



[Name of Presenter]
[Title of Presenter]



Texas Advocacy Project's Services Overview



DISCLAIMERS



Legal



Pronoun



Copyright

By the time someone calls 911
to report **domestic violence, years of
verbal abuse** have likely taken place.



Agency PSA
[click here to play video in browser](#)



MISSION

Established in 1982 as a nonprofit, Texas Advocacy Project's mission is to end dating and domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking in Texas. Texas Advocacy Project empowers survivors through free legal services and access to the justice system, and advances prevention through public outreach and education.

Our vision is that all Texans live free from abuse.



WHO WE ARE

Texas Advocacy Project is a nonprofit organization providing **FREE** legal and social services to survivors of:

- Domestic & Dating Violence
- Sexual Assault
- Child Abuse
- Stalking
- Human Trafficking

We believe prevention efforts are fundamental to our mission of helping all Texans live free from abuse and have an Advocacy & Outreach team dedicated to survivor services, outreach, and community education.



WHO WE HELP



Provided free legal services to 5,042 primary survivors in power-based abuse cases



Supported clients from ages 3 to 86 years old



Served 10,891 clients and children across the state



Our attorneys reached 2/3 of all counties in Texas



TEXAS ADVOCACY PROJECT
1982 - 2022

WHY WE HELP

THE STATISTICS ARE STAGGERING

- 74% of all Texans will experience domestic violence or will know someone who has
- 1 in 10 children have seen one parent assault another
- 1 in 4 women will experience sexual violence
- U.S. economy loses \$8.3 billion annually due to domestic violence



LEGAL SERVICES



HOW TO GET HELP

Call our Legal Line
800.374.HOPE



OR

Book an appointment
directly at
TexasAdvocacyProject.org



SPECTRUM OF SERVICES

**LEGAL
LINE**

**ASSISTED
PRO SE**

**DIRECT
REPRESENTATION**



LEGAL LINE

- Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking, and Sexual Assault
- Divorce
- Custody
- Child Support
- Modifications of Court Orders
- Termination of Parental Rights
- Grandparents Rights
- Protective Orders
- Annulments
- Adoptions
- Any other family law–related legal questions as they pertain to victims of crime



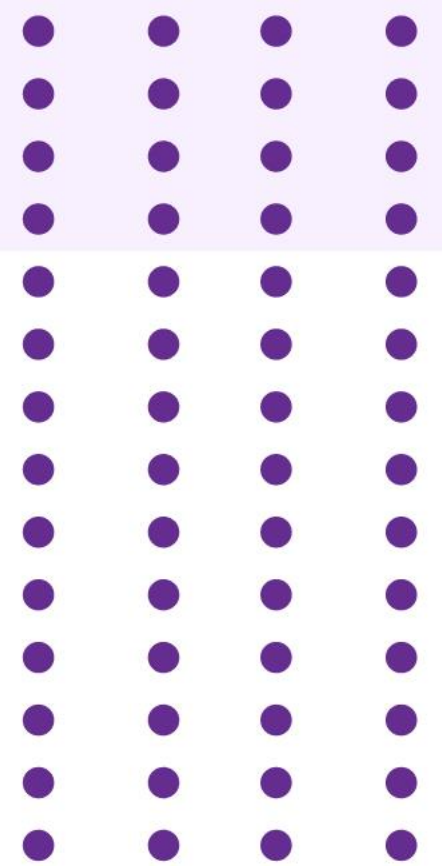
LEGAL LINE

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Safety planning
- Availability of financial resource
- Identification of emergency shelters
- Referral to social service agencies



ASSISTED PRO SE SERVICES



WHAT IS “PRO SE”?

