



The Nampa Family Justice Center's
Counseling Services Provided to Children:
An Analysis of Data between
January 2009 and November 2017

Yonnie Chyung

Max Graham

Department of Organizational Performance and Workplace Learning

College of Engineering

Boise State University

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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- A team of researchers from the Organizational Performance and Workplace Learning department at Boise State University volunteered to conduct an analysis of client intake data, focusing on counseling services provided to children by the Nampa Family Justice Center from January 2009 until November 2017.
- Among 16,445 counseling-specific intakes recorded between January of 2009 and November of 2017, 7,639 indicated child clients, including their multiple (2 to 10+) visits. After removing multiple visit entries referencing the same name, the team identified that the Center provided counseling services to 1,371 unique child clients through 10 different counseling partners during that timeframe.
- The child clients were mostly from Nampa and Caldwell, Idaho.
- More than half of them were girls (57.8%).
- Close to half of them (41.9%) were 7-12 years old, one-third of them (32.1%) were 0-6 years old, and the remaining one-fourth (26.0%) were 13-17 years old.
- Over half of the child clients were Caucasian (52.7%) and about one-fourth of them were Hispanic (27.4%).
- The most frequent types of abuse that the child clients experienced were sexual abuse (24.3%), witnessing violence (22.2%), and physical abuse (16.4%).
- Compared with boys, girls were statistically more often victimized by sexual abuse [$\chi^2(1) = 44.425, p < .001$] and witnessing violence [$\chi^2(1) = 7.744, p = .005$]. Other types of violence were not statistically significantly different among gender groups.
- Children between 13-17 years of age were statistically more often victimized by sexual abuse [$\chi^2(2) = 30.460, p < .001$], while children of 7-12 years of age were statistically more often a witness to violence [$\chi^2(2) = 11.825, p = .003$]. Other types of violence were not statistically significantly different among age groups.
- Caucasian children were most often victimized by sexual abuse ($n = 227$), witnessing violence ($n = 163$), and physical abuse ($n = 150$) in that order, whereas Hispanic children were most often victimized by witnessing violence ($n = 107$), sexual abuse ($n = 88$), and physical abuse ($n = 48$) in that order.
- Physical abuse was significantly positively correlated with neglect ($r = .345, p < .001$), and neglect was significantly positively correlated with drug endangerment ($r = .332, p < .001$).
- The data clearly shows that the Center is a tremendously important resource for child victims of abuse who need professional counseling assistance.

2 THE NAMPA FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER

2.1 THE CITY OF NAMPA

Nampa, Idaho was formed in 1891, shortly after the Oregon Short Line Railway made its way through the landscape of what is now known as Canyon County of Idaho (City of Nampa, 2018). About 120 years later, Nampa has now grown to have a population of over 91,000. It is the most populous city of Canyon County, Idaho and the third-most populous city in Idaho after Boise and Meridian (United States Census Bureau, 2016).

2.2 THE CENTER SERVICES

The Nampa Family Justice Center (referred to as NFJC or the Center thereafter) is located in downtown Nampa, Idaho. The Center is a partnership of agencies that provide comprehensive prevention and response services to clients to help end family violence and sexual assault (NFJC, 2018a). The partner agencies include:

- Boise State University,
- Canyon County Prosecuting Attorney's Office,
- Canyon County Sherriff's Office, City of Nampa,
- Idaho Department of Health and Welfare,
- St. Luke's CARES program, and
- local counseling providers (see Appendix A).

Working with the partner agencies, the Center provides victims of domestic abuse/violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and elder abuse with the following services in a single location at the Center:

- filing for protection orders
- counseling for family violence/trauma
- making safety plans
- getting referral to resources through case management
- applying to get services from Idaho Legal Aid Services (NFJC, 2018b).

The Center offers these services at no cost to clients who are experiencing or have experienced said abuse or assault. Many of the Center's intake population are residents of Canyon County. However, the Center also welcomes and provides services for those from outside locales, occasionally including neighboring states. Due to the large number of Spanish-speaking residents in these areas, the Center provides bilingual services.

