



### AGENCIES SIGN AGREEMENT TO BETTER HELP CHILDREN

Heads of agencies in Caldwell County and Hays County gathered on June 25 at HCWC's Roxanne's House in San Marcos to sign or review Multidisciplinary Team Working Protocols and Inter-agency Agreements. From left to right: Caldwell County District Attorney Trey Hicks, Caldwell County Victims Advocate Carmen Hileman, Luling Police Chief Bill Sala, Child Protective Services Sharla Lawless, Buda Police Chief Bo Kidd, Hays County Sheriff Gary Cutler, Hays County District Attorney Sherri Tibbe and Melissa Rodriguez, Vanessa Paulini, Elva Gonzalez and Marla Johnson with HCWC's Roxanne's House.

This multidisciplinary team collaboration, facilitated by HCWC's Roxanne's House, ensures that the path through the workings of law enforcement, the legal system and state runs more smoothly.

Last year, the institutions affiliated with Roxanne's House worked together on hundreds of cases of child abuse, including 40 cases in which defendants were sentenced to 780 years in prison plus 2 life sentences in addition to 148 years of probation.



### HCWC PRESENTS THE 2013 FALL ADVOCATE TRAINING GRADUATES

Front Row (left to right): Micaela Aranda, Kenzie Dunn, Tosha Draughn, Elyssa Schroeder, Ashlyn Parks, Haven Rea  
Back Row (left to right): Megan Nelson, Lindsey Snyder, Perci Tan, Terri Eidem, Norris Alexander, Ana Palacios, Holly Cunningham-Kizer, Rebecca Swaim and Sharon Skrocki.

## HCWC Happenings



### BIKERS AGAINST CHILD ABUSE HELP LOCAL VICTIM

Bikers Against Child Abuse help abused children feel safe while a child abuse case is being processed by law enforcement and the legal system. In early August, HCWC staff and Texas B.A.C.A. members met a child at her home in Hays County. A child who has been abused by someone bigger and stronger knows too well what it feels like to be small and vulnerable. B.A.C.A. shifts that balance by putting even bigger and stronger people — and more of them — on the child's side.

"A representative from B.A.C.A. came to Roxanne's House to share information regarding their services," noted Vanessa Paulini, Forensic Interviewer. "Shortly after, I met a mother seeking services for her teenage daughter who was still extremely fearful of her abuser and was having trouble attending school." I spoke with the mother about B.A.C.A. and the services they could offer, along with our services; she thought it would be a good fit."



### YOU CAN HELP VICTIMS HAVE A HAPPY HOLIDAY

HCWC's Adopt-A-Family Program helps make a happy holiday season for needy families. HCWC's generous donors give cash or gift cards from Walmart and Target, and trained "elves" accompany adult victims to help them shop with \$75 per child. We even provide the gift wrap and special gift bags for the adults.

Last year, HCWC supported 31 mothers and 63 children. Many clients told our "elves" that they were not expecting to celebrate the holidays because of lack of funds.

If you would like to help a family this holiday season, please send in your donation by Friday December 6, 2013 to HCWC Adopt-A-Family, P.O. Box 234, San Marcos, TX 78667-0234.