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House Health Care & Wellness Committee
House Human Services & Early Learning Committee
House Public Safety Committee
Senate Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation Committee
Senate Law & Justice Committee

Dear Committee Chairs:

Please find attached, pursuant to RCW 7.68.802, a report of the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Statewide Coordinating Committee related to the role that Child Advocacy Centers have in responding to and supporting commercially sexually exploited children.

I have the honor of transmitting this report to you as the representative of the Attorney General, who convenes the Committee.

Regards,

Kyle Wood
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
Anti-Human-Trafficking and Anti-Child-Exploitation Coordinator



Children's Advocacy Centers
of Washington



Overview of Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) in Washington State

JUNE 2020

Introduction

Sexual exploitation as a form of child abuse.

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) is recognized as “a type of violence (*including verbal, emotional, physical, and sexual abuse*) against children and youth which may include coerced or forced sexual acts in exchange for, or the promise of, money, drugs, food, clothing, shelter, or other survival needs¹.” CSEC, as a form of child abuse, may go unrecognized, or the experiences of youth may be misunderstood without awareness of the range exploitative experiences. As a result, children who are experiencing sexual exploitation do not always receive the services needed to help them deal with trauma, access to basic needs, and access to medical and therapeutic services.

CACs are ideally suited to assess victims of CSEC and access appropriate trauma-informed and evidence-based services. Comprehensive health care evaluations are necessary, and the care that these youth require to manage their complex health conditions goes beyond the scope of traditional forensic examinations by SANEs or what can be accomplished in an emergency department visit.² In addition to those medical needs related sexual abuse/assault, this may include referrals for medical services related to reproductive health care, dental, vision, tattoo removal, reconstructive medical treatment, physical therapy, transgender-related health care, screening for eating disorders or self-harming behaviors.³

Recognizing the varieties of sexual exploitation experiences and types, as well as knowing effective questions to elicit cooperation and disclosure are necessary to be able to plan for the individual client’s treatment. Given the high prevalence of severe health symptoms that are typically found among sexually exploited youth, access to a specialist who is trained in and has access to trauma-informed services is important for their assessment and treatment. In addition, access to appropriate therapeutic options and victim advocacy services are an important aspect of ongoing care.

Child Advocacy Centers (CACs) and their multidisciplinary teams that investigate abuse and provide resources for abused youth can play a central role in assessing sexual exploitation and providing victim-centered care. Child Advocacy Centers provide a neutral and trauma-focused location for forensic interviews, medical care, victim advocacy, evidence-based psychological care, and knowledgeable connections to resources in local communities.⁴

Across the United States, Children’s Advocacy Centers are working with local community service partners, CSEC task forces, and the FBI to ensure children and youth who have experienced commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking can access needed services. National Children’s Alliance (NCA), the national membership and accrediting organization for CACs, has developed extensive training opportunities and resources for both service providers and families related to CSEC, as well as a CSEC-specific website. NCA provided leadership in developing a national MOU with the FBI regarding partnering with CACs for interviews and other services. More information on the NCA/FBI partnership can be found at <https://www.nationalchildrensalliance.org/nca-fbi/>. That level of national support provides a strong foundation for the work done at local CACs on services for CSEC victims.

Over the past several years, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice, NCA has offered competitive grants to CACs to access training and provide services to CSEC victims. This has helped centers update their protocols to include additional partners such as FBI and law enforcement personnel directly involved in working with these children and youth. It has also helped NCA better understand some of the challenges and solutions CACs have found in working with CSEC victims. Some of the ways CACs have used funds include:

- Making provision for after-hour services including additional staff time (or on-call stipends) and upgrading security systems.

¹ *Shining Light on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: A toolkit to build understanding*, Youthcollaboratory.org

² Edinburgh, Laurel et al. “Assessing exploitation experiences of girls and boys seen at a Child Advocacy Center.” *Child abuse & neglect* vol. 46 (2015): 47-59. doi:10.1016/j.chiabu.2015.04.016

³ *CSEC Toolkit – Holistic Needs of CSEC*, <https://youthlaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Holistic-Needs-of-CSEC.pdf>

⁴ Edinburgh, Harpin, Garcia & Saewyc, 2013; Walsh, Cross, Jones, Simone, & Kolko, 2007

- Providing training to staff and team members on CSEC including better understanding the dynamics of victimization, technology-facilitated exploitation, and working with compliant/reluctant victims
- Developing partnerships with other youth-serving organizations in the community to identify and refer CSEC victims
- Providing wrap-around services to victims including accessing basic needs such as housing and transportation

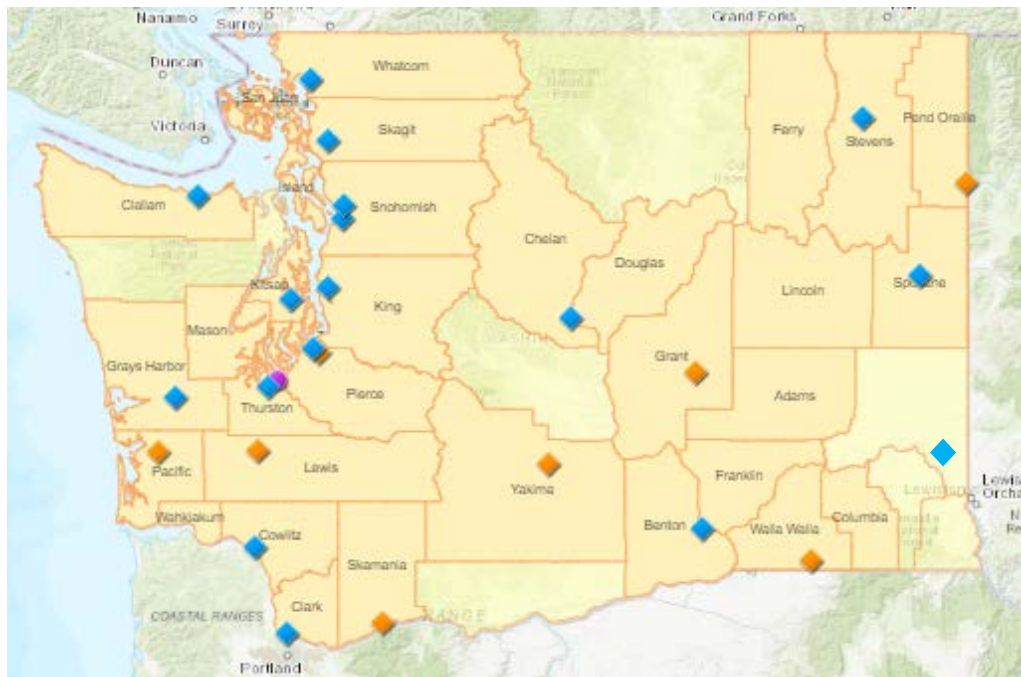
Some of the additional issues CACs have addressed include:

- Providing space at the CAC that is appropriate for teens (not early-child focus)
- Additional services regarding expanded medical service
- Developing therapeutic interventions specific to this population of youth
- Expanding victim advocacy services and/or partnering with community organizations that work with runaway youth and other CSEC victims to access additional wrap around services and reunification with family members if appropriate

Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) are child-focused, child-friendly facilities where children and their non-offending family members feel safe enough to get the help they need to stop abuse and begin the process of healing.

CACs help ensure a coordinated response. When law enforcement 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 to a trained interviewer who knows the right questions to ask in a way that does not re-traumatize the child. Then, a team that includes medical professionals, law enforcement, mental health professionals, prosecutors, child protective services, and victim advocates make decisions together about how to help the child. A victim advocate works with the child and their family throughout the life of the case. CACs offer therapy and medical exams, courtroom preparation, case management, and other services. This multidisciplinary team (MDT) response is the core of the work of CACs.

Washington State CACs: Locations as of June 2020



◆ Accredited CAC ◆ Developing CAC ● State Chapter ◻ Served by a CAC ◻ No CAC

Note: Many CACs in Washington serve more than one county. Service areas are outlined in the following pages. Additionally, CACWA is working with local communities to establish and/or expand CAC services in currently un-served areas.

Washington State CACs

- Arthur D. Curtis Children’s Justice Center
 - Children of the River CAC
 - Children’s Advocacy Center of Pierce County
 - CAC of Walla Walla Valley
 - Children’s Justice Center of King County
 - Children’s Justice & Advocacy Center
 - Connections
 - Crisis Support Network
 - Dawson Place CAC
 - Family Crisis Network
 - Healthy Families of Clallam County
 - Kids Hope
 - Kitsap SAIVS
 - Monarch Children’s Justice & Advocacy Center
 - NCW Child & Family Advocacy/SAGE
 - Partners with Families & Children
 - Rural Resources Victim Services & Children’s Advocacy Center
 - Skagit County CAC
 - Skamania County Council of DV/SA
 - SARC/Kids Haven
 - Tulalip Tribes CAC
 - Whatcom County CAC
 - Yakima County CAC
- State Chapter: Children’s Advocacy Centers of Washington (CACWA)

There is no “one size fits all” when providing services to youth survivors of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.

