

Child Protective Services

Dear Editor,

Recent events in our community bring to mind some of the unsung heroes who work among us. I am referring to social workers – the dedicated individuals who devote their lives to addressing and solving difficult and complex societal problems. And while the profession of social work spans a broad variety of issues, a specific example is the social worker in the Child Protective Services (CPS) field. Over one million children are victims of abuse and neglect each year, with one third of those children being under the age of three.

Unfortunately, social workers in child welfare earn drastically lower salaries than other comparable professions such as teachers. Their passion and commitment to protecting the lives of our children comes at a cost of having to live at or below the poverty level in Texas, even when having graduate degrees. So keep in mind how much our CPS social workers sacrifice financially and emotionally, while striving to keep our most precious resource, our children, safe from harm.

We should honor their service by compensating them fairly and recognizing their contributions to our community.