

Greetings!

It's that time of year when we look back so that we can look ahead. This year has certainly seen many changes and opportunities, none greater than the VOCA pass through dollars that as the lead entity, CACI awarded to 37 CACs, in the amount of 7.1 million dollars. As we have processed the first payment to the CACs, we are now seeing a flurry of hiring and training, of reorganizing structures and making plans to enhance service provisions to children in the state. While the work has been difficult for all, the benefits to Illinois will be substantial.

We will try to report to you on the impact, the number of professionals who have been hired and trained in the coming newsletters. Of great impact, we will want to report on shortened waiting times for interviews and appropriate mental health counseling.

Stay tuned,

Billie Larkin
CACI Executive Director

Governor Rauner Signs Law Removing Sex Crime Statutes of Limitation



SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) - Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner has signed legislation that will remove the statutes of limitation for sexual abuse crimes.

Rauner signed the measure Friday. Sponsor state Sen. Michael Hastings of Frankfort says the legislation puts in place "best practices for dealing with sexual assault cases statewide and puts a system in place that will encourage survivors to come forward and receive justice when they are ready." [Read More Here](#)

CELEBRATES



On August 8th our FEARLESS leader, Billie Larkin, celebrated her 10th anniversary as CACI Executive Director!

It is an awesome, yet rare opportunity, to work with (and for) such a strong, passionate, dedicated and tireless example of integrity ♥☐



We are delighted to announce that Joan Pernecke has joined the CACI Board of Directors!

Joan was a long standing top prosecutor in the Cook County office is an outstanding knowledgeable person that will be a true asset to the CACI board.



CACI Training Coordinator, Cara Vock, is working hard to celebrate her one year anniversary here at CACI!

Cara began her position at CACI on August 22, 2016!



Welcome Barbara Karr into her newly created position with CACI as the VOCA Program Grant Monitor!

Barb started August 1st!

A NOTE FROM

My sincerest thank you goes out to the 94 participants who attended CACI sponsored events this month. Tips for Testifying Northern in the North, Central, and Southern Regions, NCA Standards Training, and the ChildFirst Faculty Retreat made for a busy August! I want to send a heartfelt thank you as well to all the leaders that presented at these trainings about the good work that they perform daily, and for allowing others from across Illinois to learn from them.

With only 4 months left in this year I am extremely excited this year's remaining trainings: Director's Conference, ChildFirst, MDT Facilitator Training, and the Annual Advocate Training. Information on these trainings and how to register can be found in this newsletter, and on the CACI website. I am so happy that we have such supportive CAC's in IL who understand the importance of good training, and appreciative of the professionals who want to be the best possible heroes for our children.

It has really been such a great month of training!

- Cara

THE TRAINING COORDINATOR...

08/14/2017

NCA Updated Standards Training

Marcia Kibler Milliken from the Minnesota Children's Alliance and CACI's Executive Director, Billie Larkin presented on the 2017 National Children's Alliance Accreditation Standards. Not only did CAC leaders from across Illinois learn how to meet these standards, they were taught how to create a best practice culture at their centers. THANK YOU to our knowledgeable presenters and our attendees who eagerly learned a vast amount of knowledge today from them.



Top Row: Jackie Diediker, Misty Marinier, Missy Lyons, Lisa Morel Las, Shirley Johnson, Amy Apostol, Pam Riddle, Sharon Watson & Carrie Cohan
Bottom Row: Jo Sipes, Johanna Hager, Amanda Ericson, Martha Cassel, Christina Ayala, Kari May, Billie Larkin, Sharon Clagg & Marcia Milliken

Marcia Milliken and Billie Larkin





TIPS FOR TESTIFYING TRAINING



Tips for Testifying Northern Region

Participants were taught how to be best prepared when stepping foot into the court house.

A special thank you to the Winnebago County State's Attorney Joe Bruscato for the warm welcome, Assistant Deputy State's Attorney Jenny Clifford for presenting from the prosecutor's perspective, CAC of McHenry County's Lead Forensic Interviewer Anna Krause for sharing her expertise, & Carrie Lynn Children's Center for all your help coordinating this training.



Tips for Testifying Central Region

Participants learn techniques for preparing for the courtroom.

Thank you for hosting the training McLean County Children's Advocacy Center & CASA and sincere gratitude to our presenters Adam Ghrist, McLean County State Attorneys Office, First Assistant and Jennifer Kampwerth, Madison County Child Advocacy Center forensic interviewer.

SOCIAL MEDIA.....WE HAVE THAT COVERED
CLICK ON ONE, TWO OR ALL THREE & LIKE AND/OR FOLLOW CACI



Hi All,

We are now in the process of planning our 9th Annual Champions for Children Conference. This year we thought that we would try something new to tap into our great resources in Illinois.

You can find the information for our "[Call for Proposals](#)" [HERE](#) for Illinois MDT members to present at the conference which will be held March 5-6, 2018 in Oak Brook, IL.

