



Child Advocacy Center (CAC) Fiscal Year 2017 – Year in Review

- 696 cases of reported child abuse were received.
- 60% of the children seen were females; 40% were males. 32% were less than 7 years old.
- 416 mental health therapy sessions were provided to 65 child abuse victims at the CAC through a partnership with Cape Fear Valley Community Mental Health Center. Other children needing mental health services were referred to counselors within the community. This was a 18% increase in the number of children that received therapy at the Child Advocacy Center.
- 12 girls participated in two different group empowerment classes - 5 in the first session and 7 in the second session. These classes run for 16 sessions with a graduation dinner celebration at the end.
- 1558 adults received child abuse prevention training through programs offered by the CAC, including *Stewards of Children*, *Recognizing & Reporting Child Abuse*, *Internet Safety* and *Chosen* (Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking Education).
- 7 organizations earned Partner in Prevention (PIP) status after receiving training by CAC facilitators. We now have 76 PIP organizations in our community.
- 554 professionals attended trainings offered by the Child Advocacy Center.
- 830 children participated in story times at 45 locations during November 2016 to hear *Some Parts Are Not for Sharing* and *Do You Have a Secret*, age- appropriate books that encourage awareness and prevention.
- 428 forensic interviews were conducted at the center.
- 412 families received Victim Family Advocate services, providing direct aid as well as assisting them in accessing needed resources.
- 23 case review conferences were held with 242 cases reviewed by the full multi-disciplinary team and 1033 cases tracked for outcomes.
- 1690.25 hours of service were contributed to the CAC by our dedicated volunteers.





One Child's Story

When Luke's mother, Anna, first came to the door of the Child Advocacy Center, she was in tears. She had just learned that her four-year-old son had been sexually molested by a teenage boy. Luke is deaf, and Anna was not only devastated and angry; she was also worried and afraid that due to his disability, Luke would be unable to get the care he needed to overcome this trauma.

Our staff arranged for an interpreter to assist with Luke's interview and treatment. He and his mother both participated in trauma-focused counseling at the CAC every week for nine months, and after a few visits, this happy little boy began skipping down the hall with a big smile on his face when he arrived for his therapy sessions.

Child abuse is horrible and ugly. But there is healing and hope for the children we serve. Please [join hands](#) with the Child Advocacy Center by volunteering your time and donating resources and money. Together we can protect our children!

Comments from Some of Our Families

- "I appreciated the kindness, detailed information and empathy with our situation."
- "They welcomed us with open arms. We weren't just another number."
- "I appreciated the warmth of staff and how protected they made us feel, especially how gentle they were with my son."
- "The counselor was phenomenal, awesome. Made us feel very comfortable and at home. She is a good role model for what a counselor should be, especially how she relates to a child's mind."
- "I liked how we were told exactly what was going to happen, who was going to come, what they were going to do, interactions with my son. They were very focused on him and kept it short which was helpful to my special needs son who has a short attention span. The Star Wars blanket was a hit with him...They made sure we were comfortable, made every effort to calm our fears/concerns. Willing to stop everything if it was a concern for us. Great service to the community."
- "The staff made my child feel safe – she even asked to come back."