



# CHRISTI CENTER ANNUAL REPORT 2023

*Family Gives Me Joy*  
by Emma Lou Laningham  
2023 Teen Grief Group Member

# 2023

“ I realized I needed to **be with other widows**  
**That’s the power of peer support -**  
 Their situation may not be identical to yours, but it’s enough to  
 know exactly how you feel and what to say and do to help. ”

**Cara Fox, 2023 Heart Connections Chair**  
 speaking about the loss of her husband Aaron in 2022

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH TRAINING

Christi Center collaborates with local law enforcement, social service agencies, and public organizations to enhance support for individuals experiencing grief. We share our expertise, gain valuable insights, and cultivate meaningful relationships with fellow community servants.

Outreach in 2023 included conducting training for and/or participation in over 60 community events, including:

- Ascension Health
- Austin Center for Grief and Loss
- Austin ISD
- Communities in Schools Central Texas
- Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Central Texas
- Garner Betts Juvenile Center
- Moms Demand Action
- OnePill Kills Outreach
- Recovery Day at the Capitol
- Round Rock Elementary School
- Sickle Cell Association
- The Thinkery
- Travis County
- University of Texas School of Social Work
- Williamson County Juvenile Services

## KIDS WHO CARE



The Kids Who Care and teen programs continued to grow -- a lot! The program served 146% more youth and families in 2023.

## REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

### FOR THE LOVE OF ...

On December 16, the Christi Center community returned to St. Edward’s University for our yearly Remembrance Service. This service provides a way for the community to honor the memory of loved ones and find support and comfort during the holiday season.

150 members and supporters came together for a heartfelt reception, listened to the insightful words of keynote speaker Rev. Michael Cave, adorned trees with heart ornaments, and culminated the evening by lighting a candle in memory of those we’ve lost.



### THANK YOU SPONSORS

Our Lady of the Rosary Cemetery and Prayer Gardens  
 and  
 St. Edward’s University

## MISSION

Christi Center offers hope after the death of a close family member or friend by offering peer support networks, community education, and therapeutic activities that are free, peer-based, and ongoing

## 2023 IN NUMBERS

In 2023, Christi Center continued to be a pillar of support for Central Texans grappling with grief. We witnessed a notable increase in both the number of children seeking support and those coping with the aftermath of suicide and overdose.

There was a **146% increase** over the previous year in the number of children and teens receiving support at Christi Center.

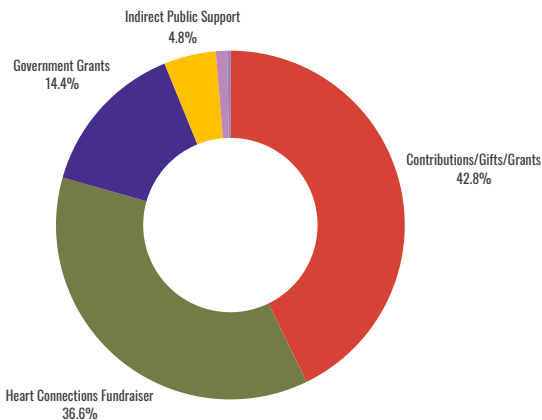
Fentanyl continues to contribute to the high number of deaths by overdose. In 2023, Travis and Williamson Counties recorded 222 fentanyl poisoning-related deaths.

Christi Center remains steadfast in its mission, offering a range of services including peer-group sessions for children, teens and adults, individual counseling for children, and information and referrals to grief resources.

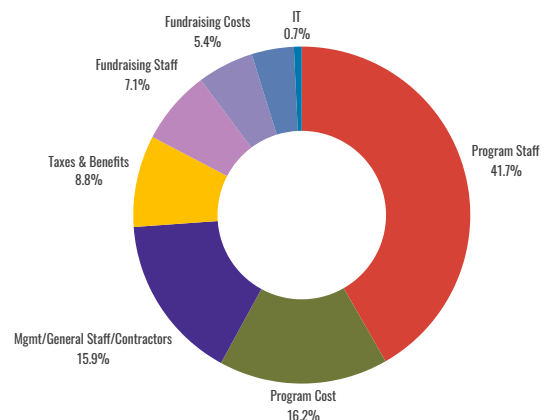
PREVIOUS YEAR

<b>647</b>	ADULTS IN PEER GROUPS	<b>655</b>
<b>101</b>	CHILDREN & TEENS IN PEER GROUPS	<b>41</b>
<b>49</b>	YOUTH IN INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING	<b>46</b>
<b>406</b>	INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING SESSIONS	<b>490</b>
<b>1,598</b>	CRIME VICTIMS WHO RECEIVED DIRECT ASSISTANCE	<b>459</b>
<b>904</b>	INFO AND REFERRAL INQUIRIES AND INTAKES	<b>989</b>

## 2023 FINANCES



TOTAL REVENUE \$ 547,904



TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$ 605,547

# 6,673

## HOURS OF VOLUNTEER TIME

**Facilitators** at the Christi Center are trained volunteers who were once clients themselves who now organize and lead group sessions. From clients to facilitators, they become “zebras of the same stripe,” offering invaluable understanding and empathy to those experiencing grief.

**Interns**, primarily masters-level students, support Christi Center’s services each academic semester. They assist in the operations of the Center and offering counseling and support to clients.

Other volunteers play essential roles in sustaining Christi Center and its services. From maintaining facilities to organizing groups, setting up sessions and events, and serving on the board and committees, these volunteers are indispensable to the Center’s operation and success.



## VOLUNTEER IN-KIND VALUE

In 2023, Christi Center volunteers contributed 6,673 hours of services.

In its latest estimation for 2023, Independent Sector and the Do Good Institute placed the value of an hour of volunteer time to be worth \$31.80.

In 2023, Christi Center volunteers contributed the equivalent of

# \$212,201.40

in services.

## SPONSORS

A big thank you to the sponsors and individuals who donated their time, talent and treasure to make Christi Center’s services available free of charge.

Cara Fox & Boys  
Katherine Fox  
Leah Fox  
Susan & Don Cox

Shelley Friend  
Joe & Jackie Stafford  
Cindy McCoy

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 **LORENZ & LORENZ**





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Greg & Dawn Crouch  
Foxy Scout Moms  
Debby Krueger  
John McKinnerney

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## STAFF 2024

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