



TexProtects

Champions for Safe Children

2023 Annual Report

Dear TexProtects Champions,

2023 was a year of transitions and opportunities for TexProtects. Since accepting the role of CEO in September, I have been humbled by the dedication demonstrated by the TexProtects Board of Directors, funders, champions, and staff to our shared cause of strengthening Texas families and preventing child maltreatment. **Thank you for your commitment to our organization's mission to build a safer future for Texas children.**

The grim statistics from 2023 – the 58,120 confirmed victims of child abuse and/or neglect – underscore the urgency of our work. Every child in Texas deserves better, and together, we have the power to wrap our arms around and strengthen Texas families.

Over the past year, TexProtects has re-affirmed its commitment to strengthen Texas families through policy improvements that will impact thousands of children. **With your invaluable support, we successfully advocated for a historic increase of \$65 million in state funding for evidence-based child abuse prevention programs.** Additionally, our continued leadership of the Texas Prenatal-to-Three Collaborative and the Child Protection Roundtable brought together diverse stakeholders to advance meaningful change for many more children, youth and families.

Looking forward to 2024, TexProtects will continue to forge ahead to strengthen Texas families in communities across our state. Inspired by the many community-based providers across our state working every day to strengthen Texas families, TexProtects will launch new efforts to build their capacity, ultimately allowing for more families to be served through evidence-based programs.

We are fueled by the generosity and dedication of supporters like you. **Together, we can create a future where every child grows up in a safe and nurturing environment, building a bright future for them and for our state.**

With gratitude and determination,



Adrianna Cuéllar Rojas
CEO



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88th Legislative Session

During the 88th Legislative Session, TexProtects monitored over 200 bills, provided six testimonies, conducted 93 legislative office visits and registered in support of 47 bills. The TexProtects team established five primary policy priorities for the 2023 regular session of the Texas Legislature and is pleased to report having made material progress on four of the five.

Legislative Priorities

- Increase Funding for Home Visitation
- Increase Funding and Supports for Kinship Placements
- Ensure Monthly Data is Available on Critical Child Protection Measures
- Retain a High-Quality Workforce and Elevate High Producers into Leadership
- Improve the Delivery and Availability of Prevention Services for Children to Prevent Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

As to our fifth priority, while the development of an inventory of programs and services that contribute to the prevention of child abuse, neglect, and other adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) did not take shape statutorily, improved access and availability to a continuum of community-based prevention services that include evidence-based strategies remains a TexProtects priority that we continue to explore other ways to achieve.



Notable Achievements

- **Secured a historic increase of \$65 million** in funding for home visiting and other prevention programs.
- Increased funding and support for **kinship placements by \$6.9 million**, while also ensuring kinship caregivers have access to reimbursement dollars.
- **Advocated for monthly data availability on critical child protection measures**, including reports on how long children are temporarily separated from families when the state does not have custody.
- **New DFPS reporting requirements** on hiring, retaining, and promoting a high-quality workforce, and increased transparency on employee turnover.
- **Hosted 18 meetings of the Child Protection Roundtable** throughout the Legislative Session, providing policy guidance on bills and facilitating membership collaboration to advance shared goals.
- In collaboration with HHSC and 5 partners, the Mental Health Early Intervention program will now serve child(ren) up to age 18.





Texas Home Visitation Today and Tomorrow

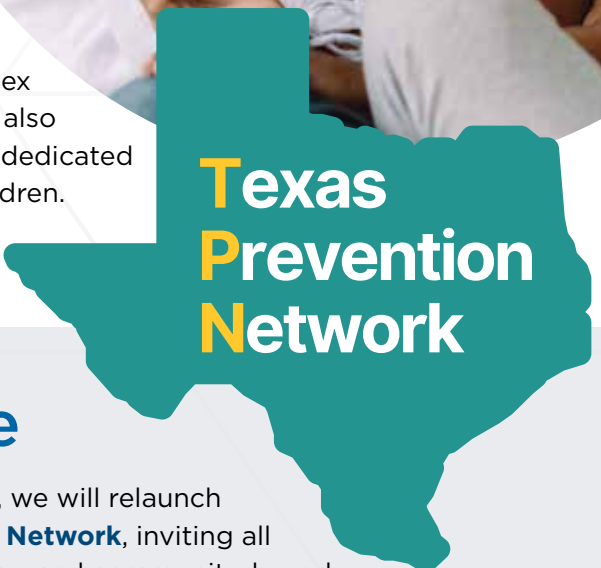
TexProtects has a proven track record of identifying and growing evidence-based prevention programs in Texas, specifically home visiting programming. **In 2023, TexProtects continued its work to ensure the success of multiple home visiting programs in the Dallas/Fort Worth Area.** After a multi-year incubation, in 2023, TexProtects successfully transitioned a universal, intensive home visiting program focused on new mothers and their babies to North Texas community partners.

Since 2012, TexProtects has convened the Texas Home Visiting Consortium, bringing together evidence-based home visiting programs from across the state, raising awareness about their work, and enabling collaboration between about 40 different home visitation organizations.





In late 2023, TexProtects reached out to this network to gather input and to better understand their needs, as well as the needs of the families they serve. **The response from providers to our outreach was astoundingly clear... organizations, large and small, in urban, rural, and suburban Texas, are feeling the strain of what they do and need and want support themselves to continue to do better for their families and communities.** They are seeing a growing number of families with increasingly complex needs. Funding and administration of programs are also getting increasingly complex. Despite this, they are dedicated to doing better and more for Texas families and children.