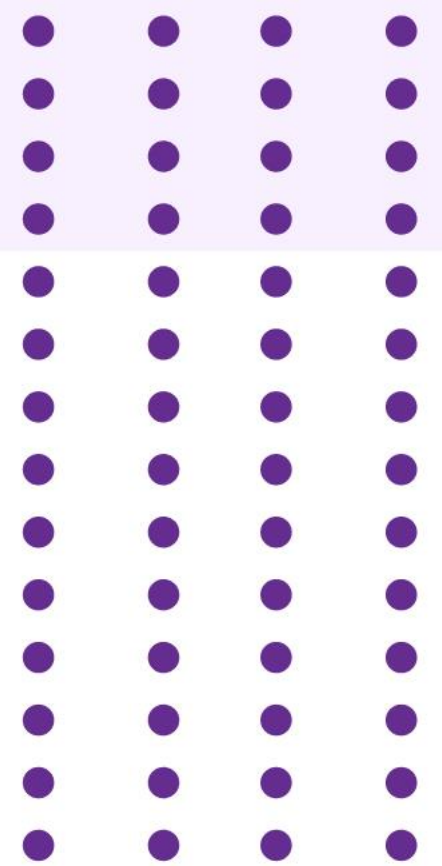
- A person who acts as his or her own attorney is a *pro se* litigant.

ASSISTED PRO SE (APS)

- Our attorneys help victims to represent themselves *pro se* in order to free themselves from their abusers.



ASSISTED PRO SE SERVICES



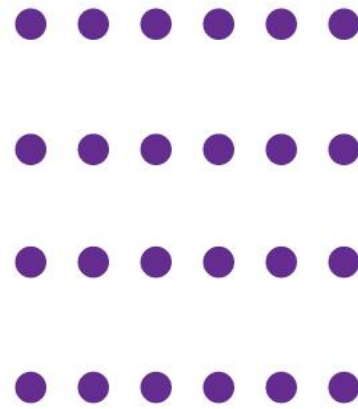
What our attorneys can do for your clients:

- Explain the services available to them
- Discuss legal options
- Safety planning
- Draft all court documents
- Draft instructions and script for clients to use in court
- Guide clients through the legal case step-by-step

APS ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS & *WHEN WE MAKE EXCEPTIONS*

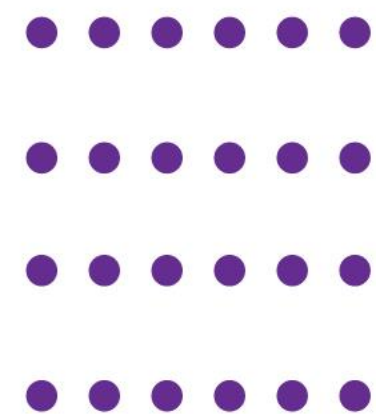
- Clients must have applied for and been denied services by their local legal aid organization,
- Clients must have a telephone number and mailing address that can be used regularly and successfully by staff attorneys,
- Clients must have a good address for the opposing party if there are children involved, AND
- Clients must be capable of speaking before a judge in a courtroom.

TIMING ISSUES

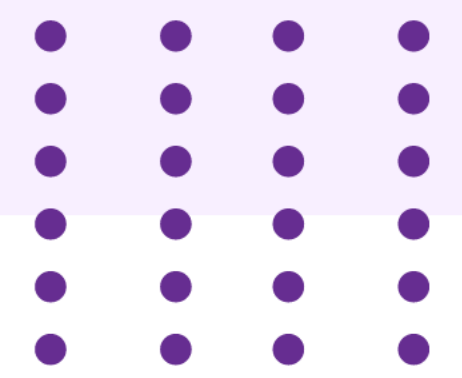


Clients in the following situations *may not* want to proceed with litigation while the situation is ongoing:

- Clients with active and open CPS cases.
- Clients with active and open Attorney General cases.
- Clients who have had a child born during the marriage whose father is not the current spouse and there has not been an adjudication of paternity for that child.
- Clients that are currently pregnant. Clients can apply after the birth of the child with appropriate acknowledgment/denial of paternity documentation.
- Clients can reapply once the case is closed and/or the client obtains orders and supplies a copy to their assigned attorney.

