

October 2025



Advocates
for Children

Build Families. Protect Children.

Capital Campaign Report





Advocates for Children Prevention & Advocacy Center - September 2023

In 2021, **Advocates for Children** embarked on an ambitious journey to meet the growing needs of children, youth, and families in Northwest Georgia. Our Board of Trustees launched the ***Build Families. Protect Children.*** Capital Campaign, with our leadership committed to three primary objectives:

- 1** *Establish a regional headquarters for prevention and advocacy services.*
- 2** *Expand residential housing for youth in foster care and those at risk of homelessness.*
- 3** *Invest in sustainable program operations.*

We are thrilled to share the successful completion of this milestone effort, which has positioned Advocates for Children to serve more than 20,000 children, youth, and families across Northwest Georgia. Together-with the unwavering generosity of friends, private foundations, faith partners, businesses, and state leaders-we have invested \$8.7 million into our community. This incredible achievement reflects the power of partnership and the shared commitment to protecting children, empowering youth, and uplifting families.



PREVENTION & ADVOCACY CENTER

Centrally located at 827 Joe Frank Harris Parkway (US 41) in Cartersville, the new Prevention and Advocacy Center serves as the hub of our work to prevent child abuse and strengthen families. What was once an abandoned bank, has been transformed into a warm, welcoming space where children, youth, and families can find hope and support. The Center includes four family meeting rooms, a state-of-the-art forensic interview suite, two therapy offices, three areas dedicated for the Family Resource Center, and a large multipurpose room designed for training, community gatherings, and small events. The second floor has dedicated offices and workspace for our administrative and program staff members, providing space for collaboration and growth as we serve families across Northwest Georgia.



Services offered here:

THE CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER FOR BARTOW COUNTY

NORTHWEST GEORGIA - COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES (CASA)

THE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

IN-HOME PARENT EDUCATION (formerly known as Hope In Your Home)

YOUTH ACCOUNTABILITY PROGRAM (formerly known as SKORE)

YOUTH INDEPENDENT LIVING (formerly known as RISE)



NEWMAN HOUSE: A HOME FOR HOMELESS YOUTH



Our second major campaign goal was the expansion of residential services, achieved through the creation of Newman House. Named in honor of the Newman Family, one of the founders of Advocates for Children more than 40 years ago, this beautiful farmhouse-style residence sits adjacent to the Prevention and Advocacy Center in Cartersville.

Newman House includes 14-bedroom suites, a cozy living room with fireplace, a spacious dining area and commercial kitchen, an education room, and an outreach center for community youth. It serves young people in foster care and those at risk of homelessness, offering safety, stability, and the foundation for a brighter future.

This transformational project was made possible through a one-time state grant for rural housing expansion in our region, along with generous philanthropic support.

Services offered here:

**HOUSING FOR YOUTH IN
FOSTER CARE**

**EMERGENCY HOUSING FOR
RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH**

DROP-IN CENTER
(case management, community connections & crisis support services)

SAFE PLACE COORDINATION
(organizing community-based crisis response services)

EVERY DOLLAR PUT TO WORK

The campaign faced unexpected challenges, including post pandemic rising construction costs and site changes, yet the resilience of our community and the dedication of our supporters saw us through. Thanks to the unwavering support by local, state and even national supporters, we exceeded our fundraising goal with \$8.7 million secured to meet our strategic priorities. Every dollar was put to work, transforming facilities, expanding housing for vulnerable youth, and strengthening services across Northwest Georgia.

Campaign Financial Summary:

TOTAL RAISED:
\$8,752,055

PRIVATE DONORS | Individuals, Private Foundations, + Businesses
GOVERNMENT GRANTS
PROPERTIES SOLD

TOTAL EXPENSES:
\$8,752,055

PREVENTION + ADVOCACY CENTER
Purchase, renovation, construction, furnishings, and equipment.
NEWMAN HOUSE
Land purchase, construction, furnishings, and equipment.
CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH HOUSING
Properties purchased for transitional housing programs.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
Events, signage, and outreach.
FUTURE SUSTAINABILITY
Contribution to reserves and endowment.

THANK YOU:

Completion of the Build Families. Protect Children. campaign is a celebration of what can be achieved when a community comes together with shared purpose.

Because of your generosity, children have safe places to heal, youth have homes where they can grow, and families have the resources they need to thrive. We are filled with joy and gratitude for the many individuals, businesses, churches, civic groups, and foundations that stood with us. This accomplishment belongs to all of us, and it will continue to shape the future of Northwest Georgia for generations. Together, we have built more than buildings; we have built hope, strength, and a brighter tomorrow.

WITH GRATITUDE TO THE TEAM BEHIND THE VISION

Capital Campaign Steering Committee

Rob Hankinson
CO-CHAIR
Glenn Jordan
CO-CHAIR

Vicky Durham
Carrie Trotter
James Jarrett
Matthew Gambill

Patrick Nelson
Jud McGivaren
Glen Merritt
Barry Justus

Executive Leadership

Rachel Castillo
PRESIDENT & CEO

Amanda Tant
VICE PRESIDENT

Campaign Consultants

Scott Sikes *COLUMNS FUNDRAISING*
Carla Lavender *CAMPAIGN MANAGER*
Janet Tharp *CAMPAIGN FEASIBILITY STUDY*
Jeff Edwards *FINANCE & SPECIAL PROJECTS MANAGER*
Cagle Communications *CAMPAIGN MARKETING*

Design + Construction

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN
Prevention & Advocacy Center
Croft & Associates

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN
Newman House
7 Hills Architecture

BUILDER/ CONTRACTOR
Womack Lewis & Smith

PROJECT CONSULTANTS
Ely Construction Company
Shaw Industries
Summit Grading

Board of Trustees SERVED BETWEEN 2021-2024

Jimmy Andrews
Ted Boone
LeAnne Ely
Sean Ely
Dr. Marc Feuerbach
Leah Harper
Hannah Hart
Tina Hudson
Nicole Hughes

Laura Jeanneret
Chase Jones
Barry Justus
John Lampley
Dierdra Lanier
Jerry Maxwell
Jud McGivaren
Darnice Moss
Glen Merritt

Patrick Nelson
Nancy Newman
(EMERITUS)
Samir Patel
Sid Rowser
Ginger Tyra
Lora Warner
Andre Weaver
Erika Wyant



*Protecting Children.
Empowering Youth.
Uplifting Families.*



**Advocates
for Children**

www.advochild.org

Advocates for Children is an organization of dedicated, skilled professionals and compassionate volunteers committed to the well-being of children, youth and families. Through comprehensive advocacy and unwavering support, we strengthen our communities across Northwest Georgia.

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