Youth who have experienced commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking are best served by:

- A continuum of services, ranging from low-threshold services (like drop-in centers) to highly structured residential placements designed to serve this unique population;
- Services that respond to immediate crises and those that provide long-term care; and services that operate from a variety of perspectives and philosophies (ranging from harm reduction to abstinence)

CACWA recently surveyed CACs within the state to identify their role in providing services to victims of CSEC and the extent of services provided. Of respondents:

- 19 provide after-hour services and 3 offer an after-hours crisis line
- 9 have signed an MOU with the FBI office serving their area
- 12 include CSEC cases in their MDT case review meetings. In one additional case, there is a separate CSEC-specific MDT meeting.
- Of the 12 CACs that indicated there is an active CSEC Task Force in their community, all 12 participate. In one case the CAC serves as co-leader of the task force. In one community, the CAC was active, but the task force disbanded.

CACs also identified a number of challenges in working with CSEC victims including a lack of coordination between agencies and the need for critical wrap around services such as housing, transportation, advocacy, and mental health services.

The number of children and youth classified as victims of CSEC served by CACs in the state varies, most seeing from 0 – 5 children and a few up to 26 or more per year. Based on the data provided, CACs in this state served between 100 – 150 children last year that were classified as CSEC victims.

Complete survey results, by Center, are outlined in the following pages.

SARC/Kids Haven

1458 Fowler Street
Richland, WA 99352

Counties served by CAC: Benton & Franklin

Accredited Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: JoDee Garretson, Executive Director

Phone: 509-374-5391

Email: jgarretson@supportadvocacyresourcecenter.com

CAC Structure: Independent Nonprofit (501c3)

Kids Haven is a joint program of the Support, Advocacy & Resource Center (SARC) and our local cities & counties. The KH interviewer is located at SARC yet employed by the Benton County Prosecuting Attorney's Office through an interlocal agreement of all LEAs in Benton and Franklin Counties and the Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney.

Is the CAC available for after-hours services? Yes, as needed

CAC Services Available:

- **Onsite:** Forensic Interview, Mental Health, Advocacy

In addition to the Forensic Interviewer, we have two counselors who provide mental health/therapy services. We also have 7 advocates who work with adult and child victims of sexual assault, general crimes and human trafficking.

- **Offsite:** Medical

Dr. Shannon Phipps is the medical provider for our kids. Law enforcement arranges the appointments. Advocates are informed and attend.

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? CAC Staff (Child Forensic Interviewer)

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? CAC Staff (Child Forensic Interviewer)

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? No

Benton County MDT Partners

- Benton County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- Kennewick Police Dept.
- Richland Police Dept.
- Prosser Police Dept.
- Benton County Sheriff's Office
- DCYF/Child Protective Services
- SARC

Franklin County MDT Partners

- Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- Pasco Police Dept.
- Connell Police Dept.
- Franklin County Sheriff's Office
- DCYF/Child Protective Services
- SARC

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Monthly

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? Yes

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? Yes (lead agency is SARC and Richland Police Chief)

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? Yes

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 26+

Please explain what your CAC does or could do to support children who are sexually exploited or trafficked in your area. Services provided are available to all clients.

Additional Comments: Expanding services to CSEC has been a natural fit.

Rural Resources Victim Services & CAC

956 S Main Street
Colville WA 99114

Counties served by CAC: Stevens & Ferry

Accredited Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Nancy Sprott, Division Director

Phone: 509-684-3796

Email: nsprott@ruralresources.org

CAC Structure: Independent Nonprofit (501c3)

Our CAC is a program of Rural Resources Community Action (RRCA). Rural Resources Victim Services and Children's Advocacy Center is a division of RRCA.

Is the CAC available for after-hours services?

Yes. We have a helpline 24 hours a day 7 days a week and provide hospital response.

CAC Services Available:

- **Onsite:** ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ Advocacy
Steven's County Sheriff's Office conducts forensic interviews at the CAC, and we have a specialized advocate who provides CAC advocacy services.
- **Offsite:** ✓ Medical, ✓ Mental Health
Our Medical MDT member, Kelly Anderson MSN, DNP, ARNP is our medical personnel who provides medical services including PSANE exams and checkups. Every child who comes through our CAC is provided a therapy referral to either NEWTCHD counseling agency, or a private practice counselor who is an active member of our MDT.

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? Stevens County Sheriff's Office (Child Forensic Interviewer)

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? Same

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? No

Stevens County MDT Partners

- Stevens County Prosecutors Office
- Providence Family Medicine-Chewelah
- NE Washington Alliance Counseling Services
- Private Practice Therapist, Christine Wilson PHD
- Stevens County Juvenile Department
- Department of Corrections
- DCYF/Child Protective Services
- Stevens County Sheriff's Office
- Colville School District
- Rural Resources' CAC Staff

Ferry County MDT Partners

- Ferry County Prosecutors Office
- DCYF/Child Protective Services
- Ferry County Sheriff's Office
- Providence Family Medicine-Chewelah
- NE Washington Alliance Counseling Services
- Rural Resources' CAC Staff

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Monthly

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? No

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? No

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? N/A

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 0

If we had any CSEC or Trafficking Victims, they would receive services through our CAC

Please explain what your CAC does or could do to support children who are sexually exploited or trafficked in your area. We have a community engagement and outreach program within Rural Resources Victim Services who provides education and outreach to possible victims.

SAGE/NCW Child & Family Advocacy

710 N Chelan Ave
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Counties served by CAC: Chelan & Douglas

Accredited Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Jessica Johnson, Executive Director

Phone: 509-663-7446

Email: jessicaj@findsafety.org

CAC Structure: Independent Nonprofit (501c3)

Our CAC is part of SAGE and co-located with Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence & Crime Victim Services

Is the CAC available for after-hours services?

Yes. We currently respond as needed via our partners' requests or the crisis line.

CAC Services Available:

- **Onsite:** ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ Advocacy, ✓ Medical, ✓ Mental Health

We currently have a full-time therapist and 2 contract mental health therapists. We will be transitioning to hiring another full-time therapist and not contracting with the others. We have an exam room for medical, but most non-offending caregivers take their children first to their pediatrician, so it is not used much. CAC Staff provides advocacy services for children and their nonoffending caregivers.

- **Offsite:** ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ Advocacy, ✓ Medical, ✓ Mental Health

We have an "IRecord Anywhere" so we are able to record FI's at other locations as needed. Our Advocates and Mental Health providers will often meet children at school (during normal times). We respond to the Hospital when called for SANE exams for children and also adults.

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? CAC Staff most often; Some LE and CPS partners may also do their own interviews at the CAC

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? We haven't had one of these cases at our center, although we are prepared for one if it came.

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? No

Chelan & Douglas County MDT Partners

- Chelan County Sheriff's Dept.
- Wenatchee Police Detectives
- Chelan County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- Chelan County Victim Witness Office
- Central Washington Hospital
- Chelan County Juvenile Detention Center
- Douglas County Sheriff's Dept
- Wenatchee Police Detectives
- Douglas County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- Douglas County Victim Witness Office
- Central Washington Hospital
- CAC Staff, Victim Advocates & Mental Health Therapists

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Monthly

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? We haven't had a CSEC case. If we did, we would staff them at our case review meetings.

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? I don't know

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? N/A

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 0

At the moment I am not aware of any cases that have happened in Chelan and Douglas Counties.

Please explain what your CAC does or could do to support children who are sexually exploited or trafficked in your area. Provide Victim Advocacy, Mental Health Services, Forensic Interviews, and work with LE on investigations.

Partners with Families & Children

106 W Mission Ave
Spokane, WA 99201

Counties served by CAC: Spokane & Lincoln
(We also receive referrals from: FBI, Tribes, N. Idaho & other Eastern WA counties)

Accredited Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Stephanie Widhalm, CAC Program Director
Phone: 509-598-7619

Email: swidhalm@partnerswithfamilies.org

CAC Structure: Independent Nonprofit (501c3)

Is the CAC available for after-hours services?

Yes. Our medical providers are available for consultation (phone and hospital) 24/7

CAC Services Available:

- **Onsite:** ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ Advocacy, ✓ Medical, ✓ Mental Health
Partners' CAC provides all services onsite.

Medical: Clients are referred for medical services by law enforcement, DCYF, and community medical providers. We have 3 ARNPs, 2 Pediatric RNs who are SANE-P, and one contracted MD. We provide onsite service and phone and hospital consultations.

Mental Health: Prior to COVID, mental health services were provided in office. We are currently providing tele-mental health services for ongoing sessions. In-person mental health services are available for urgent/crisis needs.

Advocacy: We have a linkage agreement with our local CSAP & Crime Victims' Resource Center to provide onsite advocacy

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? CAC Staff

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? CAC Staff or FBI

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? Yes

Spokane County MDT Partners

- Spokane Police Department
- Spokane County Sheriff's Office
- Spokane County Prosecutor's Office
- DCYF/Child Protective Services
- Lutheran Community Services NW
- Partners with Families & Children

Lincoln County MDT Partners

- Lincoln County Sheriff's Office
- Reardan Police Department
- Lincoln County Prosecutor's Office
- DCYF/Child Protective Services
- Rural Resources
- Partners with Families & Children

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Monthly; Urgent case staffing as needed in between

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? They are placed on the agenda as needed/identified

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? Yes - We have a Human Trafficking Task Force, but it encompasses all forms of trafficking (adult, child, labor, sex, etc.)