Please consider and distribute to team members and CAC employees in your area. [Deadline to submit is September 1st.](#)

Thanks in advance,
Kim



[2nd Annual National Prosecutors Summit on Child Abuse](#)

The Association of Prosecuting Attorneys are hosting their 2nd Annual National Prosecutors Summit on Child Abuse. The event is co-hosted with the Minnesota Children's Alliance and the Midwest Regional CAC. It is tuition-free and the line-up looks outstanding. Slots are going fast but there still are a few remaining.

For more registration information, please go to this link <http://www.apainc.org/upcoming-events/>. A complete agenda may be found here.

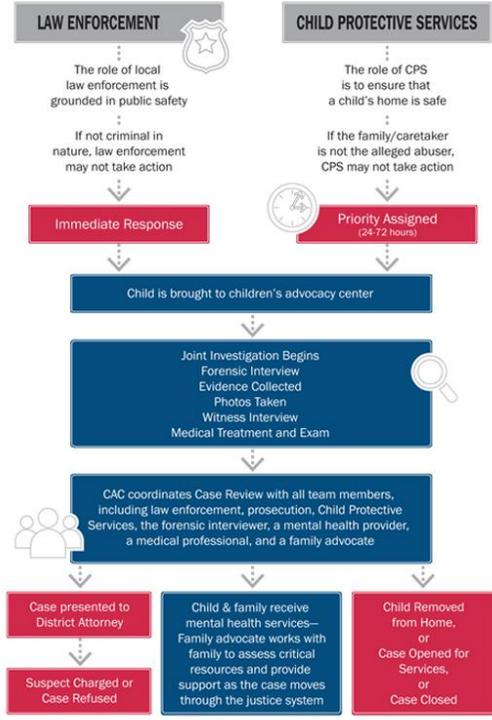
FIND THE CAC IN YOUR AREA [HERE](#)

H O W D I D I N O T K N O W T H I S



HOW DOES THE CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER MODEL WORK?

Core Function of CAC Function Provided by a Team Member



To understand what a Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) is, you must understand what children face without one. Without a CAC, the child may end up having to tell the worst story of his or her life over and over again, to doctors, cops, lawyers, therapists, investigators, judges, and others. They may have to talk about that traumatic experience in a police station where they think they might be in trouble, or may be asked the wrong questions by a well-meaning teacher or other adult that could hurt the case against the abuser.

When police 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 once 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, prosecution, child protective services, victim advocacy, and other professionals make decisions together about how to help the child based on the interview. CACs offer therapy and medical exams, plus courtroom preparation, victim advocacy, case management, and other services. This is called the multidisciplinary team (MDT) response and is a core part of the work of CACs.

NCA website:

<http://www.nationalchildrensalliance.org/cac-model>

CALiO™
Child Abuse Library Online

WHAT IS NEW IN CALiO?

CALiO™ provides numerous resources to help professionals who serve child victims suffering from complex trauma, as well as their caregivers.
[Visit their website](#)



5 INTERVIEW QUESTIONS THAT WILL HELP YOU HIRE THE BEST!

Most employers are approaching job interviews all wrong. To identify the candidates who have substance and not just smarts, [here](#) are better questions to ask.



14 THINGS YOUR TEAM-BUILDING ACTIVITY NEEDS TO SUCCEED

Team-building exercises - from trust falls and blindfolds to zombie races and construction tasks - [continue here](#)



CACI TRAININGS

LOOK BELOW TO SEE WHAT IS COMING!

Dear Illinois CAC Directors,

Welcome to our 22nd Annual Directors Conference! This ongoing tradition has been a mainstay for CACs as a time to learn together, to network, catch up and celebrate success and share common challenges.

This year we were able to enlarge the Directors Conference to two nights, thanks to the 11 CACs who were able to pool their program support dollars and expand the training initiatives.

I am pleased to say we are opening the conference on Wednesday September 6th with "An Evening with Juan Ortiz". Juan is a fabulous speaker and his inspirational stories will set up the next two days of the conference. On Thursday morning Dan Powers will address the group

in his likable and lively presentation style on ethics and Thursday afternoon we will not be hearing on the annual report but as well from two Directors whose teams went through team week and two directors who are part of the MDT pilot initiative. On Friday we open with a short presentation from V2 and Ritchie Curtis who is graciously paying for lunch followed by Kaitlin Lounsbury giving you some tips for those OMS stats and closing with Crystal Collette on funding and financial guidelines.

We are excited and we hope that you will join with us and attend the Directors Conference.

See you in Bloomington-Normal - Billie



"CELEBRATE WHAT YOU HAVE ACCOMPLISHED BUT RAISE THE BAR A LITTLE HIGHER EACH TIME YOU SUCCEED."
— MIA HAMM

2017 DIRECTOR'S CONFERENCE

5:30 PM SEPT. 6TH - NOON SEPT. 8TH
BLOOMINGTON NORMAL MARRIOTT

An Evening with Juan Ortiz will kick off our time together on Wednesday night with a cash bar & appetizers beginning at 5:30 PM

On Thursday we will have one of our favorite speakers, Dan Powers, LCSW presenting: "Ethical Challenges Facing Children's Advocacy Centers, views from the Big Office and The Board Room"

17th Annual NOV. 15-17, 2017 ADVOCATE TRAINING

\$250 Registration fee includes
Hotel (Wed & Thur)
Mac N Cheese Bar Networking Evening (Wed @7pm)
Breakfast (Thur & Fri)
Afternoon Snacks (Thur & Fri)
Training Materials
4 Fantastic Speakers!