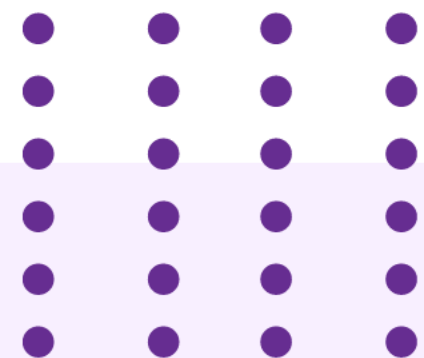


TIMING *NON*-ISSUES



The following DO NOT create issues with moving forward:

- Clients that have been involved with CPS, but the case is now closed.
- Clients that have been to the Attorney General's Office and now have a final order that establishes child support and visitation.



VIRTUAL LEGAL CLINICS

- Virtual Legal Clinics have been tested in 30 shelters.
- Clients can receive face-to-face legal advice and documents in real time using virtual technology.
- Attorneys can make changes to documents and make them available to the client instantly on the computer so she can print them out and take them to court.

CRISIS CONSULTS

MODEL PROGRAM

- TAP attorneys work with local law enforcement and the judiciary in Austin to assist victims of crimes involving family violence.
- TAP attorneys contact victims and discuss legal options, offer safety planning, and conduct lethality assessments in the hours immediately after the crime.
- TAP attorneys can prepare EPO paperwork for submission to the court.



CRISIS CONSULTS

- Though this is only available in Austin, TAP provides training statewide on best practices regarding EPOs for law enforcement, victim liaisons, and the judiciary.
- TAP's EPO in a Box is available on our website and can be downloaded.
- EPO forms are available in English and Spanish on our website.

PRO SE PROTECTIVE ORDER PACKET

- Provides victims of domestic violence and sexual assault legal forms to represent themselves in obtaining a protective order.
- Useful when legal services are not available.
- Packets can be mailed to a caller who contacts any of the agencies legal lines or can be downloaded at www.TexasAdvocacyProject.org
- Available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese



DIRECT LEGAL REPRESENTATION

Texas Advocacy Project can provide direct representation on a case by case basis when resources allow and ***when justice demands.***

Ex: Justice Agenda



ADVOCACY & OUTREACH



HOLISTIC SURVIVOR SERVICES

- Licensed Social Workers
- Risk Assessment
- Emergency Housing Assistance
- Crime Victims' Compensation
- Warm Referrals



OUTREACH TO UNDERSERVED & RURAL COMMUNITIES

In addition to the services that TAP provides to victims, we understand that special attention is needed to reach specific groups that may not be receiving services elsewhere.

These groups include:

- Rural programs
- Military and Veteran communities
- Teens
- Black communities and communities of color



STATEWIDE TRAINING

Our staff and attorneys travel across the State to provide training and ongoing support to programs, the judiciary, community services agencies, and law enforcement officers.

Trainings are **FREE** – *both in-person or virtual* – and we offer **FREE CEUs!**

Training topics include:

- Protective Orders in Texas
- Assisted Pro Se for Victims of Family Violence
- Protecting Legal Rights of Teen Dating Violence Victims
- Sexting and Cyberbullying
- Advocating for Victims of Family Violence and Sexual Assault
- Legal Advocacy and Unauthorized Practice of Law
- AND MANY, MANY MORE!

GET EDUCATED
Training. Outreach. Prevention.