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? Yes

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 6-10

If not your CAC, where do CSEC and Trafficking victims receive services? The FBI will sometimes use our facility for FIs. We have heard that local detectives are interviewing trafficking victims.

Please explain what your CAC does or could do to support children who are sexually exploited or trafficked in your area. Both of our Forensic Interviewers have received specialized training in forensically interviewing victims. Our medical providers can see boys aged 0-18 and prepubescent females for exams. We can provide brief mental health therapy to support them in establishing with a long-term provider.

Tulalip Tribes CAC

2321 Marine Dr NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

Counties served by CAC: Snohomish County
(services to Tulalip Tribal Members)

Accredited Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Jade Carela, Director

Phone: 360-716-4096

Email: jcarela@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov

CAC Structure: Tribal Government Based/Standalone

The CAC is a stand-alone entity, but under the Tulalip Tribal Government

Is the CAC available for after-hours services?

Yes. 24/7

CAC Services Available:

- **Onsite:** ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ Advocacy, ✓ Mental Health

The CAC has two therapists who work onsite. The CAC has one advocate who works onsite.

- **Offsite:** ✓ Medical

Clients go to the emergency room or Dawson's Place. Providence provides all medical services in Snohomish County.

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? CAC Staff

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? CAC Staff

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? Yes

Tulalip Tribal MDT:

- Tulalip PD
- Providence Health System
- WA State District Attorney's Office
- FBI
- Tulalip Prosecution
- Tulalip Child Protective Services
- Washington State DCYF/Child Protective Services

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? 2X per month

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? Yes

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? Yes. Facilitated by Providence.

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? Yes

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 1-5

Please explain what your CAC does or could do to support children who are sexually exploited or trafficked in your area. We provide the same services as we would to our regular CAC clients.

Kitsap SAIVS

614 Division St., MS - 35
Port Orchard, WA 98366

Counties served by CAC: Kitsap

Accredited Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Cami Lewis, Board Chair

Phone: 360-337-4858

Email: clewis@co.kitsap.wa.us

CAC Structure: Government Based

The CAC is headed by the Kitsap County Prosecutor's Office but co-located with SA and DV partners.

Is the CAC available for after-hours services?

Yes. Crisis lines are available 24-7. Other services are available during business hours

CAC Services Available:

- **Onsite:** ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ Advocacy, ✓ Mental Health
Advocacy - YWCA, Kitsap Sexual Assault Center and Scarlet Road provide advocacy services.
Therapy - CSAP therapist serves sexual abuse victims; Others referred to community-based mental health providers
- **Offsite:** ✓ Medical, ✓ Advocacy, ✓ Mental Health
 - CHI Franciscan-Harrison provides medical services
 - Others referred to community-based mental health provider
 - Advocacy services also available offsite

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? Prosecutor's Office Forensic Interviewers

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? Prosecutor's Office Forensic Interviewers

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? Yes

Kitsap County MDT Partners

- Kitsap County Prosecutor's Office
- Bainbridge Island PD
- Port Orchard PD
- Navy
- Kitsap Mental Health
- Parent-Child Assistance Program (PCAP)
- Kitsap County Juvenile Department
- Suquamish Tribe
- Poulsbo PD
- Bremerton PD
- Kitsap County Sheriff's Office
- YWCA
- DCYF/Child Protective Services
- Kitsap County Superior Court Clerk
- Scarlet Road
- AG's office

NOTE: PCAP is a program through the University of Washington – an intervention for high-risk alcohol and drug abusing mothers

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Monthly

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? Yes

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? Yes – facilitated by Prosecutor's Office & Superior Court

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? Yes

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 1-5

Children's Justice Center of King County

Accredited Children's Advocacy Center

516 3rd Ave, E400
Seattle, WA 98104

Primary Contact: Margaret McCurdy, Director of Programming
Phone: 206-247-1735
Email: margaret.mccurdy@kingcounty.gov

Counties served by CAC: King

CAC Structure: Government Based: *The CJC is part of the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office. We have space at two of our three interview locations for partners to work out of. Our third interview location is co-located with our primary advocacy agency.*

Is the CAC available for after-hours services? Yes. Forensic Interviewers are available after-hours.

CAC Services Available:

- Onsite:** ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ MDT Coordinator, ✓ Advocacy
Advocates from King County Sexual Assault Resource Center and Seattle Police Department attend forensic interviews at the CAC and if they are not available, CAC staff (who are trained in advocacy) meet with the family.
- Offsite:** ✓ Medical, ✓ Mental Health, ✓ Advocacy
Medical- Emergent medical services are available at 2 hospitals for children 12 and under and at several hospitals throughout the county for teenagers. Non-emergent and follow-up medical appointments are provided at Harborview Abuse and Trauma Center.
Mental Health - Our two community sexual assault programs offer trauma counseling--Harborview Abuse and Trauma Center and King County Sexual Assault Resource Center
Advocacy - Also available at offsite at KSARC

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? CAC Staff

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? We rarely interview CSEC victims and it is my understanding that the FBI forensic interviewer also doesn't do many of the interviews. I believe CSEC detectives typically do the interviews, most often in the field.

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? Yes

East King County MDT Partners	11 LE agencies covering 22 jurisdictions, 1 DCYF office, 3 medical/mental health agencies, advocacy, prosecutor, forensic interviewer, CAC
West King County MDT Partners	6 LE agencies covering 10 jurisdictions, 3 DCYF offices, 2 medical/mental health providers, 2 advocacy agencies, prosecutor, forensic interviewer, CAC
South King County MDT Partners	10 LE agencies covering 16 jurisdictions, 3 DCYF offices, 2 medical/mental health agencies, advocacy, prosecutor, forensic interviewer, CAC
CSEC MDT Partners	FBI, Seattle PD, other LE in taskforce, all DCYF offices, 2 medical/mental health agencies, 2 advocacy agencies, prosecutors, CSEC coordinator, CAC
Juvenile Court MDT Partners	This team can involve any LE and DCYF in the county, 2 medical/mental health, 2 advocacy agencies, prosecutors, forensic interviewer, CAC

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Each MDT meets Monthly

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? Yes

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? Yes - The FBI and SPD are the main LE agencies, but the task force coordinator is housed within King County Superior Court.

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? Yes

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 1-5

Please explain what your CAC does or could do to support children who are sexually exploited or trafficked in your area. I would like to use our CSEC MDT as a way to identify victims who are in need of services and get them connected--making sure that people who are working with these victims know what resources are out there and how to access them. Of course, we need to do some work around making services work for those victims first.

Children's Justice & Advocacy Center

784 14TH AVE

Longview, WA 98632

Counties served by CAC: Cowlitz & Wahkiakum

Accredited Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Charlie Gourde, Executive Director

Phone: 360-353-3393

Email: EDCJAC@COWLITZCJAC.ORG

CAC Structure: Independent Nonprofit (501c3)

We are an independent, private nonprofit organization. We do not co-locate with any partnering programs.

Is the CAC available for after-hours services? Yes. We are available 24/7 for emergency Forensic Interview services

CAC Services Available:

- **Onsite:** ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ Advocacy

Advocacy - We have an in-house Family Advocate. Our clients also receive advocacy services through our partnership with our local CSAP provider and through the Victim Witness Advocates at our Prosecutor's Office. All of these advocates work in conjunction to assist the family

- **Offsite:** ✓ Medical, ✓ Mental Health

Medical - Our clients receive medical services through our partnership with the Child Abuse Assessment Team at Legacy Salmon Creek. We provide the advocacy and assist with transportation as needed for the medical. We facilitate the medical referrals for our clients, but exams are conducted off-site.

Mental Health - We facilitate the referrals for mental health services. The services are provided through our partnership with Counseling Services & Associates.

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? CAC Staff

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? CAC Staff

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? No

Cowlitz County MDT Partners

- Children's Advocacy & Justice Center (CJAC)
- Cowlitz County Sheriff's Department
- Longview Police Department
- Castle Rock Police Department
- Kalama Police Department
- Child Abuse Assessment Team (Medical)
- Peacehealth St. John's Hospital
- Cowlitz County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- DCYF/Child Protective Services
- Kelso Police Department
- Woodland Police Department
- Emergency Support Shelter (Advocacy)
- Counseling Services & Associates (Mental Health)

Wahkiakum County MDT Partners

- Children's Advocacy & Justice Center (CJAC)
- Wahkiakum County Sheriff's Department
- Charlotte House (Advocacy)
- Counseling Services & Associates (Mental Health)
- Wahkiakum County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- DCYF/Child Protective Services
- Child Abuse Assessment Team (Medical)

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Monthly

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? No - It is rare for us to conduct CSEC interviews/investigations. Those cases are included in our case reviews as needed but they are not frequent enough to be included on a regular basis.

