

# Healing, Justice, & Trust

## Measuring Outcomes for Kids Served by CACs



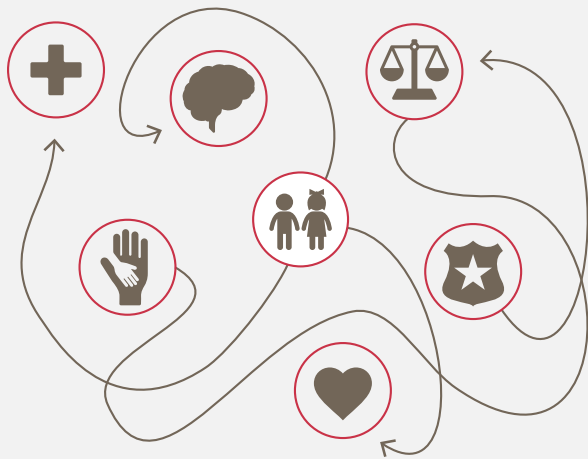
### What is the National Children's Alliance?

NCA is the national association and accrediting body for a network of more than 800 Children's Advocacy Centers—CACs. We provide support, advocacy, quality assurance, and national leadership for CACs, all to help support the important work that CACs do in communities across the country. CACs provide a coordinated, evidence-based response to children who have been abused in all 50 states.

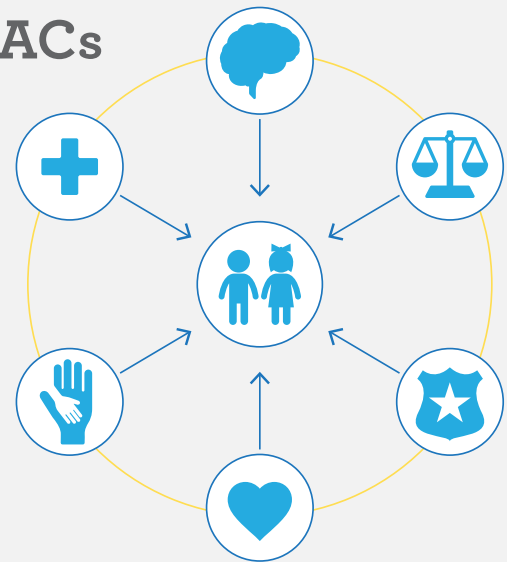
### What are CACs and how do they help kids?

CACs are how communities mount a coordinated response to allegations of child abuse. To understand what a CAC is, you must understand what children face without one. Without a CAC, the child may end up having to tell the worst story of his or her life over and over again, to doctors, police, lawyers, therapists, investigators, judges, and others. They may not get the help they need to heal once the investigation is over, either.

### Without CACs



### With CACs



### CACs provide healing, justice, and trust for child victims of abuse

In 2015, CACs demonstrated that their model works through tens of thousands of surveys from caregivers and MDT members. Here are some highlights that show our families and partners believe in the healing, justice, and trust we provide.

- **Healing:** 95% of caregivers agree that CACs provide them with resources to support their children.
- **Justice:** 98% of team members believe clients benefit from the collaborative approach of the MDT.
- **Trust:** If caregivers knew anyone else who was dealing with a situation like the one their family faced, 96% would tell that person about the center.

When police or child protective services believe a child is being abused, the child is brought to the CAC—a safe, child-focused environment—by a caregiver or other “safe” adult. At the CAC, the child tells their story once to a trained interviewer who knows the right questions to ask. Then, based on the interview, a multidisciplinary team (MDT) that includes medical professionals, law enforcement, mental health providers, prosecution, child protective services, victim advocates, and other professionals make decisions together about how to help the child. Finally, they offer a wide range of services like therapy, medical exams, courtroom preparation, victim advocacy, case management, and more.

## The CAC movement is growing and improving

With approximately **800 member CACs** serving **311,688 children** in 2015, NCA represents a growing movement providing more and better services to children and families nationwide.

**In the last ten years, the number of NCA member centers serving kids has grown 33%**

Since 2008, annually our member CACs have served...

