

SONOMA COUNTY KIDS

COMMUNITY REPORT 2023



Many agencies strengthen the safety net supporting the well-being of youth of ages 0-21. The County of Sonoma Human Services Department alone invested \$925,000 in child abuse prevention services in 2023 and the following data offers a picture of the wide scope and impact of local child welfare and protection programs and services, including:

 Community child abuse prevention services, including in home parent education, therapy services, resource assistance and case management.

Contracted services that are part of family reunification efforts.



 A family service center for families that have adopted a child and reside in Sonoma County.

FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION

539 individual youth and Non-Minor Dependents (NMDs) were in foster care at some time during 2023. They were cared for by foster families and relatives, in Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program or Regional Center Homes, or in transitional homes for youth going to school or working.

92 individual youth were cared for at the emergency shelter, the Valley of the Moon Children's Home during the year.

91 children and youth had their placement closed due to reunification with their families, after an average of 421 days in care.

29 children and youth were adopted by forever families.

REPORTS AND INVESTIGATION



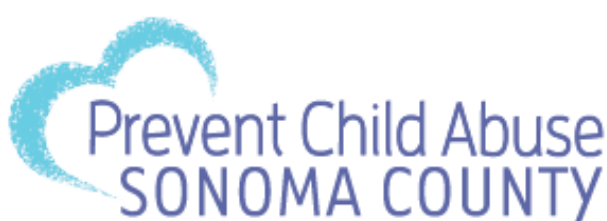
8917 callers reported concerns to the Child Protection Hotline resulting in 5,298 referrals being assessed for investigation.

1596 in-person investigation by the Family, Youth and Children's Division.

191 investigated referrals were confirmed as rising to the level of abuse known as having substantiated allegations.

The table below shows a breakdown of substantiated allegations by the Most Serious Allegation and by Reporting Party:

General Neglect	63.2%
Severe Neglect	14.9%
Caretaker Abuse/Incapacity	12.1%
Sexual Abuse	4.8%
Physical Abuse	3.5%
Emotional Abuse	.3%
At risk, sibling abused	1.3%



Prevent Child Abuse - Sonoma County is our county's child abuse prevention council. Our work is to establish an effective, cooperative and coordinated response to end child abuse. Child Parent Institute coordinates and leads the group in partnership with Family, Youth and Children.

There are services and support for parents and children in our community. Being a parent is the hardest job you will ever have! At CPI we offer free parenting classes (visit calparents.org/classes) or call the parent support line to get a free consultation with a parent educator at (707) 755 - 2858. Resources to meet basic needs, such as diapers, can also be found at CPI. All services are offered in both English and Spanish.

Preventing Child Abuse is Everyone's Concern - everyone plays a role in this work. So please get involved! To join our efforts, email robinb@calparents.org. To report concerns about the well-being of a child or youth, call the anonymous and confidential Sonoma County Child Abuse Hotline 24/7: (707) 565-4304.