



Massachusetts Children's Alliance Newsletter

Summer 2011



Dr. Nadine Burke, Janet Fine, Tom King, and Teresa Huizar

THANK YOU to all of you who made our first statewide conference, "*Healing, Hope and Justice: An Advanced Conversation*," a huge success...we had representation from every county and over 150 people attended. Check out more pictures from the day on our [facebook page](#). Have ideas for next year's conference? [Drop us an email](#).

MACA to partner with New Hampshire Network of Child Advocacy Centers for "*Scare the Fear Away*"

MACA and our colleagues from the New Hampshire Network of Child Advocacy Centers (NHNCAC) will receive 5% of the profits from Haunted Acres in Candia, New Hampshire. Haunted Acres, along with [Innerspire](#) marketing firm, created the theme of "*Scare the Fear Away*" for this year's event. It is their creative way of giving back to their communities while raising awareness of child physical and sexual abuse.

Thank you to both Innerspire and the team at Haunted Acres for choosing our organizations! The event begins October 7th so stay tuned for more details...

CAC Spotlight: What's Going on at CACs in Massachusetts

> [Berkshire County Kids' Place](#) has had a busy summer! In June, Kids' Place held their 19th annual Berkshire County Law Enforcement Golf Tournament, raising over \$9,000! Congratulations on the success! On July 10th, [Berkshire County Kids' Place](#) held their 16th annual fundraiser, Jimmy's Ride. Jimmy's Ride is held in memory of Jimmy Bernardo, a boy abducted and murdered over 20 years ago. Over 100 motorcyclists showed their support by riding in memory of Jimmy. All of the proceeds went to helping the fight against Child Abuse. To view pictures and comments on the event



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Thank You Donors!

you can go to both the [Jimmy Bernardo Memorial facebook](#) and the [Berkshire County Kids' Place facebook!](#)

> [Essex Children's Adovcacy Center](#) held a Mental Health workshop in June, inviting several Mental Health agencies/providers. Members of the Steering Committee, representing disciplines of a multidisciplinary team, participated in a panel discussion outlining their professional role and their part on the multidischiplinary team. Their hope is to build community partnerships with these agencies/providers through linkage agreements.

> The [Children's Advocacy Center of Bristol County](#) recently received a genereous donation from St. Anne's Hospital! An article was written in [South Coast Today](#), highlighting the steps [Children's Advocacy Center of Bristol County](#) is going to take to improve the care for children who have been effected by trauma.

> Congratulations are in order for [Norfolk Advocates for Children!](#) Six multidisciplinary team members have been accepted to attend the Multidisciplinary Team Academy in October. The training is sponsored by the [Northeast Regional Children's Advocacy Center](#).

MACA is privileged to have 11 Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) in our membership. Click here for a complete [program list](#).

Current Discussions on Child Abuse

> On July 13th, the House explored ways in which to prevent childhood fatalities caused by abuse and neglect. Click here for the [PRNewswire](#) article.

> [Click here](#) to read an article by the National Children's Alliance about child fatality rates and an overview of what the house discussed on July 13th.

> A Justice In Our Communities Conference was held, sponsors consisted of NCA and MRCAC, gathering various professionals and training them how to effectively handle child abuse cases. [Read more here](#).

> On July 21st and 22nd a private conference, the National Business Leader Summit on Early Childhood Investment, was held in Boston to discuss [budget priorities](#) where early childhood policies are concerned.

Newsflash: Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

Recently, there has been a push for Massachusetts to pass the Safe Harbor for Exploited Children Act. The bill will ensure that children who have been trafficked are treated as victims, instead of as criminals. District Attorney Conley explains more about the bill [here](#).

> [Read up](#) on the Massachusetts version of this bill.

> [This CNN Article](#) covers the story of a prostituted child. Forced into this lifestyle at a young age, the article tells about her couragous efforts to start a new life and to mentor other girls trying to do the same.

> [This Article in The Boston Globe](#) tells the story of a prostituted child whose cooperation with the FBI helped to convict six traffickers in the

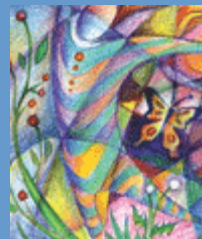
Thank you to everyone who made our Spring 2011 campaign a success!

Many of you "gave MACA" as a gift by making donations in honor of others.

Are you "on board?"

Click [here](#) to see the MACA Buddy Board for a list of our generous donors.

Our Mission



The mission of the Massachusetts Children's Alliance is a membership organization that promotes an integrated, multidisciplinary team response to child abuse. We are committed to strengthening collaboration and fostering systemic and societal change to protect children. Through support of member organizations, the Chapter ensures that children and their families have access to high quality, comprehensive, specialized and culturally competent services of a Children's Advocacy Center.

Support MACA!

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14 Beacon St.
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biggest child prostitution case in Boston. The article not only tells of the hardships she endured while being trafficked but also of the hardships she still faces overcoming her past in order to make a better future.

Save the Date: Upcoming CAC Events

> September 15th and 16th, [Children's Cove: The Cape & Islands Child Advocacy Center](#) is holding the 11th annual conference on child abuse! It will be held at the Cape Codder Resort and Spa, *for more details and registration information click here.*

> The [CAC of Suffolk County](#) and [Norfolk Advocates for Children](#) will both be participating in this year's Rodman Ride for Kids! The ride will be on September 24th. *Click on the CAC's names above in order to view details, make a donation, or become a rider!*

> October 3rd the [CAC of Suffolk County](#) will be having their second annual golf tournament! The tournament will include breakfast and lunch as well! *Register here.*

> Starting October 7th and continuing on the weekends throughout the month will be a fright-filled fundraiser! [MACA](#) has teamed up with [New Hampshire Network of Child Advocacy Centers](#), [Innerspire](#) and [Haunted Acres](#) for *Scare The Fear Away!* More information will be sent, so keep your eyes peeled!

Boston, MA
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