



CACI

Children's Advocacy Centers of Illinois

leading • educating • collaborating



2018 Annual Report

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

I welcome the opportunity to present the FY 2018 Annual Report of the Children's Advocacy Centers of Illinois (CACI). This has been another great year full of growth and expansion for both the chapter and individual CACs. We have been met with challenges as well as new opportunities to serve Illinois children and families in a more comprehensive way than ever before.

During fiscal year 2018, CACI continued to increase services and its ability to support CACs and MDTs through increased and diversified funding. CACI became the lead entity for \$7.1 million dollars in VOCA funds, these funds have been used to expand the reach of CAC services in addressing the needs of children and families. VOCA funds were responsible for 121 new staff being hired. NCA provided the chapter with \$279,000 for project funds which are being used to provide free to low cost training, more personalized technical and professional support, added staff to work towards better data collection for the state, and to build a statewide awareness campaign.

To accommodate the increase of services provided, CACI had to grow! The staff now includes six full time employees and one contractual employee. In addition to our Executive Director, Office Administrator, Training Coordinator and MDT Coordinator; we have added a VOCA grant monitor, VOCA fiscal monitor, and a Strategic Administrator/Data Analyst. The CACI staff provided 28 trainings with 951 participants and coordinated 42 peer reviews. Trainings were offered locally, regionally, and statewide and accommodated the training needs and professional growth of each individual discipline working at a CAC and on an MDT, as well as customized, on location trainings that focused on the development of MDTs.

In FY18, 12,424 children walked through the doors of an Illinois CAC to receive a forensic interview and follow up services for them and their family. I am so proud of the commitment and dedication of our CAC directors, CAC staff, and MDT partners and the level of service that they are able to deliver to these children. I am humbled and so grateful for the opportunity I have been given as the Executive Director of the Chapter. I would like to thank those of you who have been so supportive in this transition and want to acknowledge our retired Executive Director Billie Larkin. Billie's vision, determination and unbounded optimism are core values of our chapter that I intend to use as a guide in the years to come. A warm thank you to Billie and hopes for a long, enjoyable and much deserved retirement!

Sincerely,

Kim Mangiaracino

Estes, Bridgewater & Ogden

LORI K. MILOSEVICH, C.P.A., C.F.E.
TERRI L. PHELPS, C.P.A.
JAMES C. LEGG, C.P.A.

RICHARD W. OGDEN, C.P.A.
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CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors
Children's Advocacy Centers of Illinois

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Children's Advocacy Centers of Illinois (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statements of financial position as of June 30, 2017 and 2016, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Children's Advocacy Centers of Illinois as of June 30, 2017 and 2016, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matter

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements as a whole. The Consolidated Financial Report on pages 15 – 25 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 29, 2017, on our consideration of Children's Advocacy Centers of Illinois's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Children's Advocacy Centers of Illinois's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Estes, Bridgewater & Ogden

Certified Public Accountants
Springfield, Illinois

December 29, 2017



CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTERS OF ILLINOIS

The Children's Advocacy Centers of Illinois (CACI) is a remarkable network of 37 Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs). CAC services help children on their journey to healing. Every day the remarkable people that work at our CACs coordinate services, interview children and advocate on behalf of victim's rights.

In Illinois, our vision is simple: to ensure every child in the state of Illinois has access to the services offered through a CAC. While we cannot stop abuse, we can make a significant impact through prevention education and multidisciplinary services provided to the children who have suffered the horrors of abuse.

ESTABLISHED: 1995

CACI is the network that coordinates and provides a comprehensive response to child abuse in Illinois. As the leading resource on child abuse issues, CACI stays abreast of the latest research and literature in the child abuse field, as well as the most child-friendly approaches in investigation and treatment of child abuse.



CACI IS AN ACCREDITED CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

*Accreditation
Standards include:*

01

ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

CACI implements sound administrative practices in both programming and fiscal operations.

02

MEMBERSHIP

CACI works with its members to collect and provide vital statistical information. We provide services that support and encourage our members to meet and exceed the 10 standards required for their national accreditation.

