



**THE CHILDREN'S
ADVOCACY CENTER**
OF NORTH & NORTHWEST COOK COUNTY

Empowering Voices. Inspiring Hope.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

DV@CAC - Awareness, Intervention &
Prevention through Safe from the Start (SFTS)

CAC'S CHILD-FOCUSED DV PROGRAM

Safe from the Start
serves children ages 0-5
who have experienced
domestic violence in
their family relationships.



ICADV TRAINING HOURS

CAC's Trauma Therapists
complete this Illinois Coalition
Against Domestic Violence
training to better serve our
client families.

40

CHILDREN AGES 0-5

CAC served these littlest of
the littles through **Safe from
the Start** free programming
in Fiscal Year 2024.

30



SFTS COALITION

As the only **SFTS** program site
in our area, CAC coordinates
a coalition of 34 local partners
who provide additional
community resources for
client families.

MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING



CAC's Trauma Therapists provided
121 hours of **family therapy** and
674 hours of **individual therapy**
for **SFTS** clients in English and Spanish
in Fiscal Year 2024.

EFFECTS OF EARLY EXPOSURE TO VIOLENCE



- * Impacts brain and nervous system development.
- * Can lead to higher rates of anxiety, depression,
high-risk sexual activity and negatively affect
school engagement and performance.

According to the World Health Organization

ABOUT SFTS

Created in 2001 and funded by an Illinois
Criminal Justice Information Authority grant,
SFTS provides developmentally and culturally
appropriate services to children ages 0 to 5 who
have witnessed or been exposed to violence.
These services are also provided to their
non-offending families or caregivers.