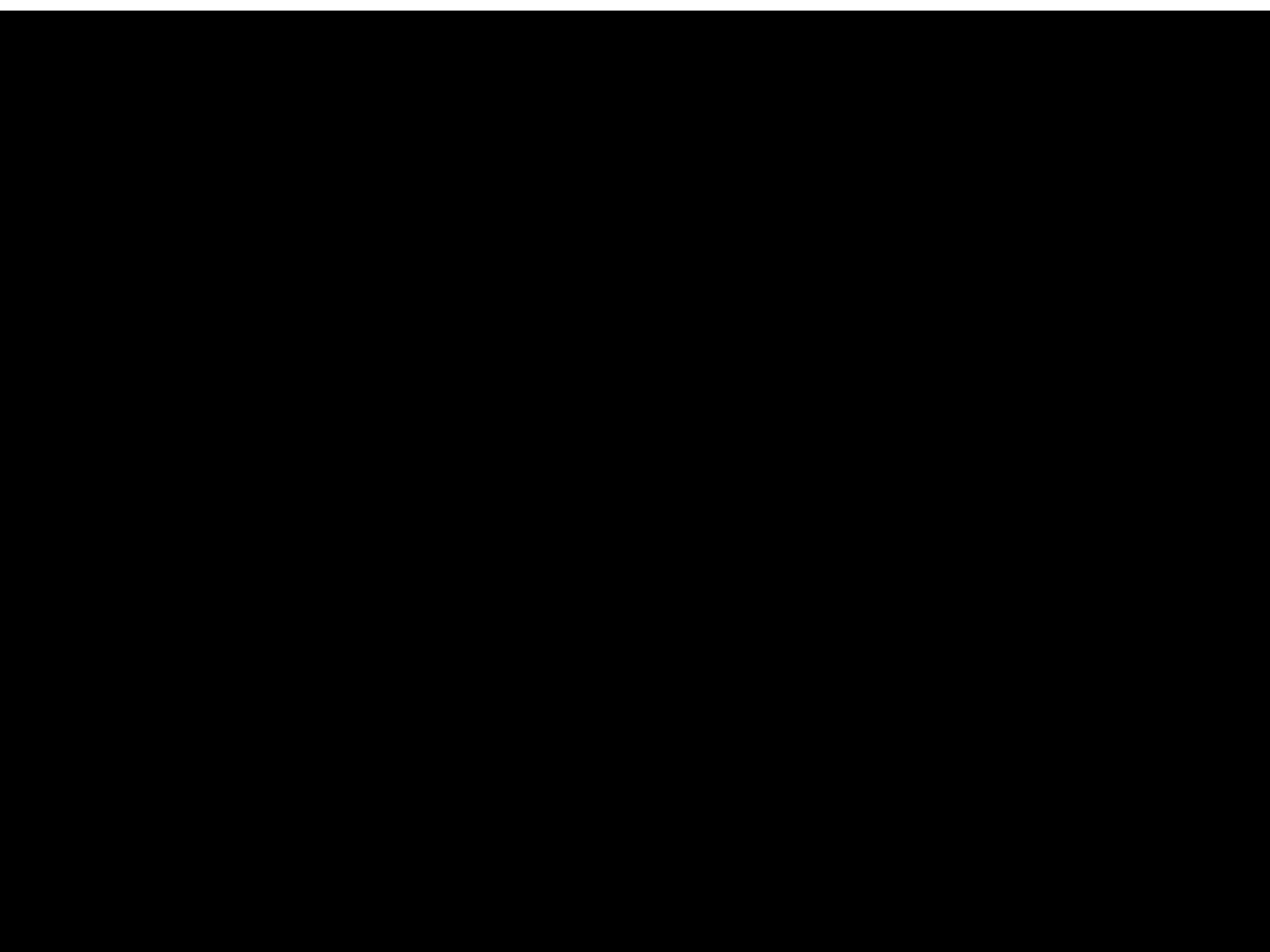


Child and Youth Advocacy

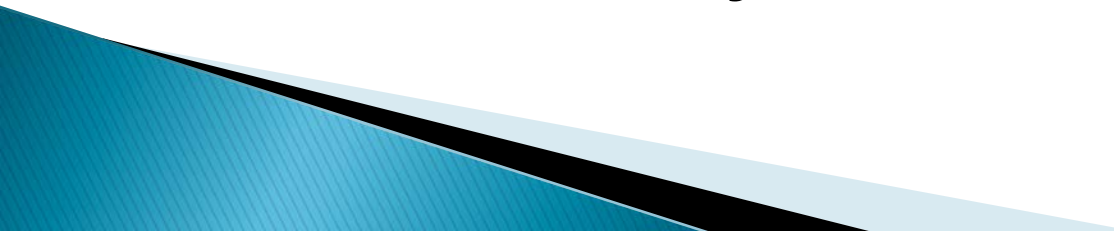
Carri A. Gibson, LMFT



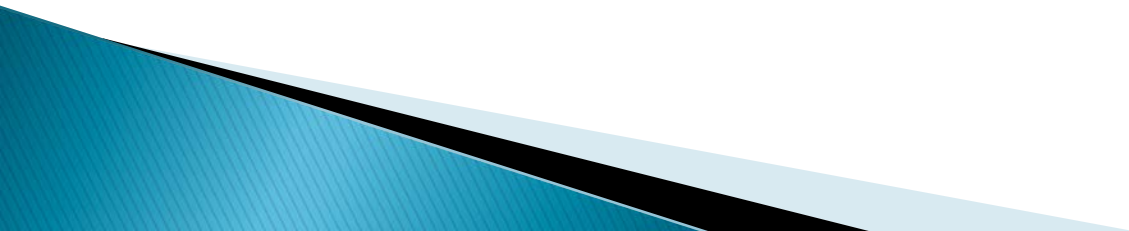
Some Statistics

- ▶ One in three girls are sexually abused by the age of 18
- ▶ One in six boys are sexually abused by the age of 18
- Children ages 12–15 have the highest percentage of sexual abuse, among all types of abuse, for children under 18 years of age
- Teens 16 to 19 years of age were 3 1/2 times more likely than the general population to be victims of rape, attempted rape, or sexual assault
- More than one-quarter of male victims of completed rape (28 percent) were first raped when they were 10 years old or younger.
- 82% of all juvenile victims are female
- There are reports of sexual assault as young as two months
 - AND THESE ARE THE REPORTED STATISTICS

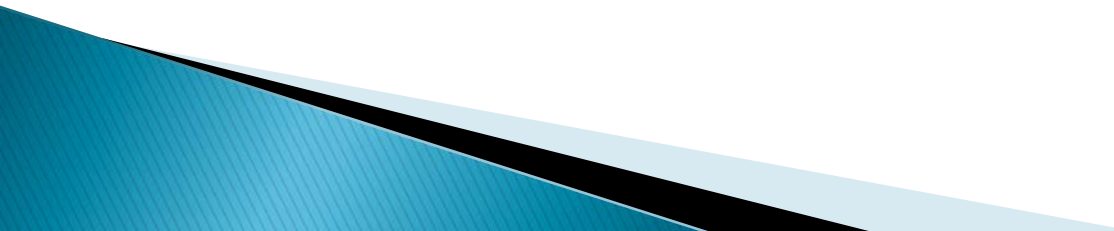
More Statistics

- ▶ Estimated anywhere between 3.3 million and 10 million children witness domestic violence
 - ▶ 40% of child abuse victims also report being exposed to DV
 - ▶ About 1,520 children died from abuse and neglect in 2013
 - ▶ 1 in 4 children experience some form of child maltreatment in their lifetimes
- AND THESE ARE JUST THE REPORTED STATISTICS
- 

What does this mean?



Effects of Domestic Violence

- ▶ Long lasting
 - ▶ Mental and physical health
 - ▶ Brain Injury
 - ▶ Continuation of generational violence
- 

Questions? Comments?



Reporting Child Abuse

- ▶ Mandatory report

- Speak with a supervisor
- Make a CPS report
- Make sure to debrief about this
- Ensure the client knows confidentiality clause and mandatory reporting

Advocacy

- ▶ How do we advocate for children and adolescents?

▶ Empower

- Psychoeducation
 - Their trauma reactions are normal
 - Information on abuse and why it was not their fault
- Validation
 - Their feelings are acceptable and welcome no matter what they are
 - Encourage them to talk
- Point out their strength
 - They have survived the abuse
- Skill building
 - Alternative coping skills and process of emotions
- Choice
 - They are taken seriously and given age appropriate choices

Support

- ▶ Refer them to age appropriate resources in the community
 - Support Groups
 - Individual Therapy
 - Family Therapy
 - Groups that Teach Healthy Relationships

Questions? Comments?

