A place where young victims of abuse come to safely and comfortably share their difficult stories.
FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Katiina Dull

As we draw closer and closer to the one-year mark of my tenure at the Child Advocacy Center, I continue to be humbled by the mission, inspired by our staff, and grateful for the incredible support this community has for the CAC and the work we do. With more than 25 years of history there are so many wonderful people I have met who truly helped shape the Child Advocacy Center.

At the top of the list are the executive directors who came before me. Linda Saturno went to great lengths to set up a smooth transition and I am so thankful for her kindness. Barbara Brown-Johnson, who served for 19 years, has so much wisdom to share and is so willing to do so. It was such an honor to dedicate the newly expanded service area as The Barbara Brown-Johnson Safe Space. There are countless children who are safe today because of her leadership and advocacy efforts.

There are those incredible supporters who have believed in the mission and work of the CAC and have provided the financial support necessary to ensure its continued operations. One such donor, known as our “Angel donor”, has helped with building renovations, expansions, and general support that allows our staff to focus on the needs of the children we serve. Another pillar of support is the Ferguson Family. Their support began in the founding years of the CAC with Dr. John P. Ferguson’s involvement in the original steering committee. Today his children and grandchildren continue to be instrumental in supporting the CAC. There are truly so many more stories to share!

I am excited to have joined this community and organization. I look forward to many years of working together to provide a voice and nurture hope for our most vulnerable children.

Kat Dull
Katiina Dull
Executive Director, Child Advocacy Center

2021 Board of Directors

PRESIDENT
Jeff Shore, BRS CPAs & Advisors PC

VICE PRESIDENT
Vicki Good, Mercy Hospital Springfield

TREASURER
Jean Nyberg, BKD

SECRETARY
Paula Adams, Penmac
Kraig Bode, NobleVest Private Wealth
Allan Brown, Republic R3 Schools
Catherine Crockett, Springfield Remanufacturing Corp
Alesha Gonzales, Penn Enterprises Inc
Emily Kembell, Kirkland, Woods, & Martens

Chris Kleinfeld, Springfield Remanufacturing Corp
Dan Patterson, Green County Prosecutor
Peggy Pearl, Retired MSU Instructor
Bryan Penney, Paul Mueller Company
Amy Ross, West Plains Schools
Ann Schaller, DO, Cox Health Pediatric Center
Scott Smith, Rooney McBride & Smith LLC
Tim Stack, SRC
Matthew Stinson, MD, Jordan Valley Community Health Center
John Tiedeman, IsoNova Technologies LLC

VISION
A community where justice is accessible, prevention is possible, families are resilient, and children can heal.

MISSION
The Child Advocacy Center supports child abuse investigations, provides access to critical services, and raises community awareness to prevent and reduce child abuse and neglect in Southern Missouri.
This April we are calling on you to take an active role in helping us shine a light on child abuse. Use the checklist below for things you can do to make it clear that child abuse and neglect have no place in our community.

- Attend the South Central 10-year celebration in West Plains, April 14.
- Attend the Springfield Center open house on April 23.
- Register for a Stewards of Children training event.
- Schedule a tour of the Child Advocacy Center.
- Host a Child Advocacy Center presentation at your business or small group.
- Plant a pinwheel for prevention in your front yard.
- Follow the Child Advocacy Center on Facebook or Instagram. Like and Share posts to help spread the word.
- Donate to support the work the Child Advocacy Center does year-round.

Visit ChildAdvocacyCenter.org for event details.

**CHILD ABUSE TRUTHS**

**WHO IS AT RISK:**
Child abuse occurs across all socioeconomic levels, ethnic and cultural lines, and religions and education levels.

- 1 in 10 children (all genders) will be sexually abused before they are 18.
- Every 11 seconds a child is reported abused or neglected in the United States.
- Children younger than one-year-old are the most vulnerable to maltreatment, accounting for almost half of child fatalities from abuse.

**WHO ARE THE OFFENDERS:**
90% of the time a child is abused by someone they know and trust.

- It is VERY rare that a child makes a false allegation of child sexual abuse. It is far more likely they will NEVER disclose.
- For every incident of child abuse or neglect that’s reported, an estimated two incidents go unreported.