2.3 THE CENTER STAFF

The Center's Executive Director, Ms. Criselda De La Crus, oversees the Center's activities. The Center is also staffed with members from the partner agencies including counselors, healthcare professionals, lawyers, and police. The Center also offers internships and volunteer opportunities to students and the public.

3 COUNSELING SERVICES PROVIDED TO CHILDREN

3.1 COUNSELING SERVICES

The Center works with its partners, organizations, and practicing professionals in the region to provide counseling services that it may not be able to provide through its own staff. The Center's clients who receive counseling services are from all age groups from infants to elders.

3.2 CHILD INTAKES

In 2009, the Center became an accredited member of the National Children's Alliance as a Children's Advocacy Center. The Center has been an important resource for victims of abuse and their families who are seeking professional assistance to escape sometimes life-threatening domestic situations. A clear need for having a Children's Advocacy Center in the region is demonstrated by the increased number of child victims (age of zero to 17) reported to the Center over the last decade. Among the total annual intakes at the Center, about 10% of them were child intakes (including multiple visits) in 2006, which grew to 37% in 2010, and 57% in 2013 (De La Crus, 2017).

4 DATA ANALYSIS PROJECT

4.1 DATA ANALYSIS NEEDS

To ensure the provision of adequate services and respond to an increasing demand, the Executive Director needs to systematically monitor the counseling services provided to children. In the winter of 2017, a team of researchers from the Organizational Performance and Workplace Learning program at Boise State University volunteered to analyze intake data specifically for child counseling services. The Executive Director approved the data analysis project and provided the team with access to the data. Both team members signed a non-disclosure agreement.

4.2 DATA ANALYSIS PROCEDURE

The team reviewed extant data collected between January 2009 and November 2017. Due to the inherent sensitivity of the information, the team encrypted all electronic files with a password and stored them in password-protected computers and secure Google shared folders. The team's analyses included the following:

1. Number of children counseled by year, city, and counseling provider
2. Number of children counseled by demographic:
 - gender
 - age, and age group (0-6 years, 7-12 years, and 13-17 years)
 - ethnic group
3. Number of children counseled by type of abuse experienced (domestic dating violence, drug endangerment, neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, sexual assault, and stalking) and by demographic (gender, age group, and ethnic group)
4. Correlation among type of abuse experienced

5 RESULTS

5.1 NUMBER OF COUNSELED CHILDREN BY YEAR, CITY, AND COUNSELING PROVIDER

From the Center’s database, the team retrieved 16,445 datasets (intakes) associated with counseling services provided to clients of all ages between January of 2009 and November of 2017. Among 16,445 counseling-specific intakes, 7,639 intakes indicated child clients, including their multiple (2 to 10+) visits. The team removed multiple visit entries referencing the same name, and identified that the Center provided counseling services to 1,371 unique child clients between January 2009 and November 2017, mostly from the Nampa and Caldwell areas.

See Table 1, Table 2, and Table 3. For detailed statistical results, see Appendix B. For the results in graphs, see Appendix C.

Table 1. Number of Counseled Children by Year

| | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 (Nov.) | Total |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------|-------|
| Number of counseled children by year | 12 | 111 | 127 | 162 | 160 | 255 | 214 | 179 | 151 | 1371 |

Table 2. Number of Counseled Children by City

| | Adrian | Boise | Caldwell | Court | Eagle | Emmett | Fruitland | Garden City | Givens Hot Springs | Greenleaf | Homedale | Idaho | Kuna | Marsing | Melba | Meridian | Middleton | Nampa | New Plymouth | Notus | Nyssa | Ontario | Parma | Payette | Star | Sweet | Weiser | Wilder | Unknown | Total |
|--------------------------------------|--------|-------|----------|-------|-------|--------|-----------|-------------|--------------------|-----------|----------|-------|------|---------|-------|----------|-----------|-------|--------------|-------|-------|---------|-------|---------|------|-------|--------|--------|---------|-------|
| Number of counseled children by city | 1 | 28 | 252 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 14 | 2 | 7 | 7 | 11 | 11 | 23 | 899 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 19 | 47 | 1371 |

Table 3. Number of Counseled Children by Provider

| | Peak | Interns | IBH | Integrity | Strive | Tylene Channer | Warm Springs | Valley Crisis Center | Spanish | Stephanie P. | Total |
|--|------|---------|-----|-----------|--------|----------------|--------------|----------------------|---------|--------------|-------|
| Number of counseled children by provider | 725 | 176 | 118 | 116 | 96 | 73 | 34 | 18 | 12 | 3 | 1371 |

5.2 NUMBER OF COUNSELED CHILDREN BY GENDER, AGE, AND ETHNICITY

Among 1,371 unique child intakes for counseling, 792 (57.8%) were girls (see Table 4).

