

# Are you aware?

Every eight minutes a child is sexually assaulted.\*

Only about 16% of rapes are ever reported to the police.

93% of juvenile sexual assault victims know their attackers.\*

15% of sexual assault and rape victims are under age 12.\*

victims of sexual assault are:

- 6 times more likely to suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder.\*
- 13 times more likely to abuse alcohol.\*
- 26 times more likely to abuse drugs.\*

A report of child abuse is made every ten seconds.\*

The average age at which girls first become victims of prostitution is 12 to 14 years old, and the average age for boys is 11 to 13 years old.\*

Almost 40% of American children were direct victims of two or more violent acts and one in ten were victims of violence five or more times.\*

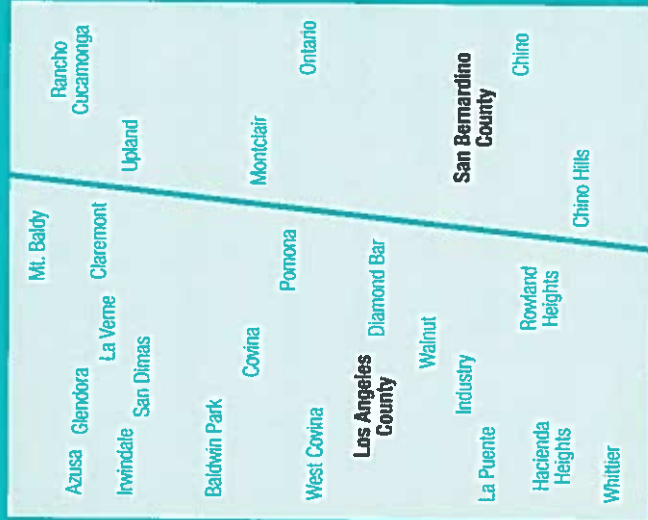
Almost one in ten American children saw one family member assault another family member, and more than 25 percent had been exposed to family violence during their life.\*

28% of U.S. students in grades 6-12 experience bullying at school.\*

Child survivors of trauma need help to cope with the physical, emotional, social and legal problems arising from exposure to violent crime and neglect.\*

\*Citations are available in our office

Project Sister Family Services Serves the Following Cities and Communities:



#### Mailing Address:

PO Box 1369 Pomona, California 91769-1369

Business Office: 909.623.1619 / 626.915.2535

Fax Number: 909.622.8389

#### 24-Hour Hotlines:

Rape Crisis Hotline: 909.626.4357

Child Abuse Hotline: 626.966.4155

[www.projectsister.org](http://www.projectsister.org)



## Our mission

To reduce the trauma and risk of sexual assault and child abuse.

Funded by a grant from the California Office of Emergency Services

# child abuse treatment program CHAT



## Our history

In the early 1970s, in response to a series of violent assaults on local college campuses, a small group of women created a 24-hour rape crisis hotline in their Claremont homes. In 1972, they founded an organization named Project SISTER, an acronym for Sisters In Service To End Rape. Now known as Project Sister Family Services, the agency provides sexual assault crisis intervention and outreach services to 24 cities and 8 unincorporated areas in a region of approximately 2.4 million people located in eastern Los Angeles and western San Bernardino Counties. In 2015 Project Sister Family Services introduced a new child abuse treatment program designed to expand services to all abused children under age 18. This program is known as CHAT.

## CHAT

Our CHAT program offers specific services to child victims of sexual, physical and emotional abuse, neglect, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, human trafficking, school bullying and other violent crimes including violent crimes that a child has witnessed.

## What to watch for

A child who is being abused may not tell anyone because of guilt or shame. It is especially important to pay attention to changes in behavior or academic performance.

There are some additional behaviors that may suggest that a child is a victim of abuse. Watch for these warning signs and take action when there is no logical explanation for what you are observing:

- **Withdrawal from family, friends or usual activities**
- **Depression, anxiety or unusual fears**
- **Sudden loss of confidence**
- **Tuancy from school**
- **Running away from home**
- **Rebellious or defiant behavior**
- **Development of an eating disorder**
- **Attempts of suicide**

## Crisis intervention services

### **24-hour HOTLINE**

Callers receive immediate, confidential assistance from specially trained volunteer advocates by calling our child abuse hotline (626) 966-4155. Information and community resources are provided.

### **Accompaniment program**

Volunteer Advocates are available to provide support and follow-up services to child survivors at the hospital for forensic medical exams, at schools, police stations, district attorney's office and/or court.

## Counseling services

Therapists provide counseling to child victims under age 18. Counseling sessions are available Monday-Saturday by appointment.

### **Walk-in crisis services**

We offer face-to-face, crisis intervention with a sexual assault counselor without an appointment. Please call our office for more information and updated walk-in hours.

### **Individual therapy**

In individual therapy, children will have a safe, confidential and private space where they will be heard and understood.

### **Teen support groups**

We offer specialized support groups for teens because the support of peers can play an important role in the healing process.

*All Crisis Intervention Services are offered free of charge and delivered in both English and Spanish.*

## Ways to help

There are many ways to help survivors in their healing process including: joining our board of directors, becoming a volunteer advocate or making a donation.