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? Yes - led by Juvenile Probation and Local Church Groups

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? Yes

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 1-5

Please explain what your CAC does or could do to support children who are sexually exploited or trafficked in your area. We conduct Forensic Interviews, facilitate medical & mental health services, & provide advocacy for these victims.

Brigid Collins - Skagit County CAC

917 S 3rd St

Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Counties served by CAC: Skagit, Island, San Juan

Accredited Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Veronica Lopez, Program Director

Phone: 360-428-6622 ext. 210

Email: vlopez@brigidcollins.org

CAC Structure: Part of Umbrella Organization

Skagit County CAC is part of Brigid Collins Family Support Center

Is the CAC available for after-hours services? No

CAC Services Available:

- **Onsite:** ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ Advocacy, ✓ Medical, ✓ Mental Health
Medical - Non acute medical exams are done by a contracted ARNP. Acute CSA exams Kids are referred to Providence in Everett or St. Josephs in Bellingham.
Mental Health – CAC staff
Advocacy – CAC staff for families with children under 13. DV/SAS partner for children 13+
- **Offsite:** ✓ Medical, ✓ Advocacy

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? Prosecutor's Office

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? N/A

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? Yes

Multidisciplinary Team Members

- Skagit County Prosecutor's Office
- Island County Sheriff's Office
- Skagit County Sheriff's Office
- Upper Skagit Tribe Police Department
- Compass Health Children's Program
- Anacortes Police Department
- Mount Vernon Police Department
- Skagit DV & SA Services
- Burlington Police Department
- San Juan Sheriff's Office
- Swinomish Police Department
- Brigid Collins Family Support Center
- Swinomish Indian Tribal Community
- Sedro Woolley Police Department
- Stephanie Wahlgren (Medical)

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Monthly

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? No

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? Yes - The OASIS teen shelter was championing the CSEC task force.

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? No, because our CAC's focus is on children ages 4-12

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 0

If not your CAC, where do CSEC & Trafficking victims receive service? Teen Shelter - OASIS teen shelter and Skagit Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services Are connecting youth to available services

Please explain what your CAC does or could do to support children who are sexually exploited or trafficked in your area. Advocacy, interviews, therapy, medical exams, MDT collaboration

Are you interested in additional training or information regarding CAC services for CSEC? Yes

CAC of Pierce County

1112 S 5th Street
Tacoma, WA 98405

Counties served by CAC: Pierce

Accredited Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Amy Scanlon, CAC Coordinator

Phone: 253-403-7899

Email: amy.scanlon@multicare.org

CAC Structure: Hospital Based

Our CAC is hospital based and co-located with several partners who have staff members working from the CAC. (Mary Bridge Child Abuse Intervention Department (CAID), Hopes Sparks, Sexual Assault Center of Pierce County, and CPS).

Is the CAC available for after-hours services? No, but we will open for emergency interviews on callouts.

CAC Services Available:

- **Onsite:** ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ Advocacy, ✓ Medical, ✓ Mental Health

Medical - All cases that come to the CAC are screened and triaged by a medical social worker to determine if a medical is necessary. We offer joint appointments (FI and Medical) whenever possible. We have an ARNP and a Pediatrician on staff who conduct the medical exams

Mental Health - Hope Sparks and Sexual Assault Center of Pierce County (SACPC) provide mental health/therapy services. Hope Sparks provides on-site services. SACPC can provide secondary trauma treatment for siblings, Non-offending Parent/Caregivers, and victims over 13.

Advocacy - All sexual abuse cases are screened and the VA is notified of all sexual abuse appointments. Our community-based VA is out-stationed at the CAC and often meets with parents and caregivers during the FI. Our Legal and Community based advocates both attend case review.

- **Offsite:** ✓ Advocacy, ✓ Mental Health

Some follow up therapy & advocacy appts occur at Hope Sparks (MH) or Sexual Assault Center of Pierce County.

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? CAC Staff (CAC employee or employee of Prosecutor's office)

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? We do not receive requests from investigators for these victims. We assume law enforcement is conducting these interviews.

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? Yes

Pierce County CAC conducts 3 MDT case reviews divided by law enforcement jurisdiction – West, East, South

Core members who attend each include: Law Enforcement from assigned jurisdictions, CPS, Mental Health, Advocacy (community and legal) Medical, Forensic Interviewers, CSEC Advocacy to flag potential at risk-cases or cases needing CSEC services, Legal (AGO and PAO) CAC staff

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? 3X per month

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? No. CSEC MDT is the last Wednesday of the month.

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? Yes – it just started and is called STEP. It is part of the Sexual Assault Center of Pierce County and a local judge chairs the meetings. This group has met twice.

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? Yes. CAC staff attends CSEC case review and is part of the TF.

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 1-5

If not your CAC, where do CSEC and Trafficking victims receive services? We know victims get services with STEP, but we do not know where/who interviewers them or how they have access to medical and other services.

Please explain what your CAC does/could do to support children who are sexually exploited or trafficked in your area.

We support the agency providing the service. We would offer medical and forensic interviews if we were notified of the cases. We have become educated on CSEC and our interviewers have attended specialized training for these cases, but the children are not referred here. We do have the CSEC at risk advocate attend our MDT case review and identify any CSEC issues or cases that need attention. I am hoping to add additional CSEC language in our protocol to help investigators understand that all people under the age of 18 who have experienced sexual assault should receive a referral to the CAC.

Connections

514 Broadway Ave East
Montesano, WA 98563
Counties served by CAC: Grays Harbor

Accredited Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Sue Bucy, Executive Director
Phone: 360-580-4697
Email: sbucy@harborconnections.org

CAC Structure: Independent Nonprofit (501c3)

- *The CAC is a program of Connections*

Is the CAC available for after-hours services? Yes. For whatever is needed by law enforcement.

CAC Services Available:

- **Onsite:** ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ Advocacy, ✓ Mental Health*

Advocacy - We have trained staff provide advocacy to children up to the age 13. For ages 13+, we refer to our Community Sexual Assault partner. For Physical Abuse we refer to Crisis Support Network.

Mental Health - For emergent cases, we bring a provider on-site. Otherwise, we will refer out.

*However as soon as we get our BHA status we will always have someone onsite

- **Offsite:** ✓ Medical, ✓ Mental Health

Medical - Referrals are made to the SAC within 24 hours of the FI

Mental Health – We refer to Healing Through Connections, Alethea Keith-Pyhala & Anderson Associates, Karen Anderson.

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? CAC Staff

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? CAC Staff (The FBI is welcome to use the CAC to conduct forensic interviews, but they are usually just present and observe.)

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? No

MDT Partners

- Law Enforcement from 9 cities
- Gray's Harbor Sheriff's Department
- DCYF/Child Protective Services
- Dr. Joyce Gilbert (St. Peters Hospital)
- BHR Community Mental Health
- CAC Staff
- Gray's Harbor County Prosecutor's Office
- Beyond Survival
- Crisis Support Network
- Confederate Tribe of Chehalis
- Summit Pacific Medical Center

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Monthly (or more often as needed)

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? Yes.

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? There was a group that started, but there hasn't been anything happening for quite some time

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? Yes – until it stopped

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 11-15

If not your CAC, where do CSEC and Trafficking victims receive services? We provide the forensic interview and then refer out for services. Total number is likely much higher - if LE does an interview on an older child, we have no data on that. We also refer to STRAPWA in Tacoma due to lack of local services.

Please explain what your CAC does or could do to support children who are sexually exploited or trafficked in your area. We refer to STRAPWA in Tacoma due to lack of local services.

Dawson Place CAC

1509 California Street
Everett, WA 98201

Counties served by CAC: Snohomish

Accredited Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Lori Vanderburg, Executive Director

Phone: 425-789-3000

Email: Lori.Vanderburg@dawsonplace.org

CAC Structure: Independent Nonprofit (501c3)

Dawson Place is the nonprofit who owns the building. Snohomish County Sheriff and Prosecutors, Providence Intervention Center for Assault and Abuse, Compass Health Child Advocacy Program (CAP), CPS, and Dawson Place forensic interviewers all have offices at Dawson Place.

Is the CAC available for after-hours services? Yes, by appointment or request.

CAC Services Available:

- **Onsite:** ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ Advocacy, ✓ Medical, ✓ Mental Health, ✓ Investigation, ✓ Prosecution, ✓ Community Engagement, ✓ Parenting Education

Medical: Providence Intervention Center for Assault and Abuse is on site. They have two ARNP's and two exam rooms on site. They also have advocates including a CSEC specialist

Mental Health: Compass Health Child Advocacy Program (CAP) provides therapy at Dawson Place. There are five therapy offices at Dawson for CAP. CAP also provides therapy in Compass clinics located to the north, south, and east. There are 11 therapists and they are all specialists in trauma. Providence also has two therapists who treat adults over 22.

Advocacy: Providence Intervention Center for Assault and Abuse has multiple advocates who are at Dawson Place and who respond to the ER's with the Forensic Nurses who also are based at Dawson Place.

