

Volume 1 | Issue 1
Fall 2019

Listen to Kids Start-up Fundraiser!



*Nearly 70% of all
reported sexual
assaults occur to
children 17 and under.*

Please consider helping Listen to Kids establish a robust financial reserve so that we can mobilize swift and specific help to teens in crisis.

Health Crisis.

According to Darkness to Light, about one in 10 children will be sexually abused before their 18th birthdays. That's about one in seven girls and one in 25 boys.

The life-long health problems associated with child abuse are severe and include depression, addiction, suicide, and sometimes even deadly disease. Untreated adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse are more than twice as likely to be arrested for a violent offense, often becoming perpetrators of sexual abuse themselves. It's a vicious cycle.

***We CAN break the
cycle of abuse.***

In New Orleans, many victims of child abuse are brought to the New Orleans Child Advocacy Center (NOCAC) on the Children's Hospital campus for treatment, evidence collection, and mental health services. NOCAC is a HUGE part of the solution. They're staffed with trauma-informed, caring doctors, nurses, social workers, police liaisons, and lawyers. When the police bring a child to NOCAC after a rescue, a team of wonderful people is ready to help calm the child and make arrangements for appropriate treatment. However, funding restrictions mean that NOCAC can't always meet a child's physical needs for clean clothing, food, and self-care items. At the forensic medical exam, a teen's clothes are often confiscated as evidence, and he or she must leave NOCAC wearing a hospital gown, sometimes barefoot. We want survivors to walk out of NOCAC with hope and dignity, believing that healing is possible.

Help us End the Cycle.

There is hope!

Children are more responsive to treatment than adults. If we provide for these kids' physical and emotional needs, they'll have a better chance of reducing or even reversing PTSD symptoms. Most of the teens who receive services at NOCAC are homeless, in foster care, or otherwise wards of the state. Social workers there see the same kids over and over, as they run away often and sometimes live on the streets. Together we can make sure every teenager leaves the NOCAC house in nice, new clothes and shoes, and with some dignity -- maybe even hope. In a small way, we can be the family they need through this time.

The Future

By the end of 2020, we hope Listen to Kids will be financially strong enough to: 1) support mental health care "scholarships" for teens, and 2) provide "scholarships" for providers to receive trauma-

specific training. We're partnering with providers to fund high-quality, research-backed PTSD treatments, such as physician care, counseling, and mindfulness.

In the next five to ten years, our dream is to expand services to the Jefferson Parish CAC, Covenant House (for homeless teens), Juvenile Court programs, and maybe even to teens in other cities.



Ways to give:

- **Venmo** (Listen to Kids)
- **Check** payable to "Listen to Kids" (mailing address below)
- **Clothes ordered online** & sent directly to our mailing address. (below)
- **Amazon Smile** (Legacy School, Inc. DBA Listen to Kids)
- **PRAY** for the social workers and teens we serve.
- **Hand-write letters** of encouragement to teens in crisis. (See FB page for instructions.)
- **Go through your closet** & bring/send us anything in good condition that still has a tag on it. (Hospital rules require that all donated clothes be brand new.) We can arrange a pick-up location in New Orleans if needed; just email us at ListentoKidsnola@gmail.com.

How Much do We Need? We'll use your donation where it's most needed. For example:

\$7 buys a one-month supply of female sanitary products

\$30 provides an outfit for one survivor

\$50 funds one Hope Kit full of self-care and mindfulness tools

\$700 pays for an in-house Trauma-sensitive yoga training session for NOCAC employees

\$1,500 grants a provider scholarship for more specific trauma training

\$6,000 pays for one teen's therapy for one year



Contact & Follow Us!

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Be well,
Michelle Scandurro
Founder, Listen to Kids

Listen to Kids is a project of The Legacy School, Inc., a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt public charity.