- **66%** more child victims of physical abuse
- **58%** more child victims of neglect
- **97%** more child witnesses to violence
- **43%** more children endangered by drugs

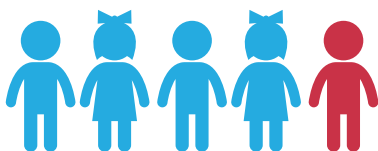
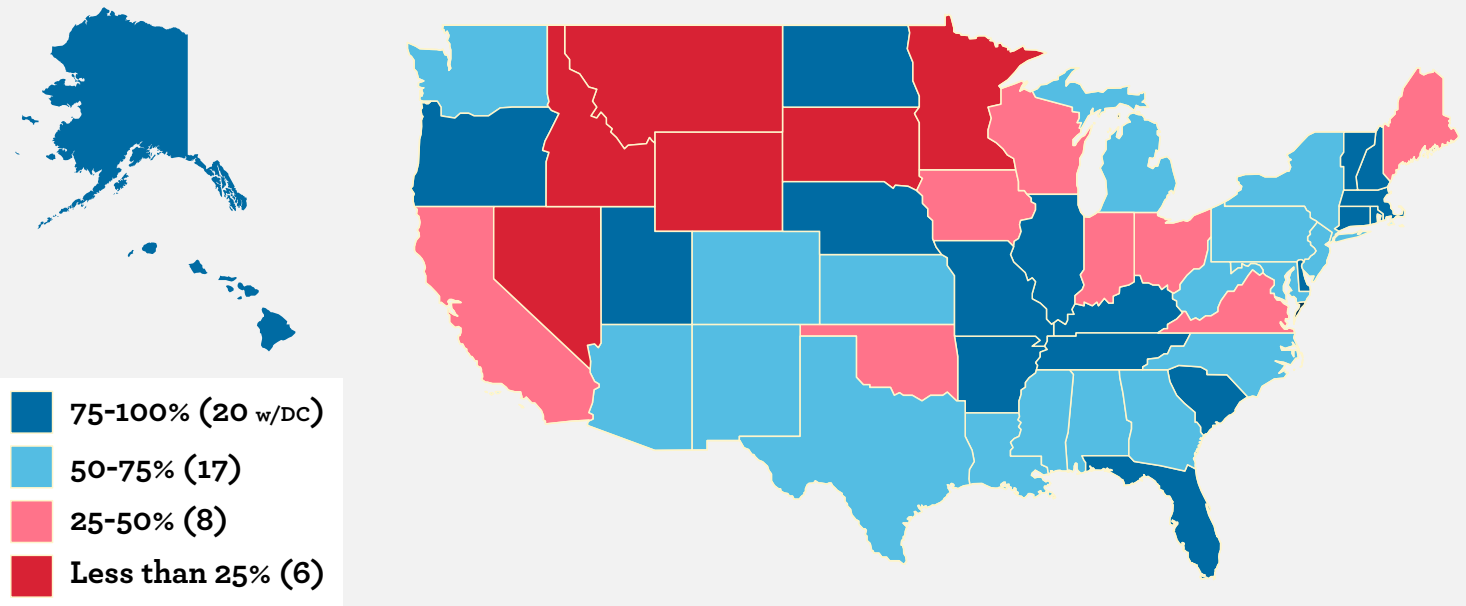
And provided...

- **38%** more children with counseling and other mental health services
- **43%** more children with onsite forensic interviews
- **164%** more children and family members with case management services
- **48%** more children, family members, and community members with prevention education

## The need remains

Despite the success of the CAC model in helping children who have been victimized by abuse, there's still an outstanding need for more CAC coverage, and more support. States in red below have a lower proportion of counties covered by CACs, while states in blue have a higher proportion of CAC-served counties or have full coverage.

### Proportion of Counties Covered by CACs, by State



CAC services are available to approximately **4 in every 5 U.S. children**

But that still leaves

**13,533,785**  
children living in areas without a CAC.

Funding and legislative support helps ensure children across the country have access to a CAC when they need it, and helps expand capacity and geographic coverage to reach more children and families with the services they need. **Thank you for your support of this crucial resource for children and families in communities across the country.**