Close to half of them (41.9%) were 7-12 years old, one-third of them (32.1%) were 0-6 years old, and the remaining one-fourth (26.0%) were 13-17 years old (see Table 5).

Over half of the child clients were Caucasian (52.7%) and about one-fourth of them were Hispanic (27.4%) (see Table 6).

For detailed statistical results, see Appendix B. For the results in graphs, see Appendix C.

Table 4. Number of Counseled Children by Gender Group

| | Male | Female | Unknown | Total |
|--|-------|--------|---------|--------|
| Number of counseled children by gender | 556 | 792 | 23 | 1371 |
| % | 40.6% | 57.8% | 1.7% | 100.0% |

Table 5. Number of Counseled Children by Age and Age Group

| Age | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | Total |
|------------------------------|----------------|---|----|----|-----|-----|----------------|-----|-----|----|-----|----|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----------------|
| Number of counseled children | 10 | 8 | 12 | 68 | 115 | 102 | 125 | 109 | 109 | 79 | 103 | 80 | 94 | 76 | 85 | 71 | 73 | 52 | 1371 |
| Age group | 0-6 years | | | | | | 7-12 years | | | | | | 13-17 years | | | | | | Total |
| Number of counseled children | 440 (32.1%) | | | | | | 574 (41.9%) | | | | | | 357 (26.0%) | | | | | | 1371 (100%) |

Table 6. Number of Counseled Children by Ethnic Group

| | African American | American Indian/Alaskan Native | Asian/Pacific Islander | Caucasian | Hispanic | Other | Unknown | Total |
|---|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|----------|-------|---------|-------|
| Number of counseled children by ethnicity | 14 | 26 | 10 | 723 | 376 | 77 | 145 | 1371 |
| % | 1.0% | 1.9% | 0.7% | 52.7% | 27.4% | 5.6% | 10.6% | 100% |

5.3 NUMBER OF COUNSELED CHILDREN BY TYPE OF ABUSE AND BY DEMOGRAPHIC

Some children were victims of more than one type of abuse (thus, n = 1480). The most frequent types of abuse that the child clients experienced were sexual abuse (24.3%), witnessing violence (22.2%) and physical abuse (16.4%) (see Table 7).

Compared with boys, girls were statistically more often victimized by sexual abuse [$\chi^2(1) = 44.425, p < .001$] and witnessing violence [$\chi^2(1) = 7.744, p = .005$]. Other types of violence were not statistically significantly different among gender groups (see Table 8).

Among the three age groups, children of 13-17 years of age were statistically more often victimized by sexual abuse [$\chi^2(2) = 30.460, p < .001$], while children of 7-12 years of age were statistically more often a witness to violence [$\chi^2(2) = 11.825, p = .003$]. Other types of violence were not statistically significantly different among age groups (see Table 9).

Caucasian children were most often victimized by sexual abuse (n = 227), witnessing violence (n = 163), and physical abuse (n = 150) in that order, whereas Hispanic children were most often victimized by witnessing violence (n = 107), sexual abuse (n = 88), and physical abuse (n = 48) in that order (Table 10).

For the results in graphs, see Appendix C.