03

TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

CACI provides training and program support to developing and existing Children's Advocacy Centers throughout Illinois.

Kim Mangiaracino
Executive Director

Michelle Hammitt
Office & NCA Grant Administrator

Cara Vock
Coordinator of Education & Training

Barbara Karr
VOCA Program Grant Monitor

Kathy Murphy
VOCA Fiscal Grant Monitor

Mike Burns
Statewide MDT Coordinator

Jean Garner
Strategic Administrator

CACI STAFF



CACI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Jo Poshard

Outcome Measurement System

OMS is a survey system that provides the opportunity for each CAC to not only measure their own performance, but also benchmark themselves against the field.

OMS allows CACs to report on survey items designed to capture two measurable outcomes:

1. The CAC facilitates healing for children and caregivers
2. The MDT approach results in more collaborative and efficient case investigations

Illinois implemented OMS in FY15 and all 39 CACs are now enrolled in this program. Since time of inception, Illinois has annually and steadily increased the number of surveys collected. The Initial Caregiver Survey collected 1630 responses in FY15 increasing to 2991 in FY18, The Follow Up Caregiver Survey responses increased from 70 to 548, and the MDT surveys collected increased from 276 to 646 this year. IL collected the 3rd highest number of Initial Surveys by state, outpacing many states that started the program earlier and serve more children.

Nationally Illinois had the 5th highest number of MDT surveys & tied for 5th highest number of Caregiver Follow-Up surveys. These increases do not just reflect the numbers, but the people who have a voice in the services that we provide at CACs. CAC & Chapter staff use these surveys & responses to celebrate successes & look for solutions to noted issues that arise.

AREAS WHERE WE EXCELLED

From Caregivers:

95.9 % of caregivers agreed that CAC staff provided them with resources to support their child and respond to their needs in the days & weeks ahead

98.6 % of caregivers agreed that interview process was clearly explained to them

98.6 % of caregivers agreed that their questions were answered to their satisfaction

From MDT Members:

97.5% of MDT members agreed that the CAC model fosters collaboration on the MDT

96.9% of MDT members agreed that clients served through the CAC benefit from the collaborative approach of the MDT

98.1% of MDT members agreed that they get the information they need to fulfill their areas of responsibility on cases

Outcome Measurement System

OMS is a survey system that provides the opportunity for each CAC to not only measure their own performance, but also benchmark themselves against the field.

HOW CACI USED DATA TO IMPLEMENT CHANGE

- CACI provided training for regional Screening Training and Increasing Engagement with Mental Health and provided the screening tool to be used with each child
- Provided the evidence based TFTBC training and follow up consultation to 40 mental health professionals working with CACs
- CACI developed a MDT Facilitator Training for MDT Coordinators in Illinois to develop this role to better facilitate case review and team meetings
- MDT Coordinator developed and implemented training to be delivered on-site for MDT's to open dialogue about conflict, provide resources to, and work with individual CACs to focus on further developing their teams

In FY18, 12,424 Forensic Interviews were conducted

18.30% Increase in Services over FY17



OMS GIVES FAMILIES A VOICE IN THE CAC PROCESS

Q u o t e s R e g a r d i n g C A C S t a f f F Y 1 8



"Everyone was kind and pleasant. They explained everything to myself and my daughter to make sure we understood what was happening and what would follow."

"They have been helpful and made me and my kids feel comfortable here during this scary time."

"The ability that I was able to have a Spanish speaking advocate and that she was able to accompany us even to the police department. She was with us the entire time, and pleasant to be with."

"I did not feel like I was being judged, everyone was very welcoming and understanding. They really put us at ease in such a terrible time.."

"My son was EXTREMELY tense and anxious (to the level of suicide ideation) and afterwards he was significantly calmer."

"I think my most overwhelming response would just be I didn't realize what services were available and the skill level of those available. I didn't expect to walk-into such a professional, skilled staff. I'm a nurse, so I know what to expect. And they definitely went far beyond my expectations. There's nothing I would change about my experiences. Nothing I would change except more funding/grants and more education."