**Texas
Prevention
Network**



Looking to the Future

This feedback has inspired TexProtects and in 2024, we will relaunch the Consortium, rebranded as the **Texas Prevention Network**, inviting all prevention partners, especially small and under-resourced community-based providers, to join us. Together, this network will strengthen our collective efforts to support Texas families and ultimately to prevent child maltreatment in our state.



Prenatal-to-Three Collaborative

In 2023, we continued our leadership of the Prenatal-to-Three Collaborative (PN-3), alongside our partners Texans Care for Children and Children At Risk. **The Collaborative was founded in 2019 to champion aligned, coordinated and resourced early childhood systems to ensure that young children and their families are healthy and thrive in the first years of life.**

Since 2019, TexProtects has served as the backbone and administrative manager of the Collaborative, which transitioned to our partner Children At Risk at the end of 2023. TexProtects remains a committed and integral leadership partner of the PN-3 Collaborative, and we are excited to continue our shared mission in supporting families with young children.

During the 88th Regular Legislative Session, the Collaborative made significant progress on policies that improve the lives of families with children from prenatal to age three. Working together, the PN-3 Collaborative:

- Successfully passed measures that extend postpartum health coverage to 12 months
- Provided a financial boost to childcare providers through local property tax cuts
- Allocated \$63 million for Early Childhood Intervention services
- Achieved a historic increase of \$65 million for prevention programs that will benefit approximately 20,000 new families

Research Reports

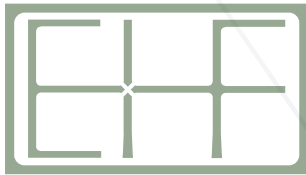
In 2023, TexProtects produced two research initiatives highlighting the intricate workings of Texas' child welfare system. We launched the Child Wellbeing Dashboard and crafted the annual State of the State Report, each serving as an essential tool to help communicate the state of Texas children and the profound impact of trauma and abuse. Through the analysis of data, TexProtects empowers policymakers and stakeholders, arming them with the information needed to enact impactful prevention strategies. Understanding the nuances of the data is at the heart of our mission as we advocate for the well-being of every child in Texas.



Thank you to our Donors

We thank you – our financial supporters and donors – for your commitment to our work to strengthen Texas families. None of this would be possible without your generosity, investment, and belief in our mission.

\$100,000+ DONATIONS



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Statement of Financial Position

2023 Calendar Year

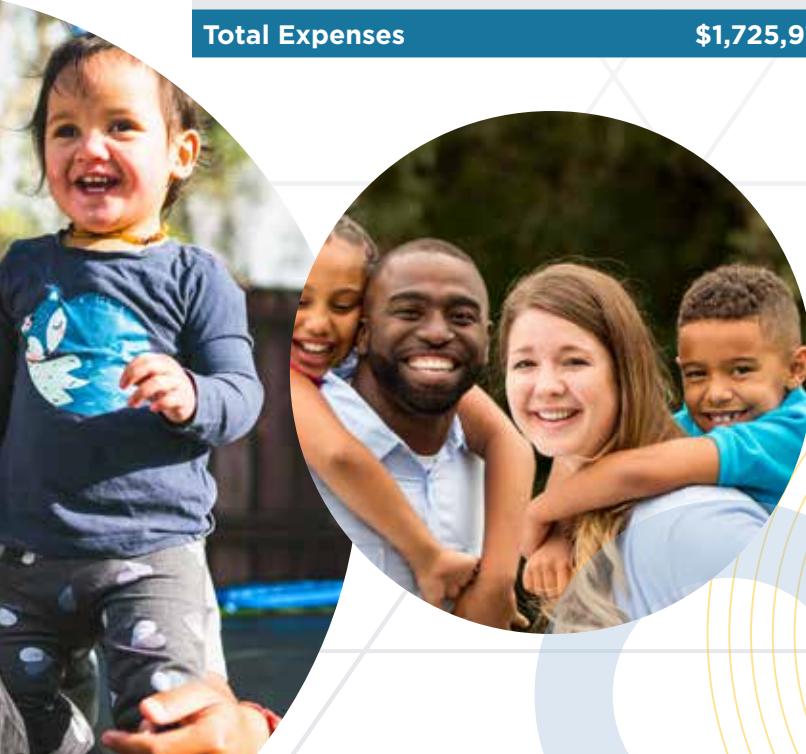
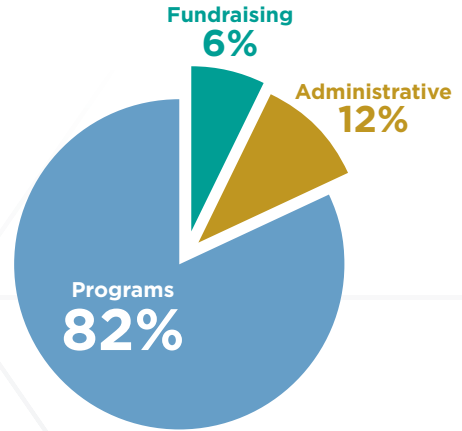
Support and Revenue

Contributions	\$1,682,269
Other Income	\$620
Total Support and Revenue	\$1,682,889

Expenses

Programs	\$1,409,484
Administrative	\$208,929
Fundraising	\$107,503
Total Expenses	\$1,725,916

Functional Expense



Our Mission Statement

TexProtects advances public policy and local implementation to strengthen families to prevent child abuse and neglect.



The TexProtects Team



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