**WHAT IS THE IMPACT:**
Child abuse has lifelong impacts, especially when left untreated.

- 13,700 children are abused each day in the United States.
- On average, 4 children die each day as a result of abuse and/or neglect.
- Children who experienced any form of violence in childhood have a 13% greater likelihood of not graduating from high school.
These are difficult questions to answer. But unless a child tells, it is often impossible to make the abuse stop. Imagine you found the courage to tell. You told a trusted teacher at school. You are then interviewed by a police officer, then a social worker, then a doctor, then a lawyer, and then a therapist. You are taken to a police station, a government office, a hospital, and a lawyer’s office. You must relive and retell all the painful details of the abuse you have endured. It is exhausting. It is traumatizing.

Imagine you are 13 years old. Your coach has started touching you and tells you he will kill your little sister if you tell anyone.

What do you do? Who do you tell? How do you make it stop?

Now imagine after finding the courage to tell a trusted teacher you visit the Child Advocacy Center.

When you arrive at the CAC you are greeted by a Child and Family Advocate. Their job is to help you and your supportive caregiver have everything needed to secure safety, stability, and begin the healing journey. They are going to answer questions about what happens next. They are going to keep you updated on the investigation of the case. They are going to support you for as long as you need support.

During your appointment at the CAC, you also meet with the Forensic Interviewer.

The Forensic Interviewer is a professionally trained interviewer who follows a developmentally appropriate protocol that utilizes research and practice-informed techniques to gather details about the abuse you have experienced or witnessed. While the interview takes place, you are interviewed by multiple agencies. You must relive and retell all the painful details of the abuse you have endured. It is exhausting. It is traumatizing. This is where the CAC steps in to simplify the process and offer support.
When you arrive at the CAC you are greeted by a Child and Family Advocate. Their job is to make sure you and your supportive caregiver have everything needed to secure safety, stability, and begin the healing journey.

the police officer, social worker, and lawyer observe and listen through closed-circuit video systems. The forensic interview is recorded so every word you say and every expression you make is a part of the case file.

After your forensic interview, you visit the onsite nurse practitioner for a checkup.

The Nurse Practitioner is specially trained to conduct Child at Risk Exams (CARE), Sexual Assault Forensic Exams (SAFE), and Healthy Child and Youth Screenings. The medical exam is noninvasive, conducted in a child-friendly manner. At the end of the exam, the nurse practitioner reassures you, “You are ok. You are not broken.”

Before you leave, the CAC Child & Family Advocate, police officer, social worker, and nurse all talk about what needs to happen to keep you safe. They share this with your caregiver and help get you connected to a mental health therapist so you can continue on your path to healing. This all takes place in a few hours. Everyone is at the CAC. It is welcoming. It is child-friendly. You feel safe. You can speak your truth.

This is why the Child Advocacy Center is so critical.
The topic of child abuse makes us uncomfortable and as a defense mechanism, we disengage from conversations about abuse. But it is that silence that has created a dark space where child abuse thrives. The CAC’s Prevention Education Initiative shines a light on abuse and creates a forum for conversations to take place.

The Child Advocacy Center’s Prevention Education Initiative will bring a research-based child abuse prevention curriculum to schools, youth-serving organizations, and the general adult population.

PREVENTION IS POSSIBLE

The Need for Prevention Education

Our children and teens are more at risk than ever for manipulation and abuse. Yet we shy away from talking to them about abuse, sexual abuse, and online dangers. Some are embarrassed. Some think they are too young. Some think having these conversations will expose children and teens to material that might cause them emotional distress.

Research tells us that is not the case. Education does not take away a child’s innocence, experiences do. 90% of the time a child is abused by someone they know and trust. The conversations we need to be having with children are about body autonomy, boundaries, and safe-adults.

Adults need to be educated and empowered to actively protect children. To be able to recognize the signs of abuse, to know how to report suspicions of abuse, and to understand how best to respond if a child discloses abuse to them.

Our children and teens are more at risk than ever for manipulation and abuse. Yet we shy away from talking to them about abuse, sexual abuse, and online dangers.
Prevention in Schools
Children need to be educated and empowered with prevention education curricula from caring and trained adults. They need to know that what is happening to them isn’t “normal” or “okay”. They need to know how to ask for help.

The CAC has invested in the Child Safety Matters for Elementary School and Teen Safety Matters for Middle and High School curriculum programs, developed by the Monique Burr Foundation for Children. These programs are comprehensive, research-based, primary prevention programs that utilize information and universal safety rules and strategies to prevent all types of victimization.

