

# CAC in <60 Seconds

CAC uses a **unique**, **comprehensive**, **collaborative model** that starts with a referral from our law enforcement or DCFS Multidisciplinary Team partners.

CAC provides child-focused, trauma-informed **forensic interviews** for children ages 3-17 in cases of sexual or physical abuse or witnessed violence.

CAC also provides trauma-informed **advocacy**, as well as in-house **mental health services**, for young abuse survivors and their non-offending family members.

CAC's programs allow young survivors and their non-offending family members to **process the trauma, build resilience** and live healthier, safer lives.

# **CAC Fast FAQs**

### Q: Can anybody use your services?

A: When a law enforcement or DCFS Multidisciplinary Team partner makes a referral to CAC, we provide a coordinated, trauma-informed response for allegations of sexual or physical abuse or when the child has been a victim of another crime. CAC's forensic interviews are available to children ages 3-17. CAC's Advocates provide client families with support throughout a case and connections to other in-house or community resources. CAC's Mental Health Services Trauma Therapists provide counseling for our young clients and non-offending family members. Mental Health Services also takes outside referrals for individuals who qualify for counseling using standard screening tools.

### Q: How much does it cost?

A: All services are provided free of charge.

#### Q: So then how are you funded?

A: CAC receives government, private foundation and corporate grants. We also rely on individual donations and special event fundraising to support our programs.

#### Q: What if the clients don't speak English?

A: Eight of our 19 staff are bilingual, so services are offered in English and Spanish. We also have access to interpreters for other language needs.

#### Q: What exactly is the Multidisciplinary Team?

A: MDT members are our community-based partners from law enforcement, DCFS, the State's Attorney's Office and the health care field. They watch a real-time, live feed of the forensic interview which takes place at CAC in our child-friendly interview rooms. The MDT uses this legally sound interview to help determine the next steps in the investigation. This single interview process also protects the well-being of the child with the goal of limiting additional trauma.

## Q: Do you ever give presentations to community groups or businesses about child abuse and prevention?

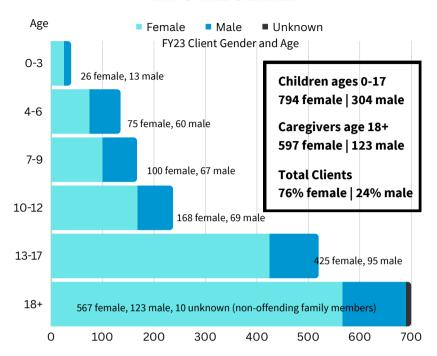
A: Absolutely. Please reach out to our Director of Clinical Services, Kate Schultz, at kschultz@cachelps.org.

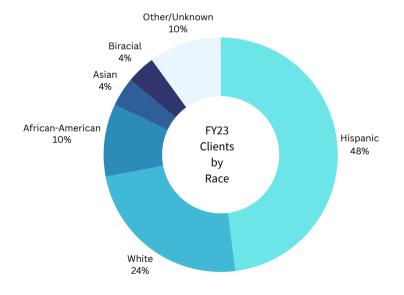
#### Q: Do you have a Board of Directors?

A: Yes. We currently have 17 board members representing business and community members from across our service area. Per our Board of Directors by-laws, CAC can have up to 21 board members at a time. The Board Development Committee meets monthly to discuss new prospects who can be voted in on a rolling basis.



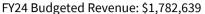
## WHO WE SERVE

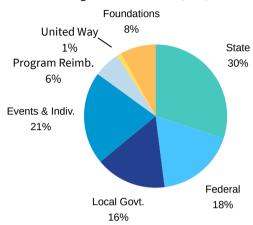






## FINANCIALS





## PARTNER AGENCIES

- Department of Children and Family Services
- Children's Advocacy Centers of Illinois
- Cook County State's Attorney's Office
- Local Police Departments
- National Children's Alliance\*
- Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
- United Way

\*CAC's accrediting organization

## **FY2023 HIGHLIGHTS**

- **1,798** children and families were served by CAC.
- 445 forensic interviews with children ages 3 to 17 were conducted.
- 213 new kids age 12 and under began their healing journeys.
- 5,875 hours of mental health services were provided.