

## People & Partners

**When danger appears, zebras form a protective circle around their young.**

Our multi-disciplinary team works the same way in the Zebra Centre, providing a continuum of care as children and youth navigate investigative, justice and healing systems.

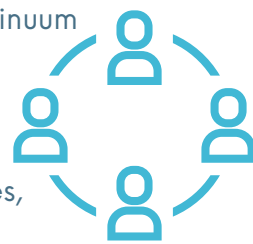
### Zebra Centre Staff

**20 staff members**

Zebra Centre staff and volunteers are dedicated to supporting the Multi-Disciplinary Team in their specialized work relating to investigations, justice, and healing. Plus, the Zebra Centre works with dozens of other community partners and organizations to ensure specialized supports are provided as required.

### Partners

- Alberta Children & Family Services, Edmonton Region
- Edmonton Police Service
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- Alberta Crown Prosecution Service
- Stollery Children's Hospital
- Alberta Health Services – Child & Adolescent Addiction and Mental Health



## Meet Zebra

The Zebra Child & Youth Advocacy Centre serves children and youth who have experienced abuse, supporting them through the investigative, justice and healing process with a continuum of multi-disciplinary resources in a child-friendly environment.

The Zebra Centre is a place that you hope you never have to visit. But in a crisis, when a child discloses being hurt, the Zebra Centre is ready to help!



## Community Education

In 2023, we added a full-time Community Education Lead to our team. This resulted in **51 community tours** of the Zebra Centre, **29 community events** and displays, and **79 community presentations**.

## Philanthropy

The Zebra Centre must raise over \$500,000 from the community annually to fund our services and supports. We are incredibly grateful for the thousands of individual gifts received in 2023 and the **57 Community Fundraising Events and Campaigns** that benefitted the Zebra Centre.



### VIP (Very Important Paws) Facility Dog Program

Year over year, 100% of caregivers express being satisfied or very satisfied with the comfort they or their children receive from the VIP dogs.

In 2023, our dogs (Fletcher, Captain, and Cajun) supported children & youth 552 times!

After nearly 8 years of exemplary service, **Fletcher**, the accredited facility dog, retired in June 2023 after supporting **1,614 children and youth** who experienced abuse.



### Volunteers

**84 active volunteers**

- 47 child advocates
- 9 court accompaniments
- 32 board & committees
- 1 admin volunteer
- 1 research volunteer

### Volunteer Hours

**4,523 hours**

- 3,339 directly supporting children & families
- 1,184 administrative (committees, training, file tasks, events)

[www.zebracentre.ca](http://www.zebracentre.ca)

## Thank you!

It truly takes a herd to help the thousands of kids who come to the Zebra Centre every year. Donors, sponsors, grantors and volunteers make it possible!

### Learn More

- [www.zebracentre.ca](http://www.zebracentre.ca)
- 780-421-2385
- [info@zebracentre.ca](mailto:info@zebracentre.ca)
- @zebracentre
- 7 Floor, 10909 Jasper Ave. Edmonton, AB T5J 3L9

In 2023, we helped a record

**4,362** children & youth

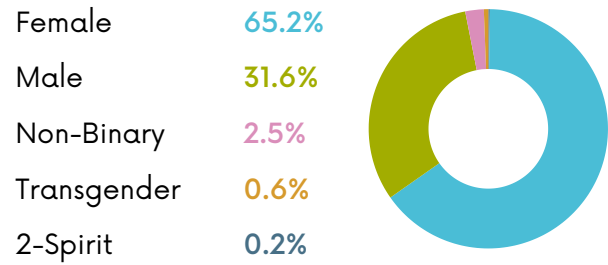
**85% increase in past five years**

**2% increase over 2022**

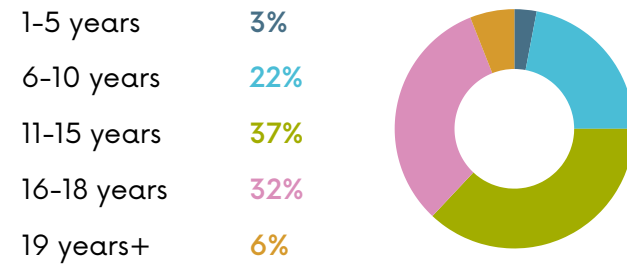
2022: **4,272 children & youth supported**  
2021: **3,844 children & youth supported**

