WHAT IS A CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER?

A Child Advocacy Center is a neutral, family-friendly space for alleged child victims of sexual abuse, physical abuse or witness to a crime to tell their story.

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, law enforcement, lawyers, therapists, investigators, judges, and others.

With a CAC the child tells their story **once** to a trained interviewer who knows the right questions to ask in a way that does not retraumatize the child.

Without CACs



Child Abuse Facts

- Nearly 700,000 children are abused in the U.S each year.
- In 2018, an estimated 1,770 children died from abuse and neglect in the United States.
- Child-on-child abuse is common. At CACs in 2019, 22% of people alleged to have abused a child were themselves children.

TO REPORT CHILD ABUSE

Kansas Protection Report Center 1-800-922-5330

CONTACT US

(913) 651-6440

ATCHISON OFFICE

521 Commercial St., Suite D Atchison, KS

LEAVENWORTH OFFICE

106 S 5th St. Leavenworth, KS

LEARN MORE

www.casalvks.org/CAC

THE CAC IS A PROGRAM OF FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT CASA ASSOCIATION











of Leavenworth & Atchison Counties





ABOUT US

The Child Advocacy Center (CAC) of Leavenworth and Atchison Counties is a non-profit organization umbrellaed under the First Judicial District CASA Association. The Child Advocacy Center coordinates the investigation of child abuse in Leavenworth & Atchison counties working with children ages 3-17 who have disclosed sexual and/or physical abuse, or who have witnessed violence. The CAC responds to the needs of children by providing safe, child friendly, and culturally sensitive services.

2020 CAC Statistics

153
forensic
interviews
completed

136 caregivers received advocacy

physical abuse cases

125 sexual abuse cases

109 female victims

42 male

CHILD ADVOCACY SERVICES



A forensic interview is a non-leading, nonsuggestive, child friendly conversation that is recorded and used during an investigation when a child has disclosed abuse, neglect, or witnessed a violent crime. The interviewer is trained to remain neutral & supportive during the interview. Interviews are observed by representatives of agencies involved such as law enforcement and child protective services.



(1)) Child & Family Advocacy

Advocacy services are designed to help reduce trauma for the child and involved caregiver, and to be an ongoing support for the child and family. Children and families participate in follow-up services which may include referrals for community support and assistance with navigating the criminal justice system.



The Child Advocacy Center's Wishlist

- New stuffed animals
- Gift Cards Walmart, Dillon's, Home Depot, Gas Cards
- Individually wrapped snacks
- Individual Drinks
- Hygiene Items

COMMUNITY PREVENTION AND EDUCATION



PREVENT 360°

The Child Advocacy Center of Atchison and Leavenworth Counties is a partner of the Prevent 360° program; a comprehensive approach to child abuse prevention from Darkness to Light and Monique Burr Foundation for Children. This partner program gives both adults and children the education and skills they need to prevent abuse, backed by evidence and research. Please contact to schedule one or both of the trainings below.



MBF Child Safety Matters® and MBF Teen Safety Matters® are comprehensive, evidence-based curriculums; one for elementary students (K-5th grade) and the other for middle school students (6th - 8th grade). These programs educate and empower children, teens and all relevant adults with information and strategies to prevent, recognize, and respond appropriately to bullying, cyberbullying, all types of abuse, and digital abuse dangers.



The Darkness to Light abuse prevention training is the only evidence-informed, adult-focused child sexual abuse prevention training proven to increase knowledge and change behavior. Darkness to Light empowers adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse through awareness, education, and stigma reduction. We offer trainings to schools, churches and any community organizations that are involved with children.