Table 7. Number of Counseled Children by Type of Abuse

| | Sexual Abuse | Witness to Violence | Physical Abuse | Neglect | Domestic/Dating Violence | Drug Endangerment | Verbal/Emotional Abuse | Sexual Assault | Stalking | Other Abuse | Abuse Unknown | Total |
|---|--------------|---------------------|----------------|---------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------|----------|-------------|---------------|-------|
| Number of counseled children by type of abuse | 360 | 329 | 242 | 142 | 109 | 102 | 94 | 22 | 5 | 10 | 65 | 1480 |
| % | 24.3% | 22.2% | 16.4% | 9.6% | 7.4% | 6.9% | 6.4% | 1.5% | 0.3% | 0.7% | 4.4% | 100% |

Table 8. Number of Counseled Children by Type of Abuse and Gender Group

| Type of abuse \ Gender group | Male | | Female | | Unknown | | Total | |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|---------|------|-------|--------|
| | Freq. | % | Freq. | % | Freq. | % | Freq. | % |
| Sexual Abuse | 93 | 6.3% | 261 | 17.6% | 6 | 0.4% | 360 | 24.3% |
| Witness to Violence | 156 | 10.5% | 170 | 11.5% | 3 | 0.2% | 329 | 22.2% |
| Physical Abuse | 106 | 7.2% | 131 | 8.9% | 5 | 0.3% | 242 | 16.4% |
| Neglect | 58 | 3.9% | 82 | 5.5% | 2 | 0.1% | 142 | 9.6% |
| Domestic/Dating Violence | 43 | 2.9% | 66 | 4.5% | 0 | 0.0% | 109 | 7.4% |
| Drug Endangerment | 42 | 2.8% | 58 | 3.9% | 2 | 0.1% | 102 | 6.9% |
| Verbal/Emotional Abuse | 43 | 2.9% | 51 | 3.4% | 0 | 0.0% | 94 | 6.4% |
| Sexual Assault | 5 | 0.3% | 17 | 1.1% | 0 | 0.0% | 22 | 1.5% |
| Stalking | 2 | 0.1% | 3 | 0.2% | 0 | 0.0% | 5 | 0.3% |
| Other Abuse | 6 | 0.4% | 4 | 0.3% | 0 | 0.0% | 10 | 0.7% |
| Unknown | 25 | 1.7% | 39 | 2.6% | 1 | 0.1% | 65 | 4.4% |
| Total | 579 | 39.1% | 882 | 59.6% | 19 | 1.3% | 1480 | 100.0% |

Table 9. Number of Counseled Children by Type of Abuse and Age Group

| Type of abuse \ Age group | 0-6 years | | 7-12 years | | 13-17 years | | Total | |
|---------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|----------|-------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| | Freq. | % | Freq. | % | Freq. | % | Freq. | % |
| Sexual Abuse | 112 | 7.6% | 117 | 7.9% | 131 | 8.9% | 360 | 24.3% |
| Witness to Violence | 101 | 6.8% | 162 | 10.9% | 66 | 4.5% | 329 | 22.2% |
| Physical Abuse | 79 | 5.3% | 99 | 6.7% | 64 | 4.3% | 242 | 16.4% |
| Neglect | 43 | 2.9% | 66 | 4.5% | 33 | 2.2% | 142 | 9.6% |
| Domestic/Dating Violence | 38 | 2.6% | 42 | 2.8% | 29 | 2.0% | 109 | 7.4% |
| Drug Endangerment | 34 | 2.3% | 37 | 2.5% | 31 | 2.1% | 102 | 6.9% |
| Verbal/Emotional Abuse | 20 | 1.4% | 45 | 3.0% | 29 | 2.0% | 94 | 6.4% |
| Sexual Assault | 3 | 0.2% | 10 | 0.7% | 9 | 0.6% | 22 | 1.5% |
| Stalking | 1 | 0.1% | 2 | 0.1% | 2 | 0.1% | 5 | 0.3% |
| Other Abuse | 2 | 0.1% | 8 | 0.5% | 0 | 0.0% | 10 | 0.7% |
| Unknown | 18 | 1.2% | 32 | 2.2% | 15 | 1.0% | 65 | 4.4% |
| Total | 451 | 30.5% | 620 | 0 | 409 | 27.6% | 1480 | 100.0% |

