

Safe and Nurturing Families

Austin, Texas

Presented by:

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The Team



SAFE | stop abuse for everyone



The purpose and impact

The **purpose** of this program is to expand the capacity of domestic violence programs in Central Texas to help abused parents learn techniques to help their children heal from the trauma that they witnessed or experienced.

The **focus** is on strengthening the relationship between parent and child and to overcome trauma.

The **impact**:

- **Education** and **support** for survivors at the intersection
- Improved **relationships** with court personnel
- Improved **system** response
- 68% of clients: **maintained** custody or **reunified**

In the words of the CPS Court Judge

“SAFE Future has been working in partnership with the Travis County Family Court and services SAFE staff provide to families struggling with interpersonal abuse and child welfare are positive and impactful – a real game changer. The education, support and collaboration SAFE provides often enables children to remain safe and together with a non-abusive parent, which is in the child’s best interest as well as our community.”

– Judge Aurora Martinez Jones



From our CPS Court Advocacy clients:

SAFE |

*“Just having her there **makes me not scared** to testify. She made me not scared. She gave me a **feeling of comfort**. When I had to sit and look at the person who abused me, she had a way for me to sit so I didn’t have to look at him when I was testifying. Having her help me process afterwards, good or bad, was **helpful**.”*

*“I felt **safe** with them. I feel like **they saved my life**. Being sent by CPS, and meeting them I feel like **really changed everything** in my case. I didn’t think I needed the DV101 class because I still loved him. But once I started going to the classes **it changed**. They told me about when he calls me names even that is domestic violence and I didn’t know that. The last time he hit me in the head it was enough.*

*They are **not nagging** at me like CPS. They are more **calming and relaxed**. They will text me and check in on me. My advocate was better than my lawyer. **My advocate helped me know** what was going on. It gave me a lot of **comfort**. I feel like if it wasn’t for her, I probably would not have **gotten my kids back** this early. ”*

Thank you!

For more information:

<https://www.safeaustin.org/our-services/advocacy/support-for-families-in-cps/>

The SAFE Way Podcast Series:

<https://www.safeaustin.org/podcast/>

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