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? Dawson Place Child Interview Specialists (CIS)

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? Most of the time these are done by the CIS who work for Dawson Place. Very rarely outside agencies do interviews at Dawson Place. The FBI has flown in from out of state to do interviews on national cases once or twice. Homeland security came once.

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? Yes

Snohomish County MDT Members

- Dawson Place CAC
- Compass Health CAP
- Providence Intervention Center for Assault and Abuse
- Snohomish County Sheriff's Special Investigation & Special Assault Units
- CPS from all the county offices
- 16 law enforcement agencies from across the county as needed.

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? 2X per month

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? As needed or requested. We review one or two cases per meeting and any of the partner agencies can request to put a case on for review. It could be a CSEC case.

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? Yes – Led by Cocoon House (Mariya Carrier, Human Trafficking Advocate)

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? Yes.

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 11-15

Please explain what your CAC does or could do to support children who are sexually exploited or trafficked in your area. There is a task force, PICA has an advocate who specializes in trafficking. Therapists have training in working with trafficked youth.

Kids Hope

311 W Third Ave
Moses Lake, WA 98837

Counties served by CAC: Adams & Grant

Accredited Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Elisa Adolphsen, MDT Coordinator

Phone: 509-670-0985

Email: eadolphsen@grantcountywa.gov

CAC Structure: Government Based (Grant County)

Kids Hope is co-located with SA/DV/CVS (New Hope), shared mailing address however separate entrance.

Is the CAC available for after-hours services? Yes. The interview room, observation room and a staffing room are available for partners (LE & CPS) to utilize after hours.

CAC Services Available:

- **Onsite:** ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ Advocacy

New Hope provides advocacy services to our clients. They are notified prior to the interview and are on-site prior to the arrival of the family.

- **Offsite:** ✓ Medical, ✓ Mental Health

Medical: Our local hospital provides medical services. LE, advocates as well as CAC staff refer them to the SANE examiner there if necessary.

Mental Health: Our CAC contracts with a variety of mental health providers within our community. The New Hope advocate assigned to the family refers the client to provider they feel is most appropriate.

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? CAC Staff

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? CAC Staff, FBI, Detectives

Majority of interviews are conducted by CAC staff, but we've had the FBI and detectives conduct interviews at Kids Hope

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? No

Grant/Adams County MDT Partners

- Moses Lake Police Department
- Royal City Police Department
- Grand Coulee Police Department
- Coulee City Police Department
- Othello Police Department
- Ephrata Police Department
- Warden Police Department
- Grant County Prosecutor's Office
- Grant County Mental Health
- New Hope
- Soap Lake Police Department
- Quincy Police Department
- Grant County Sheriff's Office
- Mattawa Police Department
- Adams County Sheriff's Office
- DCYF (Grant & Adams Co)
- Samaritan Hospital
- Adams County Prosecutor's Office
- Nicole Prentice, MHP (Mental Health)
- Kids Hope CAC

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Monthly

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? Yes.

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? There is not one (to my knowledge) that is up and running at this time

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? N/A

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 1-5

Please explain what your CAC does or could do to support children who are sexually exploited or trafficked in your area. Our CAC would be happy to be a part of a task force. We could implement a CSEC screening at the time of an intake of youth.

Monarch Children's Justice & Advocacy Center

420 Golf Club Road SE
Lacey, WA 98503

Counties served by CAC: Thurston, Lewis, Mason

Accredited Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Tambra Donohue

Phone: 360-923-1884 x 1101

Email: TambraD.monarch@caclmt.org

CAC Structure: Part of Umbrella Organization (Community Action Council of Lewis, Mason & Thurston Counties)

Our CAC is co-located with medical and prosecuting attorney's office

Is the CAC available for after-hours services? Yes. On-call for emergent cases for medical and forensic interviews.

CAC Services Available:

- **Onsite:** ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ Advocacy, ✓ Medical, ✓ Mental Health, ✓ Defense Interviews, ✓ Case Coordination
Medical: Providence staff on-site
Mental Health: Staff on-site
Advocacy: Staff, Community Advocates & Victim Witness Advocates

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? CAC Staff

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? CAC Staff, FBI

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? No

MDT Members (all three counties, unless otherwise noted)

- Law Enforcement
- Mental Health (Referrals only for Lewis County)
- DCYF/Child Protective Services
- Military Partners (Thurston Only)
- Witness Advocates
- ICW, FBI & Homeland Security (on accession)
- Juvenile Probation
- Community Advocacy (Lewis County Only)
- Prosecuting Attorney's Offices
- Tribal Partners (Mason & Thurston Only)
- Medical
- Monarch Staff
- Department of Corrections

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Weekly

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? Yes.

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? Yes. Safeplace is the lead agency.

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? Yes

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 26+

Please explain what your CAC does or could do to support children who are sexually exploited or trafficked in your area. All of our services are offered

Healthy Families of Clallam County

1210 East Front Street, STE C
Port Angeles, WA 98362

Counties served by CAC: Clallam

Accredited Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Summer Evert

Phone: 360-452-3811

Email: healfam4@olypen.com

CAC Structure: Independent Nonprofit (501c3)

The CAC is co-located with Healthy Families of Clallam County's Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence programs.

Is the CAC available for after-hours services? Yes. 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year

CAC Services Available:

- **Onsite:** ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ Advocacy

Advocacy: Advocacy services are provided by trained HFCC advocates.

- **Offsite:** ✓ Medical, ✓ Mental Health

Medical: Currently pediatric SANE exams are referred to Harrison Hospital. The Elwha tribe is actively developing a pediatric SANE program that will be available locally.

Mental Health: We are currently seeking a replacement for our mental health provider. When that occurs, mental health services will be available on site again.

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? Trained local law enforcement conducts our forensic interviews.

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? FBI or Law Enforcement

- *Depending on the nature of case, either the FBI or local law enforcement would conduct the interview.*

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? No

Clallam County MDT Partners:

- Clallam County Prosecutors Office
- Port Angeles Police Dept.
- Sequim Police Department
- Mariposa House
- DCYF/Child Protective Services
- Healthy Families
- Elwha Tribal Police
- Jamestown Social Services
- Clallam County Sheriffs Dept.
- National Parks Service
- Harrison Hospital

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Monthly

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? Yes.

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? Unsure

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? Unsure if there is a Task Force

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 0

Please explain what your CAC does or could do to support children who are sexually exploited or trafficked in your area. Our CAC could support victims of CSEC with resources most often used for child victims of other crimes.

Brigid Collins - Whatcom County CAC

1231 N Garden Street
Bellingham, WA 98225

Counties served by CAC: Whatom

Accredited Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Gail Tierney, Interviewer

Phone: 360-734-4616

Email: Gtierney@brigidcollins.org

CAC Structure: Independent Nonprofit (501c3)

The CAC is part of Brigid Collins Family Support Center in Bellingham. Other programs include Parenting Education, Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) and the Parent-Child Assistance Program (PCAP)

Is the CAC available for after-hours services? No

CAC Services Available:

- **Onsite:** ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ Advocacy, ✓ Medical, ✓ Mental Health

Medical: We are able to do non-emergent exams for children at our facility. Emergent exams are performed at our local hospital. We coordinate with the hospital for these exams

Mental Health: Children who come through the CAC are able to access mental health therapy on site. We also contract with therapists in the community and our advocates work with the family to help access this therapy.

Advocacy: Advocates and case managers on staff provide these services

- **Offsite:** ✓ Mental Health

We offer on-site therapy and also contract with therapists in the community

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? CAC Staff

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? CAC Staff

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? Yes

Whatcom County MDT Partners:

- Law Enforcement
- Victim Advocates (Prosecutor)
- SANE Nurses
- Brigid Collins
- St Joseph Hospital
- Therapist
- DV/SAS
- Prosecutor's Office

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Weekly

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? Yes.

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? Yes

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? Yes

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 1-5

Please explain what your CAC does or could do to support children who are sexually exploited or trafficked in your area. We provide the forensic interview as well as advocacy case management therapy and medical if necessary

Arthur D. Curtis Children's Justice Center

601 W. Evergreen Blvd., Ste. 101
Vancouver, WA 98660

Counties served by CAC: Clark

Accredited Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Amy Russell, Executive Director

Phone: 360-734-4616

Email: amy.russell@clark.wa.gov

CAC Structure: Government Based (Clark County)

- *CJC is co-located with law enforcement, CPS, prosecution, advocacy, and mental health providers*

Is the CAC available for after-hours services? Yes. As needed, response by law enforcement

CAC Services Available:

- **Onsite:** ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ Advocacy, ✓ Mental Health, ✓ Law Enforcement, ✓ Prosecutors
Mental Health: CJC partners with three local MH providers; Services are available at CJC, MH location or school-based program, as appropriate for children and families
Advocacy: CJC staff provide systems-based victim advocacy; Community-based advocacy services are provided by YWCA and Janus Youth, who specifically serve victims of trafficking.
- **Offsite:** ✓ Medical, ✓ Forensic Interview, ✓ Advocacy, ✓ Mental Health,
Medical: Referrals to Child Abuse Assessment Team at Legacy Salmon Creek
Mental Health: CJC partners with three local MH providers; Services are available at CJC, MH location or school-based program, as appropriate for children and families
Advocacy: Community-Based Advocacy is provided by YWCA and Janus Youth

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? CAC Staff & Law Enforcement (Clark County Sheriff's Office and Vancouver Police Department)

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? CAC Staff, FBI, Law Enforcement (Clark County Sheriff's Office & Vancouver Police Department; Homeland Security Investigations)

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? No

Clark County MDT Partners:

- Children's Center
- Children's Home Society
- Clark County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- Family Solutions
- Vancouver Police Department
- DCYF/Child Protective Services
- Clark County CASA
- Clark County Juvenile Court
- Clark County Sheriff's Office
- Legacy Salmon Creek Child Abuse Assessment Team
- Washington State Attorney General's Office
- YWCA Clark County

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Monthly

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? Yes.