Table 10. Number of Counseled Children by Type of Abuse and Ethnic Group

| Type of abuse \ Ethnic group | African American | American Indian/ Alaskan Native | Asian/ Pacific Islander | Caucasian | Hispanic | Other | Unknown | Total |
|------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| Sexual Abuse | 4 | 6 | 1 | 227 | 88 | 11 | 23 | 360 |
| Witness to Violence | 1 | 10 | 3 | 163 | 107 | 19 | 26 | 329 |
| Physical Abuse | 3 | 9 | 2 | 150 | 48 | 14 | 16 | 242 |
| Neglect | 0 | 7 | 1 | 83 | 32 | 7 | 12 | 142 |
| Domestic/Dating Violence | 2 | 3 | 2 | 53 | 33 | 4 | 12 | 109 |
| Drug Endangerment | 0 | 3 | 0 | 55 | 31 | 4 | 9 | 102 |
| Verbal/Emotional Abuse | 0 | 2 | 1 | 51 | 19 | 11 | 10 | 94 |
| Sexual Assault | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 22 |
| Stalking | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Other Abuse | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| Unknown | 1 | 1 | 0 | 33 | 18 | 6 | 6 | 65 |
| Total | 12 | 41 | 10 | 835 | 388 | 78 | 116 | 1480 |

5.4 CORRELATION AMONG TYPES OF CHILD ABUSE

Among the types of abuse (excluding the two least frequent types – sexual assault and stalking), most types of abuse were positively correlated with others. This was especially the case for physical abuse, which was significantly correlated with neglect ($r = .345, p < .001$). Similarly, neglect was significantly correlated with drug endangerment ($r = .332, p < .001$). See Table 11.

Table 11. Correlations among Types of Child Abuse

| | Sexual Abuse | Witness to Violence | Physical Abuse | Neglect | Domestic /Dating Violence | Drug Endangerment | Verbal/Emotional Abuse |
|--------------------------|--------------|---------------------|----------------|---------|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Sexual Abuse | 1 | -.227** | -.033 | -.034 | -.022 | -.074** | -.123** |
| Witness to Violence | - | 1 | .219** | .213** | .157** | .166** | .185** |
| Physical Abuse | - | - | 1 | .345** | .076** | .182** | .109** |
| Neglect | - | - | - | 1 | .051 | .332** | .012 |
| Domestic/Dating Violence | - | - | - | - | 1 | .132** | .059* |
| Drug Endangerment | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | .022 |
| Verbal/Emotional Abuse | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |

* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

6 CONCLUSIONS

The data has clearly shown that the Center is a tremendously important resource for child victims of abuse who need access to professional counseling services. The Center has provided counseling services to over one thousand children in Nampa, Caldwell, and surrounding areas in Idaho who were victimized by various types of domestic violence.

Between 2009 and 2017, 1,371 children were brought to the Center and received counseling due to their experience of various types of abuse such as sexual abuse, witnessing violence, physical abuse, neglect, domestic/dating violence, drug endangerment, and verbal/emotional abuse. In many cases, the Center provided a series of counseling services to the children, as evidenced by a total of 7,639 children intakes recorded during that period of time.

Some types of child abuse tend to be positively associated with each other – for example, the more physical abuse children experience, the more likely they are to be neglected; resulting in increased likelihood of drug endangerment. Thus, the Center would need to continue to provide not only counseling but also other relevant services associated with those types of child abuse.

7 REFERENCES

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8 APPENDIX A. THE NAMPA JUSTICE FAMILY CENTER'S PARTNER AGENCIES

Source: <http://www.nampafamilyjusticecenter.org/481/Partner-Agencies>

- AAFV-Hopes Door
- Boise State University
- Canyon County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- Canyon County Sherriff's Office
- Catholic Charities of Idaho
- City of Nampa
- Crime Victims Compensation Program
- Deseret Industries- Nampa
- Idaho Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence
- Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Idaho Legal Aid
- LOVE Inc.
- Mountain Home Air Force Base
- Northwest Nazarene University
- Peak Idaho Behavioral Health
- St. Alphonsus Medical Center - Nampa
- St. Luke's CARES Program
- Strive Counseling
- Valley Women and Children's Shelter - Nampa
- WICAP

9 APPENDIX B. DATA ANALYSIS OUTPUTS IN LINE OR BAR GRAPHS

See a separate Excel file.