



OUR MISSION

For more than 30 years, the Kids in Crisis mission has been steadfast: to protect infants, children and teens from abuse, neglect and family crisis. To fulfill this mission, Kids in Crisis provides free, round-the-clock crisis intervention counseling, comprehensive, temporary emergency shelter, a wide array of prevention programs in local communities and advocacy throughout Connecticut.

Since its founding in 1978, Kids in Crisis has served more than 96,300 Fairfield County children and their families. This year, Kids in Crisis provided assistance to 7,300 adults and children in Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Norwalk, Ridgefield, Stamford, Weston, Westport and Wilton.

203-327-KIDS

www.kidsincrisis.org

 **Kids in Crisis**

*free, round-the-clock help
for children, teens and parents*

DEAR FRIEND OF KIDS IN CRISIS:

We write at a time of unprecedented challenges, facing issues heretofore unseen.

For Kids in Crisis this year has been "The Perfect Storm." The tumultuous economy has resulted in a significant drop in individual donations, less support from foundations and weakened corporate commitment. Simultaneously, our investment portfolio has been impacted as the financial markets struggled for a foothold. While the impact has been significant, the Agency's many years of sound and careful financial management have provided some cushion during these difficult times.

At the same time Kids in Crisis has experienced these economic difficulties, the need for our services, particularly residential care, has seen a dramatic increase, rising more than 30% over the previous year. As you know, the recent global chaos reaches deep. Issues are mounting for adults and children. Stress breeds family conflict. Some families are unexpectedly homeless, with no one to turn to, no place to go. As they have for the past 30+ years, they turn to Kids in Crisis.

Times like these reiterate the need for the programs and services offered by Kids in Crisis. We need to be here, helping struggling children and families work through their issues and develop an action plan for success. We must remain true to our mission of keeping every child safe and sound.

Despite the tumult and the difficulties we have faced, the devoted members of our staff have demonstrated unparalleled commitment and dedication. They have put the needs of the children above their own by shouldering increased work loads, reductions in pay, suspended contributions to retirement plans and a rise in medical premiums. They have made these sacrifices so that Kids in Crisis can continue to meet the growing needs in all our communities. We thank them for their passion and their support. We are also grateful for the dedication provided by the Agency's Board of Directors. Like so many volunteers at Kids in Crisis, their passion for helping our neighbors in need is unmatched.

No doubt, the months ahead will continue to be challenging. We must reiterate the importance of Kids in Crisis among existing and new supporters. We must deliver high quality programs that meet demonstrated – and increasing – needs, all while keeping a tight rein on costs. We must continue to be here for the rising number of families and children who need help managing the increasing difficulties in their lives. Kids in Crisis remains committed to these objectives.

We thank you for your support of Kids in Crisis and partnering with us to provide extraordinary care during extraordinary times.

Shari L. Shapiro
Executive Director

Harry Day
Chairman of the Board

OUR HISTORY / OUR MISSION

CRISIS HOTLINE: 327-KIDS

SAFEHAVEN FOR KIDS

THE TLC HEALTH CENTER