

SONOMA COUNTY KIDS

COMMUNITY REPORT 2024



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 2024.

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.

Services offered in the community to support Sonoma County residents who have adopted a child.

Partnering with youth and parents who have lived experience.

FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION

471 individual youth and Non-Minor Dependents (NMDs) were in foster care at some time during 2024. 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.

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

53 children and youth had their placement closed due to reunification with their families, after an average of 243 days in care.

47 children and youth were adopted by forever families.



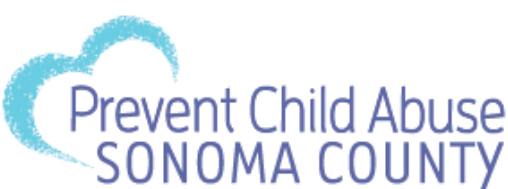
REPORTS AND INVESTIGATION

8,972 callers reported concerns to the Child Protection Hotline resulting in 4,724 referrals being assessed for investigation.

1,559 required in-person investigation by the Family, Youth and Children's Division

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

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| General Neglect | 68.7% |
| Severe Neglect | 6.9% |
| At risk, sibling abused | 6.9% |
| Caretaker Abuse/Incapacity | 5.7% |
| Physical Abuse | 5.5% |
| Sexual Abuse | 3.4% |
| Emotional Abuse | 2.9% |



Prevent Child Abuse - Sonoma County is our county's child abuse prevention council to establish an effective, cooperative and coordinated response to end child abuse.

There are services and support for parents and children in our community. Child Parent Institute (CPI) offers free parenting classes (visit calparents.org/classes) and a parent support line 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.