"La forma en que los atendieron y los ayudaron, hicieron sentir agusto a ella y a su familia."

Translated: *"The way they treated and helped them made her and her family feel comfortable."*

"I liked how caring everyone was and how all the staff seems to go above and beyond to help make the kids feel comfortable and safe."

"The amount of empathy and compassion towards the sensitivity of the situation. The fact that staff kept my daughter's feelings in thought. Appreciated the feeling of being safe and comfortable."

"When I was feeling like falling apart, and my child, they helped put us back together."

TRAINING

Annual Advocate Training

November 16-17, 2017 Springfield

Advocacy

This training was designed to provide new advocates a constellation of instruction to meet the NCA Standards requirement for initial training in victim advocacy along with providing more experienced advocates ongoing education also required by the NCA Standards. Advocates from across Illinois received training on topics included: Crisis Intervention, Assessment, Assisting Non-Offending Caregivers, and Team Leadership.

Advocate Round Table

May 9, 2018 Edwardsville May 15, 2018 Champaign May 22, 2018 Joliet

Advocates gathered for the Annual Advocate Round Table which is a day full of networking, discussion, and fun. This Advocate Round Table focused on sharing forms, documents, and referral resources.

Screening Training

June 1, 2018 Springfield June 15, 2018 Itasca June 28, 2018 Mt. Vernon

Advocates who attended this training learned how to use the Trauma Symptom Checklist for Children & Trauma Symptom Checklist for Young Children Screening Short Forms. These instruments are multi-dimensional, reliable, valid, normed, evidenced based tool to triage children for therapy as well as an engagement tool for non-offending caregivers.

Forensic Interview & Prosecution

Tips for Testifying

August 9, 2017 Bloomington August 11, 2017 Rockford August 25, 2017 Edwardsville

This regional training was designed for trained forensic interviewers with all variety levels of experience to increase their level of comfort on the witness stand. Prosecutors were encouraged to attend this training with their local CAC forensic interviewer to gain a better understanding on how to best prepare a forensic interview witness.

ChildFirst

October 2-6, 2017 Springfield April 30-May 4, 2018 Springfield

The 19th and 20th sessions of this nationally recognized accreditation approved forensic interview course took place this fiscal year. Participants learned to conduct forensically sound interviews in a neutral and fact finding manner.

Effective Interviewing & Communication Skills w/ Children with Disabilities & Preschoolers

June 20, 2018 Oglesby June 21, 2018 Effingham

Trainer and Child Forensic Interview Specialist with the National Children's Advocacy Center in Huntsville, AL, Kim Madden presented on implementing strategies with working with children with differing abilities and young children who are served at the Children's Advocacy Center.

DIRECTORS

Updated Standards Training

August 14, 2017 Springfield

CAC directors preparing for reaccreditation were invited to learn more about the changes to the National Children's Alliance Accreditation Standards in 2017. Site Reviewers- Marcia Milliken, Executive Director of the Minnesota Children's Alliance, and Billie Larkin (now retired) Illinois Children's Advocacy Chapter Executive Director provided training and clarification to these updated standards.

Director's Conference

September 6-8, 2017 Bloomington/Normal

The goal of the Director's Conference is support, training, and networking. This fiscal year's Director's Conference's theme was based on a quote from Mia Hamm: "Celebrate what you have accomplished, but raise the bar a little higher each time you succeed." Directors from across Illinois received training in topics such as: Utilizing OMS to its Greatest Potential, Data Collection, Financial Management, and Ethical Challenges

Accreditation Training

June 18, 2018 Effingham June 25, 2018 Wheaton

This training was designed for CAC directors who were preparing for NCA accreditation, as well as those directors who wanted to gain knowledge of the overall accreditation process. Training was provided by experienced site reviewers and leaders in the CAC movement.