In 2021 we provided prevention education to:
• Marshfield High School
• 6th, 7th, & 8th-grade students in Nixa Public Schools

Prevention in Youth-Serving Organizations
Adults who work with children must know how to recognize, report, and respond to child abuse and neglect. Youth-serving organizations must have policies in place that are designed to protect children and must be committed to annual training for all employees and volunteers.

The CAC utilizes the Stewards of Children program. Developed by the Darkness to Light organization, Stewards of Children utilizes real people (survivors and experts) and real stories (immediate and long-term effects) that demonstrate how to protect children. In a 2-hour session that can be delivered in-person or virtually, the trained facilitator presents materials and leads conversation and discussion amongst participants. Ideally, this training is also paired with mandated reporter training that further explores the Missouri statutes that require specific individuals to report suspected child abuse and neglect.
2021 Impact and Highlights

1,418 1,034 1,214
Children Seen Medical Exams Forensic Interviews

Reported Offenders

- Parent: 35%
- Other Known Person: 9%
- Other Relative: 18%
- Parent Paramour: 5%
- Unknown: 4%
- Stepparent: 23%
- Stranger: 1%

Bold = Top 3 Types of Offenders

Reported Offenses

- Sexual Abuse: 33%
- Physical Abuse: 23%
- Witness to Crime: 10%
- Drug Endangered: 8%
- Neglect: 5%
- Child Exploitation: 3%
- Other: 1%

Bold = Top 3 Types of Offenses

Gender

- Male: 36% 514
- Female: 64% 903

Age

- 6 and under: 33% 461
- 7-12: 31% 443
- 13-18+: 36% 514

“At such a low point in our lives when we felt stripped of dignity and control, the gentle way we were treated gifted a portion of dignity and control back to us. My son was reassured. I was reassured. We are permanently indebted to the service you offer families in our area”.

Quote from a Caregiver
**2021 Financials**

**Collaboration is key to the CAC model.** Rather than duplicate services, we connect children and families to the following community organizations to help meet their ongoing needs.

- Agape House
- Care to Learn
- Chaos Closet
- Christo’s House
- Council of Churches of the Ozark
- Drew Lewis Foundation at The Fairbanks
- Foster Adopt Connect
- Glo Center
- Greene County Family Justice Center
- Harmony House
- Isabel’s House
- Jordan Valley Clinic
- Lost and Found Grief Center
- MUNCH
- One Door
- Ozark Action
- Ozark Area Community Action Corp.
- Ozarks Healthcare Behavioral Health Center
- Porch Therapy Group
- Samaritan Outreach
- The Springfield Dream Center
- The Victim Center

**2021 TOTAL REVENUE**

- Federal Gov’t Grants $752,528.51
- State Government Grants 271,472.82
- Local Government Grants 19,409.02
- Program Service Revenue 690,575.00
- Donations - Unrestricted 833,500.15
- Donations - Restricted 81,300.00
- Fundraising Events 236,613.87
- Grants 13,905.00
- Investments 204,038.61
- Other Income 8,930.75
- In-Kind 22,901.76
- Total Revenue $3,135,175.49

**2021 TOTAL EXPENSES**

- Salaries and Benefits $1,719,185.90
- Maintenance & Depreciation 150,290.73
- Contracted Services 268,646.33
- Forensic & Information Technology 5,513.66
- Fundraising Expenses 85,757.73
- Supplies & PPE 15,848.95
- Victim Services & Supplies 30,374.52
- Insurance 35,768.63
- Utilities & Business Expenses 99,953.04
- Staff Wellness & Training 33,751.28
- Vehicles 5,035.60
- Total Expenses $2,503,126.37

**It Takes a Village**

Collaboration is key to the CAC model. Rather than duplicate services, we connect children and families to the following community organizations to help meet their ongoing needs.

- Agape House
- Care to Learn
- Chaos Closet
- Christo’s House
- Council of Churches of the Ozark
- Drew Lewis Foundation at The Fairbanks
- Foster Adopt Connect
- Glo Center
- Greene County Family Justice Center
- Harmony House
- Isabel’s House
- Jordan Valley Clinic
- Lost and Found Grief Center
- MUNCH
- One Door
- Ozark Action
- Ozark Area Community Action Corp.
- Ozarks Healthcare Behavioral Health Center
- Porch Therapy Group
- Samaritan Outreach
- The Springfield Dream Center
- The Victim Center
2021 Monetary Gifts