TRAINING

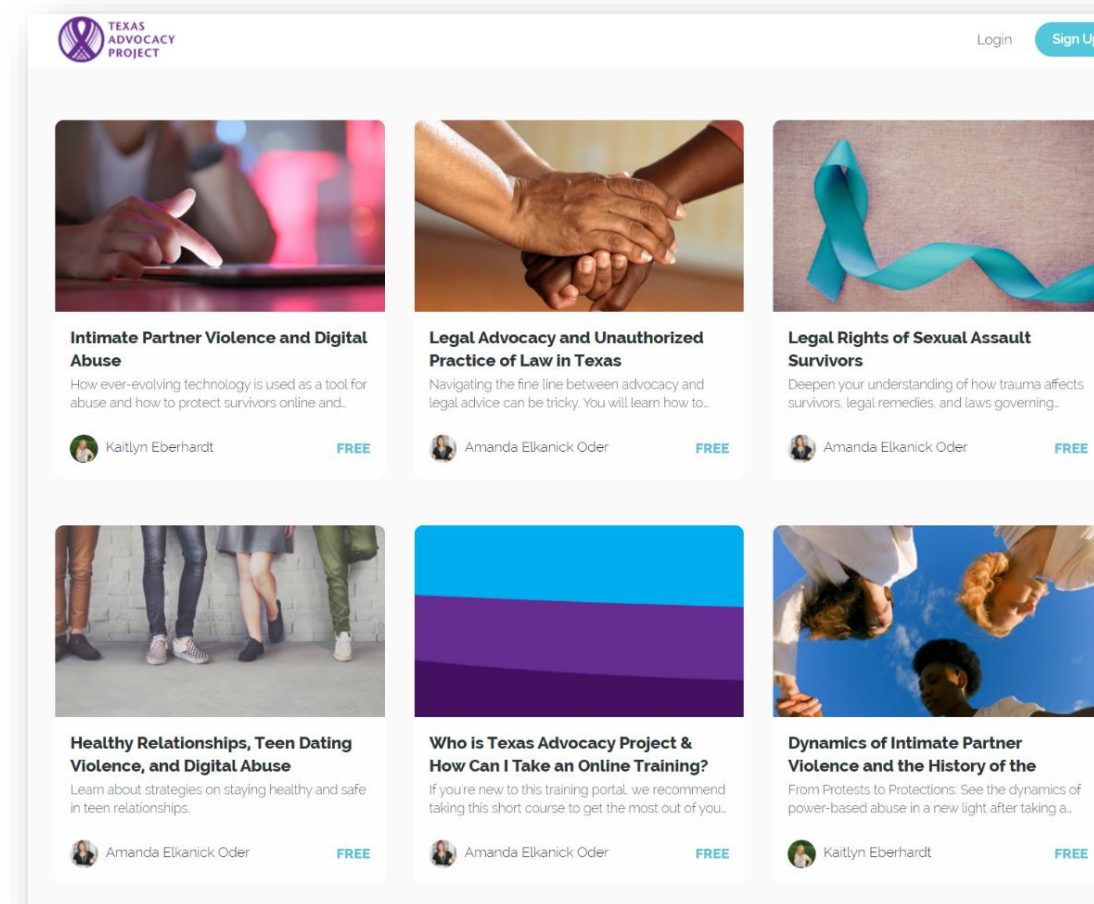