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? Yes. Led by a Steering Committee - Members include survivors, CJC; Clark County Juvenile Court; Clark County Prosecuting Attorney's Office; Janus Youth; Vancouver Police Department; Washington State DCYF; YWCA; Private MH provider; Medical provider

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? Yes

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 16-20

Please explain what your CAC does or could do to support children who are sexually exploited or trafficked in your area. Forensic interviews, service referrals by advocates (mental health services, medical examinations, basic needs, community-based advocacy), community education and outreach

Children of the River CAC

3009 E Portland Ave
Tacoma, WA 98404

Counties served by CAC: Pierce, Thurston,
Southern King (Puyallup Tribe)

Developing Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Laura Bluehorse-Swift, Program Manager

Phone: 253-382-6060

Email: laura.bluehorse-swift@puyalluptribe-nsn.gov

CAC Structure: Government Based

The CAC is a stand-alone program of the Puyallup Tribe that includes in-house medical exams and tele-mental health. We support and are endorsed by local tribal partners.

Is the CAC available for after-hours services? Yes. We are available 24/7 to support our partners should a child be placed in protective custody pending CPS placement

CAC Services Available:

- **Onsite:** ✓Forensic Interview, ✓Advocacy, ✓Medical, ✓Mental Health, ✓Spiritual & Cultural Tools for Healing
Medical - Any victim under the age of 21 can receive SANE services and follow up provided by our pediatric ARNP who can independently treat this population.
Mental Health - We are currently using tele-mental health provided by our contracted TF-CBT therapist. If Clients meet our case referral criteria, they will be staffed at our case review and screened by our therapist.
Advocacy – Our staff includes an MSW Case Manager/Victim Advocate

Who conducts forensic interviews at the CAC? CAC Staff

Who conducts forensic interviews of CSEC victims at the CAC? CAC Staff or FBI

Does your CAC have a signed MOU with the FBI? No

MDT Partners

- Tribal and Federal Prosecutors
- Tribal Police
- Child Welfare
- All CAC Staff (Advocacy, Medical, Mental Health, Forensic Interview)
- FBI
- Federal Victim Advocates

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Monthly

Are CSEC cases included as part of regular Case Review meetings? Yes.

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? Yes – Rebuilding Hope is the lead agency.

If yes, is your CAC involved with the CSEC Task Force? Yes.

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 0

If not your CAC, where do CSEC and Trafficking victims receive services? We are a developing CAC and just started providing full services in February 2020. Then COVID hit and we have only served 4 families during the pandemic, none of which were CSEC involved.

Please explain what your CAC does or could do to support children who are sexually exploited or trafficked in your area. We provide CSEC training to community in hopes of increasing the recognition of this issue. We also advocate for increased resources to address the population. We would provide advocacy, medical care, cultural support, caregiver psychoeducation and therapy when we do serve this population.

CAC of Walla Walla Valley

1612 Penny Lane

Walla Walla, WA 99362

Counties served by CAC: Walla Walla, Columbia

Developing Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Deborah Peters, Program Director

Phone: 509-956-3324

Email: Deborah.Peters@chs-wa.org

CAC Structure: Part of an Umbrella Organization

The CAC is a program under the umbrella of a 501(c)(3) children's services nonprofit (Children's Home Society of WA)

Services to be provided on-site at the CAC once it is fully developed:

- Forensic Interview – Provided onsite by both staff and partner LE.
- Advocacy – Partner onsite by agency advocates (WWPD and YWCA)
- Medical – Provided onsite by partner agency providers (Walla Walla Clinic)
- Mental Health – Provided onsite by both staff and partner providers (Comprehensive Healthcare)

Services that will be available to CAC clients off-site at another location:

- Forensic Interview – Occasionally provided offsite at schools, homes or the WWPD children's interview room.
- Advocacy – Provided in part by telephone, email, text etc.
- Medical – Emergency services at local hospital (Providence St. Mary); Trauma services at regional tertiary care hospitals (Spokane Sacred Heart, Seattle Harbor View, Seattle Children's etc.); routine follow-up care at clinics (child's medical home or CAC provider's office; Walla Walla Clinic, Family [Migrant Workers] Medical Center).

MDT Partners Currently Engaged

- Walla Walla Police Department
- College Place Police Department
- DCYF/Child Protective Services (Walla Walla-Columbia Counties)
- YWCA of Walla Walla & Columbia Counties
- Columbia County Child Abuse MDT
- Walla Walla County Sheriff
- Comprehensive Healthcare (MH)
- Walla Walla Clinic
- Walla Walla County Prosecutor's Office
- Children's Home Society of WA

Other partners who they hope to engage with the CAC in some capacity:

- School Districts (Walla Walla, College Place, Dayton)
- Children's Program Providers (YMCA, Camp Fire, etc.)
- City of Walla Walla Council Members
- CASA Program
- Parenting Education Programs
- Child Welfare
- Walla Walla County Commissioners
- Philanthropy (Foundations, United Way, etc.)
- Early Childhood, Child Care, Early Learning Programs

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Monthly

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 0

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? No, not yet

Where do victims of CSEC or trafficking receive services in your area? I think our region is still "CSEC blind". We don't have these cases generally.

Crisis Support Network

762 Ballentine Street

Raymond, WA 98577

Counties served by CAC: Pacific

Developing Children's Advocacy Center

Primary Contact: Julie Jewell, Executive Director

Phone: 509-447-2274

Email: director@crisis-support.org

CAC Structure: Independent Nonprofit 501(c)(3)

Services to be provided on-site at the CAC once it is fully developed:

- Forensic Interview, provided by CSN staff or contracted FI
- Advocacy, provided by CSN staff
- Mental Health, provided by a contracted therapist

Services that will be available to CAC clients off-site at another location:

- Medical – exams are conducted at another location by St Peter's Sexual Assault and Child Maltreatment Center

MDT Partners Currently Engaged

- Raymond Police Department
- Pacific County Sheriff's Office
- Pacific County Prosecutor's Office
- Mental Health
- DCYF/Child Protective Services
- South Bend Police Department
- St. Peter's Sexual Assault and Child Maltreatment Center

Other partners who they hope to engage with the MDT:

- Long Beach Police Department

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Monthly

Approximately how many child victims of CSEC or Trafficking are served by your CAC each year? 0

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? Derek Peterson at Northwest Justice spearheaded a task force meeting for our county in October last year. Derek no longer works at NWJ, but I thought their agency was the lead on the task force. Maybe I'm mistaken. The meeting involved planning for who would do what for the task force.

Where do victims of CSEC or trafficking receive services in your area? Unsure

Family Crisis Network

730 West 1st Street
Newport, WA 99156

Counties served by CAC: Pend Oreille

Status: **MDT (Affiliate)**

Primary Contact: Sarah Kramer (Advocate)/Jackie Kiehn (Executive Director)

Phone: 509-447-2274

Email: sarah@pofcn.org / jackie@pofcn.org

CAC Structure: Independent Nonprofit 501(c)(3)

Our CAC is a part of a non-profit agency called Family Crisis Network. Family Crisis Network assists victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence and all other crimes with services that include 24-hour Crisis Intervention, Emergency Shelter, Therapy and Support Groups. The main FCN office is in a different location than the CAC office and the trauma therapy office.

Services to be provided on-site at the CAC once it is fully developed:

- **Forensic Interview:** The CAC will conduct Forensic Interviews. Interviews will be conducted by the FCN Forensic Interviewer or a Sheriff's Deputy that has been trained in Child Forensic Interviewing.
- **Advocacy:** Available on-site and off-site
- **Other (please explain):** Care coordination: Will be provided by the care coordinator at the front desk to offer services to the victims and their families and arrange for those services as needed.

Services that will be available to CAC clients off-site at another location:

- **Advocacy:** Advocacy will be provided by FCN Advocates from the main FCN office
- **Medical:** FCN has partnered with the local hospital but unfortunately, they are unable to provide pediatric SANE nurses at this time. In the meantime, FCN CAC will be utilizing services in Spokane for pediatric sexual assault exams until Newport can obtain a pediatric SANE.
- **Mental Health:** FCN has a trauma therapist in the office space located next to the CAC.

