

Through our more than
750 Children's Advocacy
Centers (CACs), National
Children's Alliance
empowers local communities
to effectively respond
to victims of child abuse.

CACs prevent abuse and keep children safe.

Last year, CACs provided child sexual abuse prevention education to **more than 500,000 individuals,** many in school settings.<sup>2</sup>

#### CACs save money.

Their service delivery model saves court, child protection, and investigative dollars averaging \$1,000 per child abuse case compared to non-CAC communities.<sup>3</sup>

### CACs are efficient.

Providing significantly higher rates of coordinated investigations; **81**% of investigations in CACs were coordinated between law enforcement and child protective services, compared with **52**% in comparison communities.<sup>4</sup>

#### CACs hold offenders accountable.

Increased usage of CACs and multidisciplinary teams has resulted in increased successful prosecutions of child abuse perpetrators. One study shows an average 94% conviction rate for CAC cases carried forward.

## CACs help child victims heal.

Child victims of sexual abuse who receive services at CACs are **four times more likely to receive forensic medical exams**<sup>7</sup> and increased referrals for mental health treatment<sup>8</sup> than children served by non-CAC communities.

#### CACs are effective.

Research demonstrates caregivers in CAC cases are more satisfied with the investigation than those from non-CAC comparison sites. **97% of parents would tell others to seek help at the CAC.** <sup>10</sup>

# CACs are committed to research-supported practice.

Last year, National Children's Alliance and its CAC

members provided training to **46,608 child abuse professionals,** ensuring sound investigations and compassionate treatment of victims nationwide.

#### CACs are accountable.

Accreditation of CACs through National Children's Alliance assures the highest standard of care is provided to victims.

Last year, CACs provided victim services to more than

279,000 children<sup>1</sup>

#### References

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- 7. Walsh, W.A., Lippert, T., Cross, T.E., Maurice, D.M., & Davison, K.S. (2008) Which sexual abuse victims receive a forensic medical examination? The impact of Children's Advocacy Centers. Child Abuse and Neglect, 31, 1053-1068.
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- 9. Jones, L.M., Cross, T.E., Walsh, W.A., Simone, M. (2007). Do children advocacy centers improve families' experiences of child sexual abuse investigations? Child Abuse and Neglect, 31, 1069-1085.
- 10. National Children's Alliance 2012 outcome measurements surveys from Children's Advocacy Center members.
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"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much."

- Marian Wright Edelman



CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE<sup>4</sup>

**National Children's Alliance** 516 C Street NE | Washington, DC 20002 Phone: 202-548-0090 | Fax: 202-548-0095

www.nationalchildrensalliance.org