



Every Child **Deserves a Champion.**



Nicole's Story

A little over two years ago, I discovered that my daughter had been enduring sexual abuse for four of her six years. My world crumbled.

Looking back, all the signs had been there...once a happy toddler, she had become withdrawn, woke up screaming from nightmares, and seemed terrified of the world around her. I thought it was the terrible twos.

I was devastated and did not know where to turn. Thankfully, we found Center for Child Counseling. Anne-Marie, one of their Trauma Therapists, started working with Nicole...working on her trauma and preparing me for the prosecution of her abuser.

Nicole's testimony was gut-wrenching. To my disbelief, the State Attorney declined to pursue a case against the man who stole my daughter's innocence. The feeling of utter devastation returned.

But we kept fighting. There was simply no other choice. With the support of Anne-Marie, Nicole could continue the healing process...and I pursued justice for my little girl.

Nicole's strength is something to be admired. Over the past two years, I have her blossom back into the funny and strong child that had been hiding behind the curtain of secret abuse. Her nightmares decreased, and she no longer recoiled when touched.

Nicole's emotional gains filled me with such joy. But bringing her abuser to justice became my new duty.

When the state attorney finally decided to prosecute the case, I learned that Nicole needed to provide a court deposition detailing the sexual abuse she suffered. My heart fell and I worried she was break under the stress of recalling her worst nightmares. I called Anne-Marie.

Anne-Marie prepared my daughter, my family, and myself for the court proceedings. Her support and counseling enabled my daughter to stand up in front of her abuser in court.

My daughter's testimony resulted in her abuser being found guilty of his crime. He will likely be behind bars for decades.

Giving to Center for Child Counseling today provides support for young children in Palm Beach County who have experienced abuse and violence.

Donors like you made it possible for my daughter to sleep through the night without the fear of being hurt again.

Donors like you enable Center for Child Counseling to provide services to families who otherwise wouldn't be able to afford them.

Thank you.

Tracey Wallace
Mother