

Healing, Justice, & Trust

Measuring Outcomes for Kids



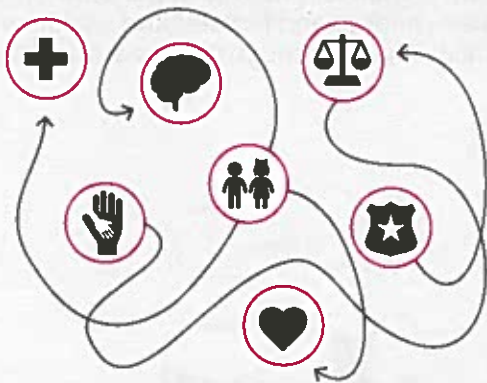
What is The New York State Children's Alliance, Inc. ?

The New York State Children's Alliance, Inc. (NYSCA) is a membership organization that provides leadership in the child abuse intervention and response field by offering innovative training and technical assistance. We are a platform for collaboration and represent our member Child Advocacy Centers (CACs) and Multidisciplinary Teams (MDTs) on a state and national level.

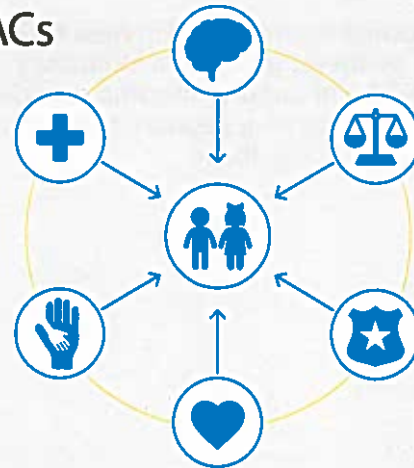
What are CACs and how do they help kids?

CACs are how communities mount a coordinated response to allegations of child abuse. To understand what a Children's Advocacy Center 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



The Problem- Child Abuse and Neglect

- In 2015 **86 children died** due to abuse and neglect in New York State. - *NYS Office of Children and Family Services*
- **"One in ten children** in the US will be sexually abused before their 18th birthday" - *Townsend, C., & Rheingold, A.A., (2013). "Estimating a child sexual abuse prevalence rate for practitioners: studies." Charleston, S.C., Darkness to Light.*
- **"...youth who are sexually abused as children are 28 times more likely to be arrested for [sex trafficking] than youth who have not experienced abuse."** - *The National Center for Youth Law*

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

The CAC model is a proven effective and positive response to child abuse, as evidenced by caregiver and MDT responses to program surveys. 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 provided them with the resources to support their children.
- **Justice:** 97% 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, 91% would tell that person about the center.



We are a member of the National Children's Alliance (NCA), the national association and accrediting body for more than 800 CACs around the country. This template and the accompanying data provided by NCA. Learn more at www.nationalchildrensalliance.org.

The New York State CAC movement is growing

With 40 CACs who served 18,400 children in 2016, our membership represents a growing movement providing more and better services to children and families statewide.

Since 2008, the number of New York State centers has grown by 40% - from 32 to 40. The number of counties served by those centers has also grown in just the last two years, from 43 to 51 and that number is likely to grow in 2017.

Not only have NYS CACs seen a 70% increase in the number of children coming through their doors, they have seen children for a broader range of challenges than ever before. NYS CACs are now seeing children for sexual and severe physical abuse, severe neglect, but also commercial sexual exploitation including human trafficking.



The need remains...

In order to build on the successes of the CAC model within New York State and continue the growth in the number of children and counties served, CACs require legislative support. **Therefore, we respectfully request a legislative add-on to the Executive Budget for 2017-2018 in the amount of \$3.2 million to replenish funding lost in previous years.**

The CAC response is embedded in New York State Social Service and Executive laws, which mandate child abuse cases be investigated by a Multidisciplinary Team. This team response is heavily dependent on state funding. NYSCA and our membership care deeply about this state's children and families and we know you do too. **Thank you for your support of this crucial resource that helps children find justice, heal and rebuild trust after experiencing abuse.**