MDT Partners Currently Engaged

- Pend Oreille County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- Newport Hospital & Health Services
- Newport Police Department
- CAC Staff
- DCYF/Child Protective Services
- Pend Oreille County Sheriff's Office
- FCN Trauma Therapist

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Monthly

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? No

Where do victims of CSEC or trafficking receive services in your area? Family Crisis Network Main Office

Skamania County Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

96 NW Columbia Ave
Stevenson, WA 98648

Counties served by CAC: Skamania

Status: **Developing MDT**

Primary Contact: Lisa Alexander, Executive Director

Phone: 509-427-4210

Email: lbutcher@skamaniadvsa.org

In very early stages of development to serve child victims in Skamania County, so still working to establish partnership and other infrastructure elements.

Yakima County CAC

Yakima County Prosecutor's Office
128 N 2nd Street, Yakima, WA 98901
Counties served by CAC: Yakima County

Status: **MDT (Affiliate)**

Primary Contact: Erin Deery, CAC Coordinator
Phone: 507-574-1287
Email: Erin.Deery@co.yakima.wa.us

CAC Structure: Government - *Our CAC is a Government Structure co-located within the Yakima County Courthouse under the Yakima County Prosecutor's Department.*

Services to be provided on-site at the CAC once it is fully developed:

- **Forensic Interviews** are currently conducted at the CAC. We are working to have advocacy and mental health co-located as our CAC continues to develop.

Services that will be available to CAC clients off-site at another location:

- **Advocacy**: Currently provided at two other locations depending on the demographic area clients are coming from based on current partner relationships. Our lower valley Victim Advocates are served by LightHouse and our upper valley clients receive service through ASPEN.
- **Mental Health**: Currently provided by Comprehensive Healthcare. We are also working on building partnerships with other mental health agencies in the county.

MDT Partners Currently Engaged

- Yakima County Sheriff's Office
- Granger Police Department
- Wapato Police Department
- Selah Police Department
- Lighthouse & Aspen (Advocacy)
- Virginia Mason Memorial (Medical)
- Sunnyside Police Department
- Union Gap Police Department
- Union Gap Police Department
- Moxee Police Department
- Comprehensive Healthcare (Mental Health)

Partners who are not yet fully engaged but with whom we continue to build a relationship: Yakima Police Department & Catholic Charities

How often do you conduct Case Review meetings? Monthly (more often as needed)

Is there a CSEC Task Force in your area? Yakima County has one that was being developed. The person running those has requested for someone else to take over as she won't be able to continue coming to the area. Our CAC, my supervisor and I, have volunteered to provide leadership for the CSEC Task Force in Yakima County and will be meeting next week to discuss this process.

Where do victims of CSEC or trafficking receive services in your area? ASPEN Victim Advocacy Services, Comprehensive Healthcare, as well as our local YWCA are some of the organizations that provide services to victims of CSEC or trafficking in our area.

Challenges varied by county, and are listed below:

- Cases are extremely complicated and require a great amount of coordination amongst agencies. (SARC)
- Limited medical care resources for puberty-aged females. CSEC/Trafficking is investigated and prosecuted by other units outside of the Special Victim/Assault units. Our CAC needs to work on establishing relationships with those persons. (Partners)
- Housing (Kitsap)
- Barriers to access--transportation, difficult to locate, no stable address--and the fact that the system is largely unable or unwilling to respond to these victims in a way that works for them--flexible, mobile, accessible, free (King)
- There are limited local services in our community for CSEC victims (CJAC)
- Lack of time and resources by police department (Skagit)
- Law enforcement does not refer these cases to the CAC for any services. (Pierce)
- Lack of resources specific to the population (Puyallup)
- We don't have services for CSEC victims in our County (Grays Harbor)
- They are often difficult to engage in therapy on an ongoing basis. (Dawson Place)
- Identification of CSEC cases has probably been the most challenging. I have seen a couple of cases come through that were not originally identified as CSEC but appeared to be. (Kids Hope)
- Connecting with victims (Healthy Families)
- Lack of housing (Whatcom)
- Poor identification of child victims of trafficking (Arthur)
- Identifying Victims (Walla Walla)
- Law enforcement in our area sees trafficking differently than we do, especially with youth. Incidences of youth exchanging sex for a place to live, for example, is not seen as an incidence of trafficking. Having information about definitions (including what is "criminal" trafficking) would be helpful for everyone. (CSN)
- Lack of resources and knowledge in rural communities like Pend Oreille. (FCN)

CACs who responded to the survey also submitted recommendations on how to expand services to CSEC victims within the CAC model:

- Specialized training for interviewers (SARC)
- I would strongly recommend education being provided to MDT partners on the appropriateness of using CACs this population. So often, investigators work off of a victim's chronological age and do not account for the impact that trauma has had on their brain and that cognitively/functionally, they may not be comprehending situations/questions/etc. at their stated age. The CACs can provide trauma-informed that can help set the stage for healing. (Partners)
- I think that CACs can be a great resource for good, developmentally appropriate forensic interviews--whether at the CAC or in the field. I also think that the MDT model that CACs adhere to works well for CSEC cases. For King County, the next step is making sure that CSEC victims are made aware of the other services available to them, particularly medical and mental health care. (King)
- Additional resources specific to this population, i.e. housing and training for caregivers and victims (Puyallup)
- Training for law enforcement and prosecution. (CJAC)
- The investigative community needs training and we need to change the way LE and the legal system views these children- they need to be identified as victims. The cases should be investigated by SAU rather than narcotics and gang units. These are sexual crimes against children, yet SAU rarely gets assigned. (Pierce)
- We need to develop a Task Force for Grays Harbor, so our kids don't have to travel 1-3 hours to receive services. (Connections)
- Implementation of screening Training for our MDT partners (especially tailored to law enforcement) (Kids Hope)
- Many children are prosecuted under hands-on crimes have a sub-set of being exploited by their offenders. Most of those perpetrators are known to the victim. Most cases are managed under child rape or molestation as that tends to be the initial disclosure (Monarch)

Centers also provided suggestions on how CACs can better connect commercially sexually exploited children with available services in their communities.

- An MDT response to cases involving young people has been proven effective time and time again. There is a different type and level of coordination needed to support this population, which an MDT model can support. There are already required working relationships under the RCW (26.44) that can act as a pivotal foundation to begin this process. (Partners)
- I would start by identifying the agencies that are already successfully connecting with CSEC victims and asking them what services they think are lacking for that population. I would then reach out to service providers in the areas they identified as well as other areas that might be helpful to find out what they are doing to connect to the CSEC population and if there are any barriers. I would connect the CSEC providers with the desired services so that they can figure out the best way to work together, make referrals, ensure that the victims are getting what they need. I think that is one of the best things that CACs can offer--initiating contact, asking the right questions, making the connections that need to be made and doing the work to make sure there is follow through. (King)
- Please see above- these are cases involving crimes against children. Drugs and gangs are a huge part of the problem, but within those cases are crimes against children and it makes sense to connect them with CAC services. (Pierce)
- We need training on how to develop a task force, specialized training to help support kiddos who are victims. We also need training for our MDT to make this happen. (Connections)
- More supportive and flexible housing and school options for teens. More mental health funds. Transportation (Monarch)
- A community outreach program that spreads word of the services available to CSEC could help make connections. (Healthy Families)
- Require advocates to become familiar with youth services, participate in coalitions that serve our youth, Tacoma REACH has monthly meetings that outline available services and resources specific to youth (Puyallup)

Additional Comments:

- We are two separate small counties. If I had to guess, we do have CSEC crimes being committed, we just do not hear of them. It would be good to know how to identify a child who could be involved in a CSEC crime and how to go about getting them out of it and getting the resources and supports they need. (RRCA)
- We are in a very rural area and we need to be able to provide services to our kiddos in their own community. We are surrounded by tribal lands and we need to make sure we are providing services that support the cultural and spiritual needs of our community. We need to be more diverse in our ability to reach our families so we can provide the best services to our families. We need a consistent method to track the number of cases in the county. (Connections)

CACs also expressed an interest in further training or information regarding CSEC.

Addendum A – State Chapter Overview

Children’s Advocacy Centers of Washington (CACWA), is the statewide association and coordinating body for Children’s Advocacy Centers (CACs) in Washington. Like CAC’s, CACWA is accredited by the National Children’s Alliance and is responsible for providing support, training, quality assurance and statewide leadership to CACs and their multidisciplinary partners. There are currently 17 accredited CACs serving 24 counties and 6 developing CACs working to expand services to an additional 8 counties across the state.

CACWA provides a variety of services and resources to both established CACs and communities working to develop CACs.

Training & Professional Development

CACWA facilitates a wide range of training & professional development opportunities throughout the year to meet the needs of local teams, boards, and CAC staff.

Growth, Development & Expansion

CACWA identifies underserved and unserved areas of the state and facilitates efforts to establish services in those areas by supporting development of new centers, satellites, and/or expansion of existing centers.

Funding & Resource Development

CACWA administers state and federal funds that support the work of CACs in Washington and engages in state and federal legislative efforts to advocate for continued and increased financial resources. CACWA also maintains a list of local, state, and national funding sources – a helpful resource for CACs seeking support for special projects or initiatives.