$100,000+
Jim & Anna Ferguson

$25,000 - $49,000
Robert & Dani Helm
O’Reilly Auto Parts

$10,000 - $24,999
Estel Brackett
Thomas Carter
Design Fabrication
Gammill Family Foundation
Industrial Services Company
James & Catherine Moore Fund
John & Jeris Ferguson
Judith Irwin
Mindel Family Foundation
Musgrave Foundation
Ron & Janice Penney
Stephen & Peggy Sheppard

$5,000 - $9,999
Paula Adams
Bee Payne-Stewart Foundation
Janelle Cobb
Corwin Automotive of Springfield
Darr Family Foundation
Harwood Ferguson
Heart of America Beverage Co.
Tom & Mindy Hoff
Frederick Husted
Jersey Mike’s Corporate Advertising Fund
Roberta McLain
SRC Holdings Corporation
James Trogolo
The Turner Family Foundation

$1,000 - $4,999
Arvest Bank - Springfield
Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Auxan Capital Advisors, LLC
Nancy Ball
Robert Bennett
Binnie Clements Guild
BluCurrent Credit Union
Jason Boehm
Cheryl Briggs
BRS CPAs & Advisors
Joe Carmichael
The Carpet Shoppe
Catholic Campus Ministry
Civil Kitchen
Commerce Bancshares Foundation
Commerce Bank
Michael Cordonnier
Marcus Crigler
DermaHealth
Design Bundles
Desirea Doyle
Joann M Dull
Elliott, Robinson & Company LLP
Emphadic, LLC
Finnegan’s Wake
Michael Gerke
Jess J. Graham Fund
Great Southern Bank
John & Alesha Gonzales
Harem & Company
Mark Harrington
Calvin & Ann Hawkins, Jr.
Doug Howell
Jim & Janet Hyde
Jack Henry & Associates
Jimm’s Steakhouse & Pub
Barbara Brown-Johnson
Clinton & Shelby Little
Bryan Magers
Meek Charitable Trust
Nixa Community Foundation
Janet Nowak
Jean Nyberg
Debbie Olson
Larry O’Reilly
David & Stacey O’Reilly
Ozark Rotary Club
Peggy Pearl
Penmac Staffing Services, Inc.
Bryan & Stacey Penney
Penney Family Foundation
PHD Painting, Inc.
Becky Perryman
Rapid Robert’s
Reliable Superstore
Stephanie Rice
Rich and Teresa Wallace Community Fund
Matt Richardson
William Shaw
Marguerite Spilde
SRC Community Relations Committee
Sunrise Rotary Charitable Fund
John & Lauren Tiedeman
Trotter Family Foundation
Two Men and a Truck
Volt Credit Union
Walgreens
Wood & Houston Bank
Rosalie Wooten
Tal & Rosalie O’Reilly
Wooten Family Foundation
Zynergy Financial Group LLC

$500 - $999
Jon Baker
Tracy Barnas
Jimmy Barnes
Carol Besselievre
Dan & Lisa Blumenstock
Gary Brock
Thomas Carlson
Michael Cochran
Brian & Catherine Crockett
DB Design Salon & Gallery, LLC
Judith Dasovich

Joe & Katiina Dull
Jeffrey & Jane Fairchild
Julie Filips
Ronnie Hall
Haute Tot
Michael & Jill Headley
Aaron & Jennifer Holum
John Horton
Ken & Teresa Schwab
Charitable Fund
KKJ Wholesale LLC
KPM CPAs
Todd Krauser
Terry & Mary Kay Meek
Joan Menchetti
Tina Miller
Morelock Family Limited Partnership
Peter Muellner
Seth Murray
Optimist Club of West Plains
Charlie & Mary Beth O’Reilly
Family Foundation
Ozarks Health Care
Penn Enterprises, Inc.
Sanford & Associates
Drs. Ann & Kent Schaller
Teresa Schrock
Jeffery Shore
Simmons Bank
Bill Squires
Stifel Nicolaus
Adam Toth
West Plains Bank & Trust Company
Stacey Zengel

Donor list accurate as of February 23, 2022. We do our best to keep our list as accurate as possible. Please let us know if you have an update or would like to report an error.
Contact Lori Barnes Miller at 417-831-2337.
Would you like to take a tour and learn more about the services provided by the Child Advocacy Center? Make plans to attend one of our community functions in April:

- **April 14th**
  West Plains 10-year Anniversary

- **April 23rd**
  Springfield Expansion Ribbon Cutting