President Abraham Lincoln Hotel
Springfield, IL

For more information and to register, go [here](#) !!

If you have any questions, contact Cara Vock at (815) 973-6777 or via [email](#)

"Designed to meet NCA Standards for victim advocates remain current on developments in the fields relevant to their delivery of services to children and families and to continue to develop their expertise" - Section 4B: Statement of Intent - "Putting Standards Into Practice", NCA



ChildFirst is an intensive five-day course in which students learn the necessary skills to conduct a forensic interview of an alleged child abuse victim.

ChildFirst is designed for investigative teams of law enforcement officers, social workers, prosecutors, and forensic interviewers. Students receive training on the ChildFirst Forensic Interview Protocol, memory, and suggestibility, child development, testifying in court, legal issues and preparing children for court.

ChildFirst is rigorous and interactive. Each participant completes homework assignments, a critiqued mock forensic interview, and a written examination. Successful participants will receive a certificate of completion.

ChildFirst is an ideal course for investigators and prosecutors seeking to enhance their ability to speak to and for abused children.

Registration ([click here](#)) deadline is September 1, 2017. Submission of an application does not guarantee acceptance into the ChildFirst Illinois training. Registration is limited to 40 participants per session. Acceptance will be



based equally on the following factors; the order in which the application was received by our office, coordination with the sponsoring CAC, and applicants who will be in the primary role of forensic interviewer. Applicants will be notified of acceptance no later than September 8, 2017.

All applicants must be sponsored by the Children's Advocacy Center in the applicant's service area.

All participants must attend all five days of training in order to receive a certificate of completion. If someone is unable to make this commitment, he or she should not apply.

MCLE's for attorneys and CEU's for social workers will be available pending approval.

For more information and to register, click [here](#)

There will also be a one-day update training for those who have previously been trained in FindingWords/ChildFirst forensic interview protocol and wish to have an update, you can register [here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Cara Vock at 815-973-6777 or cara@cacionline.org.



Wed., September 27th 9:00 am-3:00 pm

REGISTER NOW

Scheels, Springfield IL

MDT ENHANCEMENT TRAINING FOR PILOT SITES

We are excited to welcome Chris Newlin, NCAC Executive Director, as our first speaker in a 3 part pilot training series!!

Chris will share his wealth of knowledge & experience with our Illinois pilot site team members.

ILLINOIS CAC PILOT SITES GET REGISTERED FOR THE 1ST OF 3 TRAININGS CACI IS HOSTING!

Please mark your calendars for this training, forward to all of your identified pilot site team members and get registered!!!

There is a \$20 registration fee and lunch will be provided!

Register [HERE](#)

SAVE THE DATE



9th Annual
**CHAMPIONS OF
CHILDREN
CONFERENCE**

MARCH 2018



The Hyatt Lodge

Oak Brook, Illinois



HOO'S AMAZING????
OUR CAC'S, THAT'S
HOO!



April House

Children's Advocacy Center of Whiteside County

WELCOME EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CARRIE MELTON

Carrie comes to April House from Riverview Center where she had served in victims services since 1994, after graduating from Illinois State University. She has worked in domestic violence and sexual assault services as an advocate and in administration. She lives in Morrison with her spouse, Brian, 2 children (Emma and Isaac), and their dog. She enjoys traveling with family, following her children's events from place to place, and spending time with family. Carrie is excited about being a part of the Child Advocacy Center family!



UCAN HAS LAUNCHED THEIR WEBSITE

Illinois newest CAC, Unified Child Advocacy Network, has just launched their website!! Go and check them out!

MCLEAN COUNTY CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION TRAINING

OCTOBER 11TH, 2017

- **FREE TRAINING**
- **TIME:** 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
- **WHERE:**
MCLEAN COUNTY CHILDREN'S
ADVOCACY CENTER
200 W. FRONT ST. - SUITE 500-E
BLOOMINGTON, IL 61701
309-888-5656
- **PARKING:** LINCOLN PARKING GARAGE
101 E FRONT ST.
BLOOMINGTON, IL 61701
- **RSVP:** RSVP REQUIRED-SEATING LIMITED TO 35
amanda.erickson@mcleancountyll.gov

Our Children's Advocacy Center is pleased to host Kim Murray with the Attorney General's Office. She will share the ins and outs of the Crime Victim Compensation Program. This will be a lively discussion about how we can help victims of crime access all benefits that they are entitled to receive. You won't want to miss it! CALL/EMAIL NOW!

WELCOME

CONGRATS

LaRabida's newest staff members, Zachary Zuniga,

Emily Adams, & A

TL & MDT

Family Advocate & Annamma Thomas, MDI
Coordinator!



Family Service Agency

Strengthening Individuals & Families

NOW HIRING

Part Time
Program Assistant

For more information, please contact Holly Peifer,
Director of Children's Advocacy Center at (815) 758-8616



IN HONOR OF LABOR DAY

Check out our
website for up to
date information