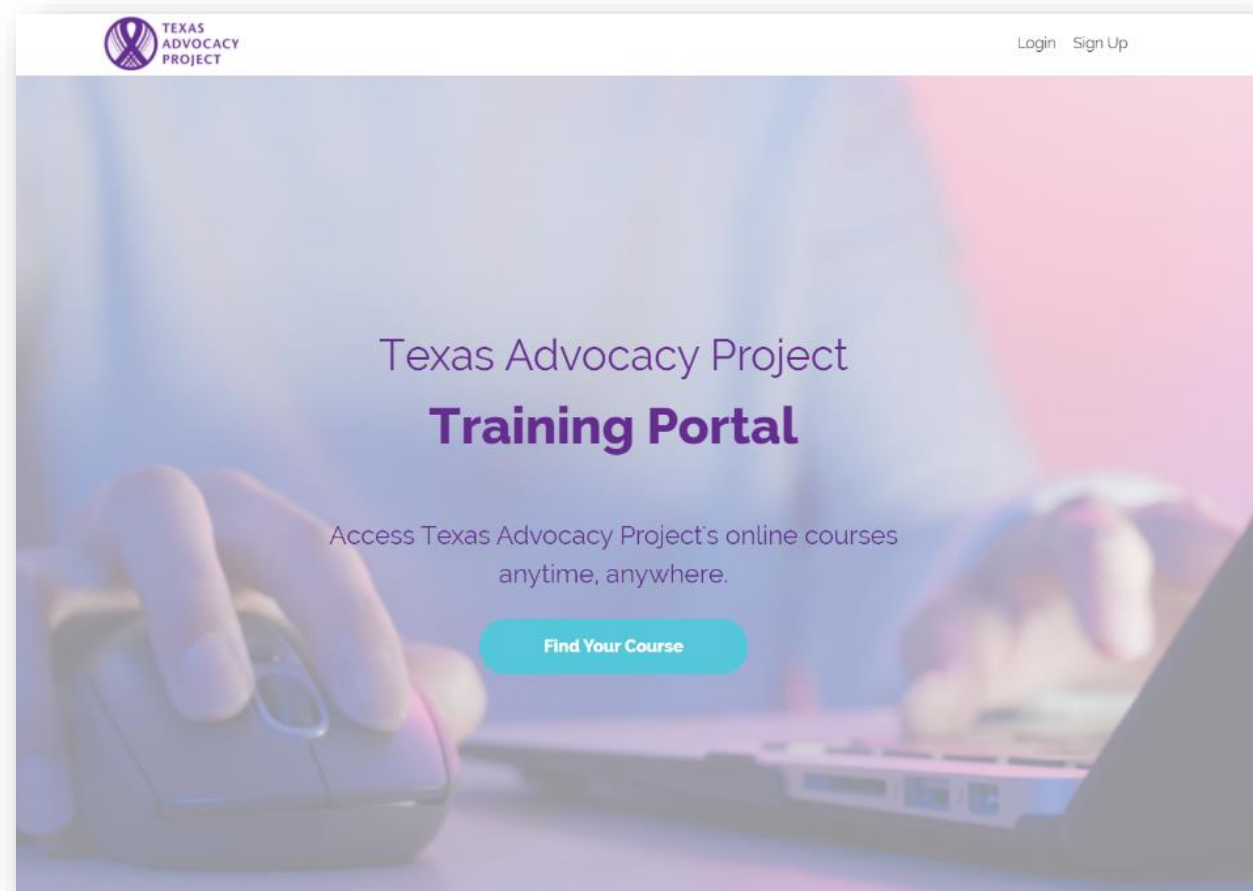
HOPE CAMPAIGNS >