# 2023 Overview

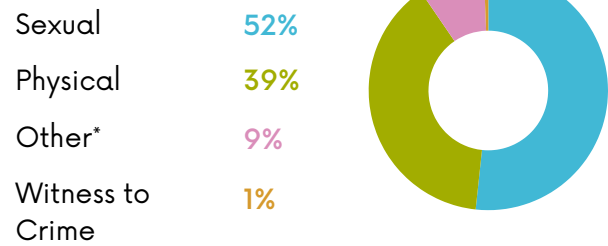
## Gender of Children & Youth Supported



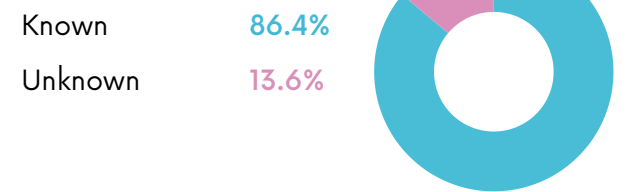
## Ages of Children & Youth Supported



## Reason for Referral



## Relation to Suspect



\*online crimes, abduction and other forms of harm

Since opening in 2002, the Zebra Centre was designed to support about 2,000 children and youth annually. Over the past five years, the number of children & youth coming to the Zebra Centre for services and supports have grown from 2,363 in 2019 to 4,362 in 2023, an **85% increase!**

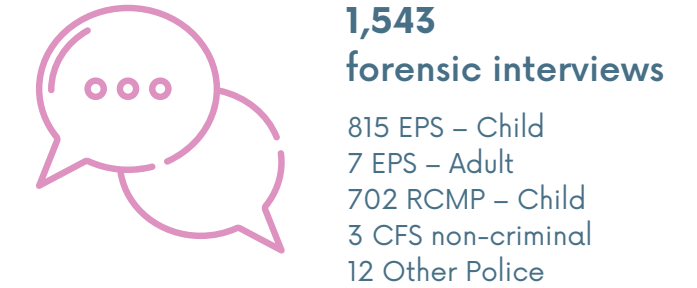
After 22 years operating from the same downtown Edmonton, child-friendly environment, the Zebra Centre is moving in 2024. The new Zebra Centre will more than double the current size, allowing for enhanced and increased services and supports for the thousands of children and youth who come to the Centre for help every year!



## Client Feedback

- **92.5%** of caregivers said staff members at the Centre were friendly & pleasant.
- **94.3%** of caregivers said the Centre has been available to answer questions.
- **94.2%** of caregivers said if they knew anyone else dealing with a situation like the one they faced, they would let them know about Zebra.

# Services & Supports



**1,879 forensic interviews in 2022**  
**1,938 forensic interviews in 2021**

Two Children & Family Services Special Assessors based in the Zebra Centre conducted 732 child forensic interviews in 2023 to support the youngest children and most complex cases.



**CARRT (Child at Risk Response Team)**

**6 Teams** attended  
**744** Community Calls

Based in the Zebra Centre, each CARRT team consists of one EPS Constable and one Child & Family Services Welfare Investigator. CARRT Teams are available 7 days a week and provide front-line supports for children at risk.



**Court Preparation**  
**327** court preps in 2023



**Court Accompaniment**  
**245** children accompanied on 226 court dates in 2023



**Community Connections**  
**1,858** connections made in 2023



**Mental Health Supports**

**378** children, youth & caregivers supported  
244 Trauma Treatment Services through AHS  
134 Saffron Centre

While the Zebra Centre strives to provide a continuum of support in our child-friendly environment, we often refer our clients and safe caregivers to specialized community supports as required.