



FACT SHEET

FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

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The Mission of the Family Justice Center of Hillsborough County is to improve the lives of family violence victims through community collaboration and the provision of comprehensive services in a single location.

What is the Family Justice Center of Hillsborough County?

The Family Justice Center of Hillsborough County (FJCHC) is a community-wide collaborative between public, private and non-profit organizations to provide comprehensive services to domestic violence victims and their families in a centralized location, or ‘one-stop-shop.’

Where did the idea to create a one-stop-shop for domestic violence victims originate?

FJCHC is part of The President’s Family Justice Center Initiative, and is one of 15 sites around the nation, and the only in Florida. The Hillsborough County site was awarded a federal grant for the planning, development, and establishment of family justice center that is modeled after San Diego’s pilot Family Justice Center.

The San Diego pilot program with the one-stop-shop approach produced significant results for domestic violence victims. Instead of a domestic violence victim having to travel to numerous places for various services – police reports, meetings with prosecutors, food and shelter, medical care, counseling and other needed assistance – the one-stop-shop approach places all of these services under one roof. Additionally, it fosters collaboration among the coordinators of all of these services to serve as a single, supportive team for the domestic violence victim.

Why is a family justice center approach needed in Hillsborough County?

Hillsborough County has the second highest domestic violence offense rate in Florida – 8,841 offenses last year as reported in the 2007 Florida Department of Law Enforcement Uniform Crime Data. That is about 24 calls to law enforcement per day!

A victim of domestic violence must seek help from a number of agencies that are related, yet uncoordinated in their efforts. Victims must often tell the story of unspeakable trauma several times to many different agencies, and the victim may become frustrated, and even stopped, by the hurdles of traveling to many locations and additional pain of revisiting the trauma many times. The FJCHC provides a team of coordinated services to deliver immediate relief to victims and their families from the pain of domestic violence.

Collaborators with the FJCHC include:

On-Site Partners

- ACCESS Florida
- Bay Area Legal Services
- Bethany's Group
- Big Brothers/ Big Sisters
- Centre for Women
- Child Abuse Council
- Clerk of the Circuit Court of Hillsborough County
- Crisis Center of Tampa Bay
- Deaf Service Bureau
- Drug Abuse Comprehensive Coordinating Office, Inc. (DACCO)
- Family Advocacy Program/MacDill Air Force Base
- Gulf Coast Legal Services
- Hillsborough County Health & Human Services Department
- Hillsborough County Department of Children's Services
- Hispanic Services Council
- Life Builders Counseling Inc.
- Metropolitan Ministries
- Northside Mental Health Center
- The Spring of Tampa Bay, Inc.
- Wheels of Success
- Mellissa Jagrup L.M.H.C.

Off-Site Partners

- AMEN Outreach
- APPLE Trauma Response Center for Children and Adults
- Catholic Charities
- Central Florida Behavioral Health Network, Inc.
- Children's Justice Center
- Dress for Success
- Elder Justice Center
- Even Start
- Equality Florida
- Florida Department of Corrections
- Girl Scouts of Suncoast Council
- God's Pedal Power
- Gulf Coast Jewish Family Services
- Hillsborough County Criminal Justice Liaison
- Hillsborough County Domestic Violence Task Force
- Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office
- James & Jennifer Harrell Center for the Study of Family Violence at the University of South Florida College of Public Health
- Office of the Attorney General, State of Florida
- Plant City Police Department
- Positive Spin
- Salvation Army Correctional Services
- Salvation Army Women's Transitional Program
- San Diego Family Justice Center Foundation
- School District of Hillsborough County
- State Attorney's Office, Hillsborough County, 13th Judicial District
- Tampa Police Department
- Temple Terrace Police Department
- U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Florida
- USF Advocacy Program
- University of South Florida Police Department
- K 9 Community Assistance Network (K9 CAN)

Chaplain Program Partners

- Congregation Beth Shalom
- Christ the Servant Apostolic Catholic Church
- FL Council of Churches
- Floodgates Community Church
- Hispanic Jail Ministries
- Metropolitan Community Church
- New Millennium Community Church
- Turning Hearts Ministries
- Word Ministries Worldwide

Major Funders

- Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County
- Children's Board of Hillsborough County
- Community Foundation of Tampa Bay
- Debartolo Family Foundation
- Office on Violence Against Women
- Verizon Wireless

- Boston Family Justice Center, Boston, Massachusetts
- Brooklyn Family Justice Center, Brooklyn, New York
- Erie County Family Justice Center, Buffalo, New York
- Family Justice Center of St. Joseph County, South Bend, Indiana
- Knoxville, Tennessee Family Justice Center, Knoxville, Tennessee
- Nampa, Idaho Family Justice Center, Nampa, Idaho
- Northwest Ohio Family Justice Centers, Defiance, Ohio
- Ouachita Parish Family Justice Center, Monroe, Louisiana
- Sitka, Alaska Family Justice Center
- Somos Familia Family Justice Center, Las Vegas, New Mexico
- St. Louis Family Justice Center, St. Louis, Missouri