MDT FACILITATION

Team Facilitator Training

October 17-18, 2017 Springfield December 12-13, 2017 Springfield

This training's focus was on developing the role of the MDT coordinator as a leader and facilitator of the MDT process. Training was given on how to best build healthy relationships on the MDT, cultivate an environment of accountability and respect among team members, and to learn to draw out expertise from each discipline that will lead to more positive outcomes for children and their families.

TRAINING

Facilitator Round Table

June 4, 2018 Dekalb June 7, 2018 Herrin June 26, 2018 Decatur

The MDT Facilitator Round Table was a day filled with rich discussion, networking, and sharing of information. This year's meeting focused on various tools to be used at multi-disciplinary team meetings.

TEAM ENRICHMENT

Individualized Team Trainings

Various dates and locations across Illinois

4 teams approached CACI for a customized training for their teams. Trainings ranged from one to two days and covered topics including: Dynamics of Child Sexual Abuse and the Effect on an Investigation, The Work of the MDT, Overview of the Forensic Interview Process, Overview of the CAC model, CAC Specific Protocol, and Case Review.

MDT Enhancement Training

September 27, 2017 Springfield

Chris Newlin, National Children's Advocacy Center Executive Director shared his wealth of experience and knowledge with four CAC multi-disciplinary teams at this one day training. Team members for each discipline were present for each team to help strengthen team dynamics.

Champions of Children Conference

March 5-6, 2018 Oak Brook

This two-day multi-discipline team enrichment conference featured 15 highly regarded state, national, and regional speakers. These speakers represented each discipline on the MDT, with four separate tracks for participants to choose from that best meets their professional development needs. This fiscal year we had 311 attendees, which made for the largest attendance for this statewide conference.

Building Resiliency

Various dates and locations across Illinois

CACI began scheduling a 4-hour training block on Building Resiliency for CACs & MDTs. The training was created by Michigan CACs and the Office for Victims of Crime. This training is designed to educate CAC staff and MDTs about the impact of working in this field and by promoting resilience-building on a team level.

P e e r R e v i e w

CACI coordinated 9 regional quarterly peer review groups which met a total of 42 times in FY18. Peer Review is an opportunity for forensic interviewers to receive interview skills feedback and discuss relevant research. Peer Review helps improve forensic interviewers' performance as well as, meet the NCA standards for Forensic Interviewing.

The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Ronald Reagan on October 12, 1984. It serves as the central source of federal financial support for direct services to crime victims. The Victims of Crime Act is funded with fines paid by offenders convicted of violating federal laws, supports direct services to victims of crime. The Act requires that priority be given to services for victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, child abuse, and other groups identified by the state as underserved victims of crime. In July 2017, Children's Advocacy Centers of Illinois was awarded a 7.1 million dollar VOCA grant.

This grant has made it possible for the CAC's to do the following:

HIRE 121 FULL TIME EMPLOYEES IN 35 CENTERS

- **48 ADVOCATES**
- **27 CASE MANAGERS**
- **25 THERAPISTS**
- **21 FORENSIC INTERVIEWERS**

33 SITE VISITS , TO PROVIDE GRANT OVERSIGHT, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND COMPLIANCE REVIEW

PURCHASE OF 12 RECORDING SYSTEMS TO UPDATE TECHNOLOGY

INCREASED TRAINING:

These funds afforded VOCA funded CAC employees many training opportunities in this past year to increase their knowledge and skill level in workin in the field of child maltreatment.





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Northern Region

April House
Braveheart
Carrie Lynn
Child Network
Dani-Brandon Center
DeKalb County
Jeanine Nicarico
Kane County
Lake County
McHenry County
Mercer County
Rock Island County
Shining Star
Tyler's Justice
Will County

Cook County Region

All Our Children's
ChicagoCAC
La Rabida
North & Northwest
Cook County
Proviso

Central Region

Advocacy Network
Champaign County
Child 1st
East Central
Knox County
McLean County
Peoria County
Sangamon County
Tazewell County
Unified Child
Advocacy Network

Southern Region

Amy Schulz
The Guardian Center
Madison County
Perry-Jackson
St. Clair County
Two Rivers
Franklin/Williamson