FREE INFORMATIONAL
BROCHURES



TEXAS ADVOCACY PROJECT
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ONLINE TRAINING PORTAL



www.Texas-Advocacy-Project.Teachable.com





ACCESS TO JUSTICE SERVICES



ACCESS TO JUSTICE

TAP provides coordination and oversight of statewide legal efforts that serve victims of domestic violence.

This includes:

- Access to protective order services throughout Texas,
- Enhanced use of the appellate process in cases interpreting domestic violence statutes, and
- Advocacy within institutions that intersect with victims' issues.



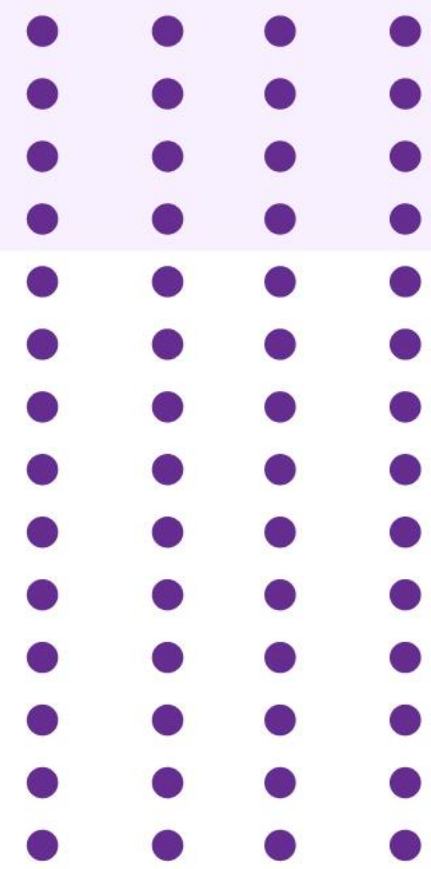
PRO BONO PARTNERSHIPS

- The Assisted Pro Bono Program is designed to assist attorneys taking Pro Bono family violence cases and to recruit attorneys to take more of these cases.
- Attorneys may call TAP to receive input on case strategy or sample legal documents in preparation for a pro bono case.
- TAP is able to review drafted legal documents to provide useful feedback to attorneys.
- Assisted Pro Bono Program Line: 1-877-598-4277

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



TEEN MBASSADORS OF H O P E




VIRTUAL MATH TUTORING FOR A CAUSE

SERVICES FOR YOUR CHILD,
3RD - 6TH GRADE


JACK WATTERS
IS AN 8TH GRADE
HONORS STUDENT,
LOVES MATH AND
WANTS TO BE AN ENGINEER

\$30 PER FACETIME HOUR

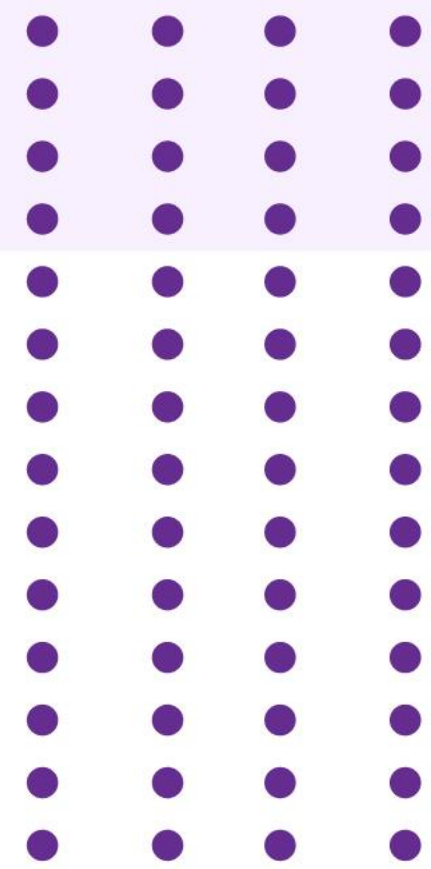


Legal solutions to end violence.

