-ordered visitation—particularly services of domestic violence and other trauma-related tasks—in 2020, we developed and piloted a structured support program for custodial parents through our office of Family Services. This novel program was over-whelmingly positive, with 80% participation in the first week, and many parents reporting that they would return for support.

In the coming year, the Department will assess the new NYSPCC-developed Safe Touches online workshop to prevent child sexual abuse, and exponentially scale up program reach. This resource, planned in collaboration with the agency’s research and evaluation department, provides additional tools and child sexual abuse prevention concepts using live puppet skits. Typically, these workshops are facilitated by two facilitators and include a family session, a parent session, and a child session.

In Case You Missed It

This spring, the NYSPCC launched its redesigned website. Take a look at all our new and improved website at nyspcc.org.

Our Safe Touches Program Goes Virtual!

The NYSPCC’s evidence-based, research-informed Safe Touches program would reach nearly 1,500 children each year. To ensure that each child benefits from this research and is not left behind, we created a virtual version of Safe Touches.

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Graduates often working toward mistakes, and am working toward my goals of being a better parent. Awareness of how my behavior was impacting others; now I see my mistakes, forgive my and more motivated to keep working toward reunification with the child. One parent from overwhelmingly positive. Graduates often express that the group helped them feel less alone and more motivated to keep working toward reunification.

NYSPCC is proud to be able to make this life-changing education accessible to students following up with a student, he stated that he now feels he knows what to do [if he ever gets a abuser or left under the supervision of an unfit caregiver learning meant some students were quarantined with an child protective services decreased 40-50% and remote Child sexual abuse prevention education continues to be in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, it became clear this in-person by two facilitators in students' classrooms, but in live puppet skits. Typically, these workshops are facilitated students each year, teaching them valuable body safety Touches program reaches thousands of New York City

Our Therapeutic Supervised Visitation Program aims to help families develop safe, healthy, and consistent child-parent relationships in the aftermath of traumatic events. One of our core values is to create a supportive environment for all children and their families. The NYSPCC believes in fostering strong bonds between parents and their children, recognizing the strength of families in their resilience.

Lea Shave, Director of Fundraising Events
Lea Shave joined us in August 2020 as Director of Fundraising Events. Lea has over 20 years of experience in fundraising and communications. In her role, she will oversee all fundraising efforts for the NYSPCC.

Jessica Trudeau, Director of the Training Institute
Jessica Trudeau was promoted in November 2020 to the position of Director of the Training Institute. Jessica has been an integral part of the NYSPCC for over 10 years, serving as Assistant Director and in her new role, will direct the training programs of the NYSPCC.

Our New Website!
The NYSPCC launched their redesigned website. Take a look at our new and improved website at nyspcc.org.

NYSPCC is an evidence-based, research-informed Safe Touches program working with educators to ensure that every student, each year, each month, each week, each day, each hour, and each minute has the knowledge and skills to prevent sexual abuse and bodily harm. Safe Touches is a proven, easy-to-implement program that provides schools, districts, and other organizations with the tools they need to prevent sexual abuse, promote healthy relationships, and support survivors of abuse.

Research & Evaluation—Bringing out our Best
The Research and Evaluation Department worked diligently during 2020 to continue evaluating and improving programs despite the impact of COVID-19. We have achieved success in both our internal initiatives and external commissioned projects.

Happy Anniversary! December 31, 2020 marked our fortieth year of serving a growing customer base, which the Department built and tested twice the year before to improve data quality and efficiency, and program outcome tracking.

Children First
The impact of supervised visitation on children with complex trauma is well substantiated. In 2020, a new policy was implemented to focus children’s behavior of safety during participation in court-mandated supervised non-custodial parent. This introduction is critical to understanding children’s experiences, responding to their needs, and informing the greater field of supervised visitation research.

Leading the Way Similar to the limited study of children’s visits, research and resources for court-mandated visitation are particularly scarce. Research on outcomes and structures in 2020, we developed and plotted a structure-support program for parents throughout the country. This study program was over-whelming success, with 80% participation in the first year, and many parents reporting their gratitude for the intervention. In the coming years, the Department will focus on The NYSPCC’s recently developed Safe Touches, online working to prevent childhood sexual abuse, and expand our work to support parents. This in-field planned initiative will keep the agency at the forefront of research in the field of child protection.

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