Networking, Mentoring & Support

CACWA facilitates connections between centers and staff through newsletters, networking meetings, training, and other engagement opportunities.

Evaluation, Assessment & Reporting

CACWA assists centers and teams with NCA Accreditation, facilitates collection, compilation, and dissemination of meaningful data from all centers, and conducts periodic site visits to ensure all centers are meeting the Standards and providing consistent levels of service.

Legislation & Policy

CACWA establishes and enables legislation and lends its voice to statutory or policy issues related to child abuse and CACs by working with state lawmakers, state agency representatives and other organizations to ensure the interests of CACs are represented in policy development and decision-making.

Community Awareness & Marketing

In addition to raising awareness of the work CACs are doing, CACWA’s website features a “members only portal” with a wide array of resources for CACs and MDTs. Brochures and other materials are also available for use by local centers to promote services and recruit volunteers and donors.

Addendum B – National Accreditation Standards for CACs

CAC Accreditation Standards

To ensure all children across the U.S. who are served by CACs receive consistent, evidence-based interventions that help them heal, National Children's Alliance (NCA) developed Standards for Accredited Members. These Standards not only allow CACs to demonstrate they are delivering services that reflect an effective, high level of care, they also act as a valuable road map for CACs, MDTs, Boards and other stakeholders to ensure children and families are provided services that are trauma-informed, evidence-based, and developmentally and culturally appropriate. By meeting the accreditation standards, CACs provide assurance to parents, policymakers, funders, and other community members that children who come to a CAC receive services that reflect nationally recognized and recommended practices.

- **Standard 1: Multidisciplinary Team**
A multidisciplinary team for response to child abuse allegations includes representation from law enforcement, child protective services, prosecution, medical, mental health, victim advocacy, and Children's Advocacy Centers fields.
- **Standard 2: Cultural Competency & Diversity**
The Children's Advocacy Center provides culturally competent services for all CAC clients throughout the life of the case.
- **Standard 3: Forensic Interviews**
Forensic interviews are conducted in a manner that is legally sound, of a neutral, fact-finding nature, and are coordinated to avoid duplicative interviewing.
- **Standard 4: Victim Support & Advocacy**
Victim support and advocacy services are provided to all CAC clients and their caregivers as part of the multidisciplinary team response.
- **Standard 5: Medical Evaluation**
Specialized medical evaluation and treatment services are available to all CAC clients and coordinated as part of the multidisciplinary team response.
- **Standard 6: Mental Health**
Evidence-based, trauma-focused mental health services, designed to meet the unique needs of the children and caregivers, are consistently available as part of the multidisciplinary response.
- **Standard 7: Case Review**
A formal process in which multidisciplinary discussion and information sharing regarding the investigation, case status and services needed by the child and family is to occur on a routine basis.
- **Standard 8: Case Tracking**
Children's Advocacy Centers must develop and implement a system for monitoring case progress and tracking case outcomes for all MDT components.
- **Standard 9: Organizational Capacity**
A designated legal entity responsible for program and fiscal operations has been established and implements basic sound administrative policies and procedures.
- **Standard 10: Child Focused Setting**
The child-focused setting is comfortable, private, and both physically and psychologically safe for diverse populations of children and their family members.

Addendum C – CAC Status

Accredited CACs

Accredited CACs are those who meet each of the ten Standards for Accreditation as defined by the National Children's Alliance. These standards ensure that child abuse victims throughout the country receive effective, efficient, and compassionate services. Recreditation occurs every 5 years.

Developing (Associate) CACs

Children's Advocacy Centers that are working toward but have not yet achieved implementation of all standards for accreditation may be granted Associate/Developing CAC status. An Associate/Developing CAC must provide documentation of the following requirements:

- a functioning MDT with representation from Law Enforcement, Child Protective Services, Prosecution, Medical, Mental Health and Victim Advocacy;
- a signed interagency agreement and MDT protocols;
- a facility designated for interviews of children
- working toward implementing all standards for Accreditation;
- MDT case review, which is conducted on a regularly scheduled basis, and attended by all MDT representative disciplines;
- a letter of recommendation from the Chapter in their jurisdiction (if applicable);

An Associate/ Developing CAC can remain in that status for a period of five years at which time they must achieve accredited status or choose to apply for another level of membership with NCA.

MDT (Affiliate)

Multidisciplinary teams that are working to improve services for abused children through a collaborative approach to intervention. An Affiliate must provide documentation of the following:

- a functioning MDT with representation from Law Enforcement, Child Protective Services, and Prosecution. (NCA strongly encourages the representation and participation of all disciplines, including Medical, Mental Health and Victim Advocacy);
- a signed interagency agreement and MDT protocols;
- a letter of recommendation from the Chapter in their jurisdiction (if applicable);
- MDT case review, which is conducted on a regularly scheduled basis, and attended by all MDT representative disciplines;
- child forensic interviews are conducted in a neutral and child-focused setting.

Developing MDT

Initial stages of MDT development to facilitate a collaborative approach to intervention.

Satellite

Satellites: child-friendly facilities offering onsite forensic interviews & victim advocacy services under the sponsorship & oversight of an Accredited Children's Advocacy Center. Host CACs are encouraged to work toward meeting all National Standards for Accreditation in their satellites and incorporating quality assurance into their strategic plans.

For additional information contact:

Children's Advocacy Centers of Washington (CACWA)

Paula Reed, Executive Director

3020 Willamette Drive NE

Lacey, WA 98516

360-753-3703

www.cacwa.org



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Accredited Chapter**

Recommendations for expanded use of child advocacy centers (“CACs”) in providing additional services for commercially sexually exploited children (“CSEC”) (RCW 7.68.802(2)(c)).

To expand use of CACs in providing additional services to CSEC:

- Recommend increasing connectivity to CACs by directing CSEC cases into referral system from Child Protective Services (“CPS”) and Law Enforcement to CACs (for Forensic Interview and other services). In order to expand use of CACs and increase access to services, we need to get them there. This could be integrated into existing protocols.
- Recommend the use of specially trained child forensic interviewers be recognized as a best practice in Washington state when interviewing children who may be the victim of commercial sexual exploitation (“CSE”) and that child forensic interviewers be utilized in investigations whenever possible. Interviewing victims of human trafficking is a critical component in the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking cases. Given the difficulties associated with identifying victims of human trafficking and recognizing human trafficking cases as such, the forensic interviewing of victims is crucial to improving our ability to bring justice to these victims.ⁱ
- Recommend specialized Forensic Interview training be provided for interviewers working with CACs. The format of forensic interviewing and the dynamics of these interviews for CSEC are different than the dynamics common in more traditional child sexual abuse interviews.
- Recommend supporting CACs to implement the Commercial Sexual Exploitation–Identification Tool (“CSE-IT”) to improve early identification of commercially sexually exploited children. Screening helps agencies and systems identify youth earlier and provides data that allows them to target resources to prevent prolonged exposure to exploitation.
- Recommend specialized training be provided for all advocates working with CACs. This would ensure that CAC advocates are specially trained to meet the unique needs of CSEC victims and provide proactive and progressive services in response.
- Recommend that guidance for CACs/MDTs (multi-disciplinary teams) be integrated into existing child abuse protocols (RCW 26.44.180) on how to screen for and respond to indicators of trafficking. This would build upon existing collaboration and coordination efforts.
- Recommend that when working with CSEC cases, CACs expand MDTs to include CSEC partners. In areas where case numbers are higher, CSEC-specific MDTs should be established. This would leverage CACs as experts in MDT coordination and ensures statutory safeguards associated with MDT functioning.
- Recommend Children’s Advocacy Centers of Washington engage with the King County CSEC Task Force to facilitate training for CACs staff and MDT partners. This would enhance overall response to and services for CSEC victims. Training is currently available online at no cost and can be done from anywhere in Washington.

Recommendations for ensuring that child advocacy centers connect commercially sexually exploited children with available services in the community (RCW 7.68.802(2)(d)).

To facilitate connections between CACs and available services for CSEC victims:

- Recommend CACs facilitate and/or actively engage in the work of county CSEC Task Forces. The goal is to increase coordination, reduce duplication, and improve connectivity between victims and available services.
- Recommend CACs have access to information (by county) outlining available services and resources to ensure awareness of what is available to CSEC survivors. This would ensure CAC staff are aware of available services and resources.
- Recommend CACs reach out to service providers to inform about CAC services and promote coordination. The goal is to ensure service providers are aware of the services available at CACs, ages served, referral process, etc.

Additional training recommendation:

- Recommend training to help professionals recognize the signs of exploitation and ways to respond to CSEC (i.e. law enforcement, prosecution, mental health, victim advocates, child welfare, juvenile justice, schools, etc.). A common barrier to service is identifying child victims of commercial sexual exploitation. The hidden nature of this crime, mistrust of adults by exploited children and misconceptions about this population make locating victims difficult.

ⁱ Kevin Bales, Ph.D. & Steven Lize, Ph.D., Trafficking in Persons in the United States: A Report to the National Institute of Justice, Oxford, Mississippi. Croft Institute for International Studies, University of Mississippi (2005). Available at <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/211980.pdf> (last visited November 30, 2020).