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT



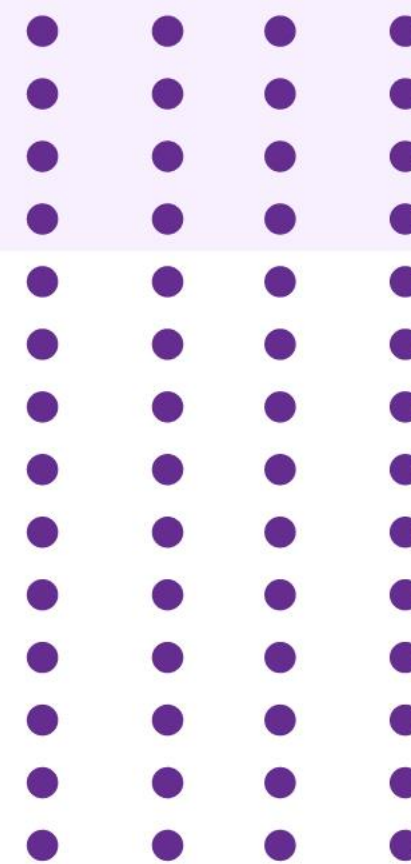
Handbags for Hope



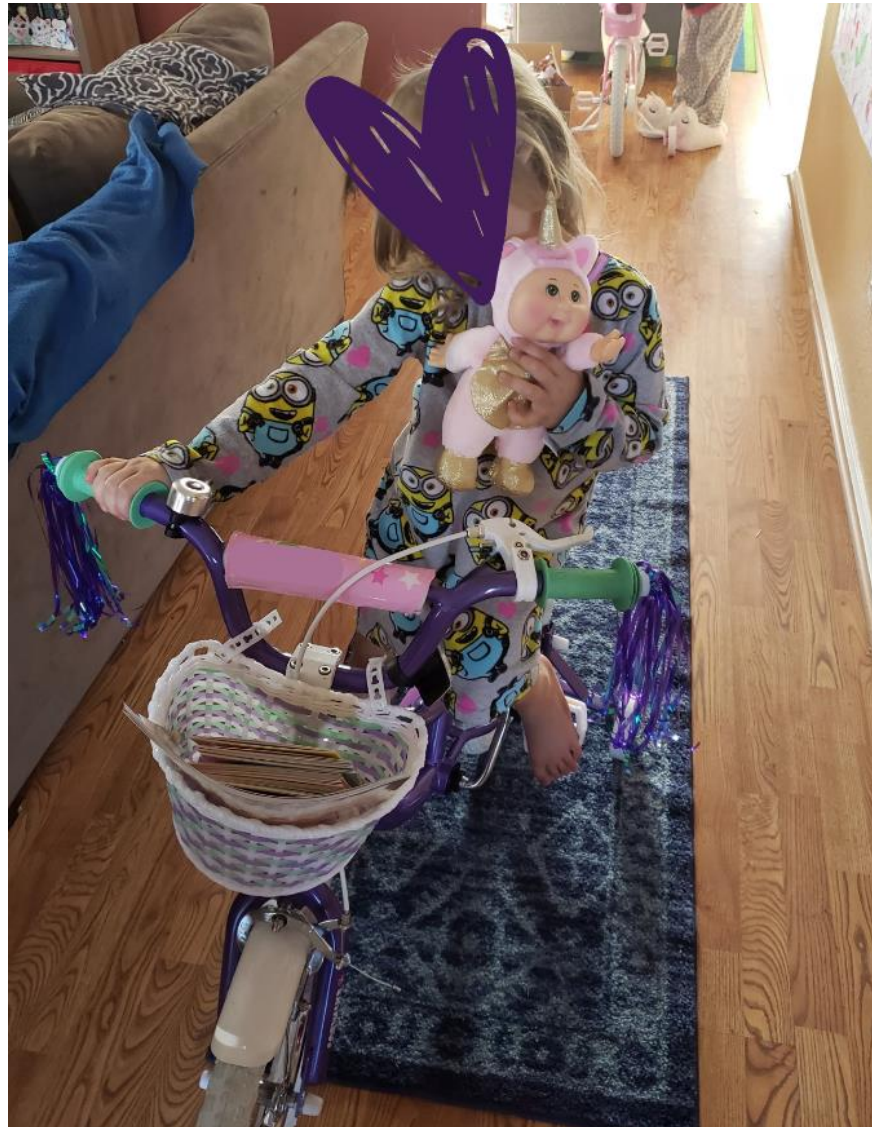
backpacks FOR HOPE



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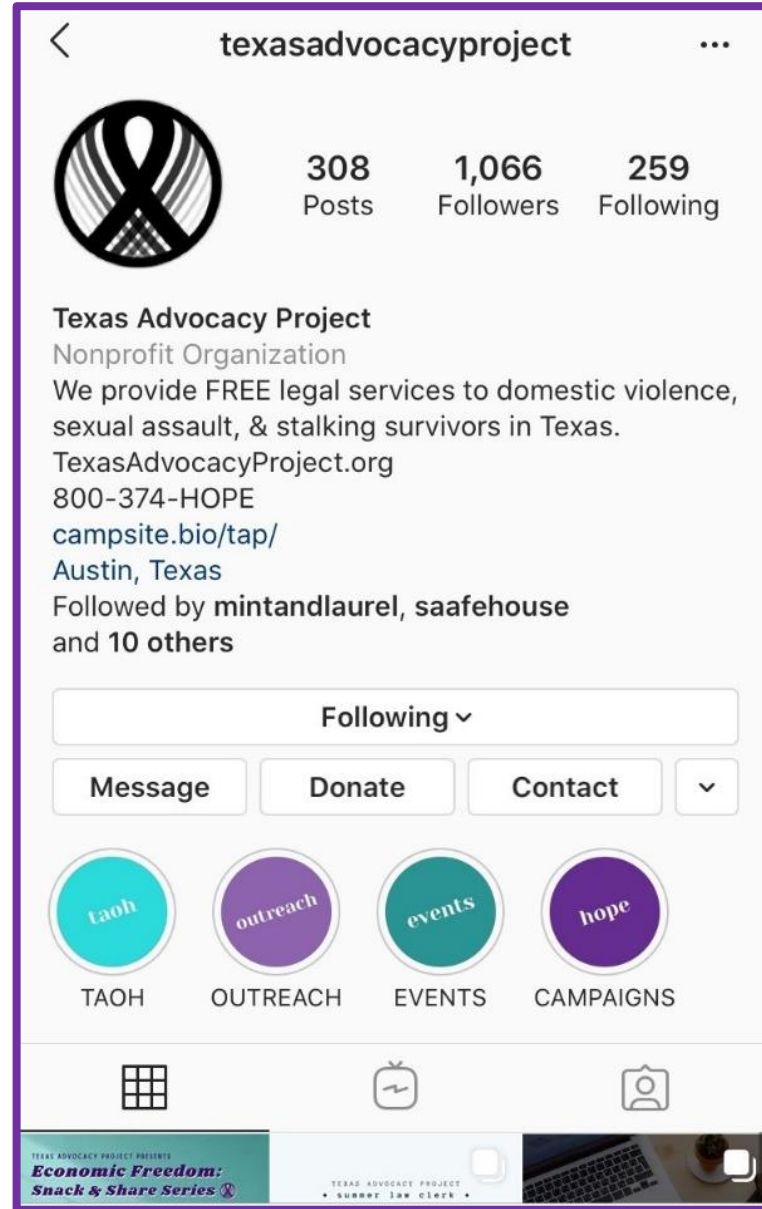
Hope for the Holidays



SOCIAL MEDIA

FOLLOW, LIKE, SHARE!

Instagram @TexasAdvocacyProject

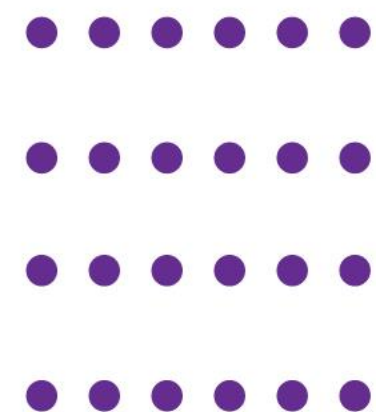
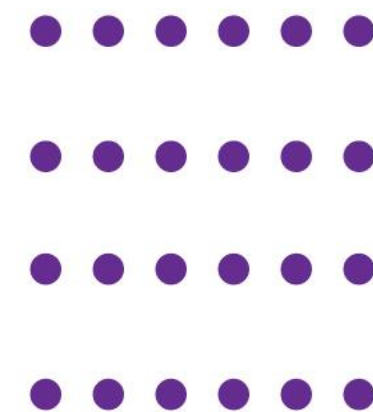


Facebook.com/TexasAdvocacyProject



"The #1 thing that can help
(a survivor)...
are legal services...
That's what
Texas Advocacy Project is.
It's the rainbow
after the rain. "

TEXAS ADVOCACY PROJECT CLIENT
&
2018 COURAGE AWARD RECIPIENT



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1982 - 2022



TEXAS
ADVOCACY
PROJECT
800.374.HOPE

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

[Name of Presenter]

[Title of Presenter]

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